



## ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013

**Present:** Cllr MD Lloyd (Chairman), Cllrs MJ Connor, DG Herald, F Keegan, MW Maczkowiak and MH Williamson (arrived at point 5 on the agenda)

**In attendance:** 1 representative from the press  
11 members of the public  
Hall Manager  
Clerk: A Ross

#### Meeting

**Commenced:** 7:57pm

#### 1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs JD Bergin and S Joseph.

#### 2. To receive Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a Member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary interest (DPI).

None.

#### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

Approval was proposed by Councillor MW Maczkowiak, seconded by Councillor MJ Connor and carried.

#### 4. To vote on the proposal to replace the stone trough that was stolen from the War Memorial with two new matching troughs at the front. Cost: £800 plus VAT for the troughs and £160 for the planting.

Approval was proposed by Councillor DG Herald, seconded by Councillor MJ Connor and carried.

#### 5. Update from Councillor Keegan on the meeting he had with the Chief Executive of Cheshire East Council.

Cllr Keegan took the Chief Executive on a tour of the village, which included a visit to the conservation area and discussed the issues that are affecting the village including dangerous parking and CCTV. He also asked Dr Thomson to give a brief presentation on the plans for the Medical Centre during which they discussed the parking needs this involves. After the meeting Cllr Keegan sent him a summary of what was discussed and will ask him to commit to an action plan which will be monitored in the future. He also met with the Chief Operating Officer and had a positive meeting with him.

#### 6. Proposal to draft a 'Press relationship policy' that will establish guidelines on how the Parish Council conducts its relationship with the press.

Cllr Maczkowiak thinks it would be a good idea to have a policy which provides guidelines on how councillors should conduct themselves when dealing with the press. After discussion it was agreed that the clerk will email the draft policy to all councillors for comment.

#### 7. To discuss the management of the allotments.

Cllrs Williamson and Keegan have met with lawyers and are awaiting a response on what procedures the council must follow to replace the current tenancy arrangements with new ones. Cllr Williamson will circulate Pannone's response to all councillors as soon as he gets it. Cllr Herald reported that the Parish

Council has offered to meet with the allotment holders but have yet to be given a date. A resolution for the Lydiat Lane position will need to be agreed at some point in the future.

**8. To discuss the renovation of the building.**

Cllr Williamson reported that as the Medical Centre is moving forward the council should also move forward with the renovation of the building. After discussion, it was agreed that the Working Party will present their ideas to the Parish Council and get a shortlist of architects together. The majority of the funding will come from the dowry and a business plan detailing projected income stream will be required.

**9. To discuss the correct procedure for agreeing expenditure.**

Cllr Keegan confirmed the procedure that must be followed when agreeing expenditure. In the first instance the Clerk should be asked if it's in the budget or not. If it's not in the budget but deemed urgent the Clerk has discretionary power to spend up to £5000, it will then be brought to the next meeting for approval. If it is not urgent and not in the budget the Clerk will be asked to identify which part of the budget it will be taken from and it can be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**10. To agree to formalise the revenue expenditure for the Medical Centre, this will be capitalised at the end of the project.**

Cllrs Keegan and Williamson gave a summary and explanation of the expenses that are likely to be incurred as part of the Medical Centre Project. After discussion it was:  
RESOLVED that: The Parish Council agreed to incur expenditure and this will be capitalised at the end of the project.

**11. To discuss parking issues on Trafford Road.**

Cllr Connor received a complaint from a resident that the parking situation nearly caused a serious accident. Cllr Keegan has looked into it and the Parish Council need to write to Cheshire East and highlight this as a particular issue. Cllr Lloyd agreed to do this.

**12. To agree to amend the original approved spend on the changes in the back office to remove the intended dividing wall but to factor in noise reduction work on the wall adjacent to the hall.**

Cllr Connor asked the council to decide what work they would like carried out in the back office. After discussion it was:  
RESOLVED that: The Hall Manager will get another quote for soundproofing and decoration of the office and get the work started as soon as is reasonably practical.

**13. Reports from Councillors.**

Cllr Connor gave an update on the plans for the Christmas lights switch on.  
Cllr Maczkowiak highlighted the parking issues on Lynton Lane again and asked for the council to write to Cheshire East. Cllr Lloyd responded that this has already been raised with the Chief Executive and will hopefully be dealt with.  
Cllr Maczkowiak reported that 9 street lights along Ryleys Lane are not working. The Clerk has reported these. It is believed there is an electrical fault and the electricity company has been notified.  
Cllr Maczkowiak reported that the Cenotaph had not been cleaned by Cheshire East in time for the Remembrance Service. Cllr Herald agreed to liaise with the War Memorial Trust to see if they can help with the upkeep in the future.

**Meeting Closed:** 9.02pm

**ACTION SUMMARY**

<b>Undertaken By</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>When For</b>
Clerk	Email draft 'press relationship policy' to all councillors for comment	asap
Cllr Lloyd	Write to CEC about Trafford Road	asap

Hall Manager	Get another quote for back office	As soon as practical

**Councillor MD Lloyd**  
**CHAIRMAN**