



ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 7th September 2015

Present: Cllr G Hall (Chairman), Cllr C Browne, Cllr M Dudley-Jones, Cllr M Garbett,
Cllr R Grantham, Cllr R Norbury and Cllr M Taylorson.

Clerk: A Ross

Hall Manager

9 members of the public

1 member of the press

Meeting

Commenced: 7.46pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs I Higham & and C Munro

2. 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).

Councillors R Norbury, M Taylorson and M Dudley-Jones hold allotment tenancies and will leave the room when item 6 is to be discussed. However it was decided item 6 was to be deferred to the October meeting; the motion to hold item 6 over was proposed by Councillor C Browne, seconded by Councillor R Grantham and carried.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2015.

Approval proposed by Councillor R Grantham, seconded by Councillor M Taylorson and carried.

4. Update from the 'Projects sub-committee'.

Councillor R Norbury noted that the last progress meeting with the council's contractors and agents was on 7th August, the next would be on the 15th September. In the meantime Councillor R Norbury has received verbal confirmation from contractors that all aspects of the project were continuing on time and to schedule.

5. MOTION: AEPC resolves to pay up to £200 for high-vis jackets for the volunteers conducting the parking review.

Motion proposed by Councillor M Dudley-Jones, seconded by Councillor M Taylorson and carried.

6. MOTION: To agree new leases and rent for all 3 allotment sites for the year 2015-16.

Motion deferred to the October meeting (As above under item 2)

Motion proposed by Councillor C Browne, seconded by Councillor R Grantham and carried.

7. To discuss and agree a budget for signage for the village.

Councillor G Hall commented that Councillor C Munro had been working on this project and wanted to discuss at this meeting. Councillor C Munro had spoken to a number of businesses to gain sponsorship for boundary signage; and therefore, there was no need to set a budget. Councillor R Norbury noted that the cost for erecting new signage was approximately the same as the signage itself; there were concerns that potential sponsors would want their company or business name on the signs, there needed to be discussion over what image the Parish Council wanted the signage to project. Councillor M Dudley-Jones would like all the

businesses in the village to have an equal opportunity to contribute funding and or agree potential designs etc. There was no agreement on this matter as it was felt further work was needed.

8. To discuss and agree a budget for future resident surveys and public meeting costs.

Councillor G Hall explained that there was a need to provide some sort of provision for both room hire and printing costs for future resident's surveys, as well as informal public meetings. Councillor M Dudley-Jones felt there was a need to further identify likely costs, but was hopeful that once the Festival Hall was finalised there would be no longer need to incur room hire costs. Councillor G Hall noted that greater public consultation was a large part of the election manifesto and it was felt that 3 informal meetings per annum would suffice and a budget for this and associated printing costs of £1,000.00 should be set.

Motion proposed by Councillor M Dudley-Jones, seconded by Councillor C Browne and carried.

9. To discuss and agree a budget for the Youth Parish Council.

Councillor R Grantham discussed her and Councillor I Hingham's work around the youth parish council (YPC); they were currently in the process of setting up terms of reference for the YPC. The members would consist of two children from each of the three schools; one member from the Guide group, and if functioning, one member from the scout group. There would also be two members who are residents, and who, had approached Councillor R Grantham to volunteer. Councillor R Grantham will be meeting with the schools very shortly and is hoping to hold the first meeting of the YPC on the 5th October prior to the next full Parish Council meeting. Councillors Grantham and Higham had approached Gascoigne Halman to apply for £1,000.00 worth of funding from them to put towards costs of the YPC. They would know the outcome of this application in about two week's time. The decision to agree a budget for the YPC was deferred to the October meeting. There needed to be a clearer idea of what costs might be incurred by the YPC, and what arrangements for fundraising they would make themselves. Councillor C Browne noted, there was a new village youth club being set up at the Methodist Church, and it might be an idea to see if they wished to volunteer a member for the YPC.

10. To discuss Facilities Management of the Medical Centre and refurbished hall.

Councillor G Hall explained there was a need to agree, how, as a Parish Council, the facilities would be managed once the Medical Centre and Festival Hall are complete. There were a number of considerations including car park administration, cleaning, security, insurance and maintenance. A brief discussion was held and it was decided that the projects sub committee would pick up on this subject and manage it in the future.

11. To discuss and agree Christmas tree provision.

Councillor R Norbury indicated a desire to eventually come up with a longer term solution to providing Christmas trees for the village, possible in the form of planting living trees. This would be after some investigation into the requirements for land owner's permission etc. However as the deadline for organising the Christmas trees was approaching, it was felt appropriate to once again order the trees from Cheshire East Council, as has been done in previous years. It was agreed the Parish Council will provide three Christmas trees in the same location as last year.

12. Reports from Councillors.

Councillor M Dudley-Jones reported that he had attended a meeting of the village traders group AETAG on Thursday 3rd September; at this meeting AETAG had asked the PC for a subsidy of £1,800.00 for the Christmas lights switch on. The PC currently maintains the lights, provides the Christmas trees and spends £890.00 each year on road closure for the event. Councillor M Garbett concluded that the road closure is already a suitable contribution by the PC and that any parties making a commercial profit at the event should be asked to contribute.

Councillor M Garbett reported that he had not met with the local PCSO before this meeting, but will arrange to do so during September; he also noted that he was due to attend a meeting with the PCC in Congleton on 17th September. He had been informed that the local PCSO had been spending a large amount of time at events out of the area and that the local police force did have a number of perceived issues with centralised briefings and a lack of vehicles.

Councillor C Browne reported that both he and Councillor M Taylorson had met with officers of CEC Highways department and had discussed a package of measures to tackle parking issues around the whole village. These measures will be attached to the minutes and made available on the website
Councillor C Browne also reported that permission had been given by CEC for local organisations, schools and businesses to adopt new flower beds in the park, located around the bowling green.

Lastly Councillor C Browne reported that he and a number of other members had been approached by Mr Peter Higham, who is acting on behalf of a land owner and developer interested in developing land around the West and South of the village. Councillor C Browne is intending to hold this meeting as an information gathering exercise and has placed on record that this meeting implies neither approval nor rejection of the proposals.

Councillor R Norbury reported on a drain reporting exercise which had been carried out, in conjunction with the PC by local residents. All 9 areas to be surveyed had been completed in a timely manner with much thanks to the public support given to the idea. Alongside this CEC had already begun to clear out some of the affected problem drains in areas of the village.

Councillor G Hall reported on comments which had been received by the Parish Council about raising an extra £500,000.00 through the PWLB for the medical centre project. The report will be attached to the minutes and circulated on the website.

Meeting Closed: 8.47pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For

Councillor G Hall
CHAIRMAN