

# ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2011

**Present:** M H Williamson (Chairman ), Cllr F Keegan , Cllrs M J Connor, M W Maczkowiak, N Schofield, S Joseph, DG Herald, MD Lloyd

**In attendance:** representative from the press (Wilmslow Express)  
members of the public

### Meeting

**Commenced:** 7:38pm

#### 1. Apologies for Absence.

Received from Cllr J D Bergin

#### 2. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.

None.

#### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2011.

Approval was proposed by Councillor M D Lloyd, seconded by Councillor F Keegan and carried.

#### 4. Matters Arising.

Councillor M H Williamson wanted to make a point in regard to the last meeting about all councillors being made aware of all matters. He believes that it is decisions that are important and not specific discussions.

He went on to refer to item 5 in the previous minutes regarding the May Fair, as he wanted to clarify that the letter sent to Mrs Munro was not a criticism. The reason it was felt that the accounts should be made public were that funds were donated from Cheshire East Council and The Alderley Edge Institute Trust.

#### 5. Allotments.

The Parish Council voted to take ownership from Cheshire East of the allotments on Heyes Lane, Beech Close and Chorley Hall Lane.

Approval was proposed by Cllr F. Keegan, seconded by Cllr S. Joseph and carried.

It was agreed that they would make a request for this to be done as soon as possible and that they should identify any work needed and ask Cheshire East for appropriate funding.

A discussion followed about the relocation of the Heyes Lane allotment holders to a separate site within the village. The proposed site, Lydiat Lane, is two and a half times the size of the Heyes Lane site and this relocation would have the double benefit of freeing up much needed parking space and virtually wiping out the waiting list for allotments.

The Parish Council recognise they need to have a discussion with the Allotment Society about the impact on the growing season and any improvements made, which would likely lead to an increase in cost.

## **6. War Memorial.**

The Parish Council agreed to make Cheshire East aware of the Health and Safety issues and general state of disrepair of the War Memorial. It is also worth reminding them that any improvements should be done before Remembrance Sunday on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Cllr Williamson agreed to request that someone from Cheshire East comes down to have a look at the memorial and ascertain what work needs doing.

## **7. Alderley Edge Park.**

The Parish Council considered a report put together by Cllrs Herald, Connor and Joseph along with Kriss Coombes from Friends of the Park. It was agreed that they would move forward with these suggestions rather than wait for the report from Ben Hamilton-Baillie, whose company has been engaged by Cheshire East to prepare a preliminary report for redeveloping the town centre.

The Parish Council are proposing that a gate is installed in the park, where there is currently a gap in the hedge on Ryleys Lane. A metal gate is the favoured option. Other requests include extending the black metal railings around the park to meet the proposed new gate, removing the concrete posts and hedges, and the Japanese Knotweed that has invaded the area. They are also proposing that the vegetation surrounding the steps down from London Road into the park be cut back and a new metal handrail is installed, preferably on both sides of the steps.

The Parish Council is also requesting the installation of a salt reservoir at the top of the steps for safety purposes.

## **8. Bowling Green.**

No discussion took place

## **9. Communications – update on website.**

Cllr M Lloyd will be having a meeting to discuss further.

## **10. Reports from Councillors.**

Cllr Maczkowiak reported concern about the building work on the old site of The Oak. The builders appear to have extended the hard-core onto open space. Cllr Williamson will raise the issue.

A discussion followed about the recent parking consultation. The general feeling was that the consultation was not as successful as hoped and that the date of the public meeting during school half-term would lead to a poor turn out.

Cllr Williamson clarified that the other councillors had seen Paul Burns report on parking in the village and would like to have it signed off without a meeting.

Cllr Keegan has been in contact with Paul Sherratt with regard to closing the road for the Christmas Festival.

Cllr Schofield gave some general information on transport issues and would like feedback from other councillors. He is having another meeting with the Planning Director and will report back.

Cllr Maczkowiak has been out with the PCSO on Lydiat Lane. They also looked at parked cars on Congleton Road. Seven fixed penalty notices were issued and it appeared that the majority of cars were from House of

W. It was proposed that Cllr Maczkowiak will confirm this with the PCSO and the Parish Council will then send a letter to House of W.

There have also been complaints from residents on Blackshaw Lane corner that people are parking across their drives. It was noted that Enforcement Officers only work from 9am – 4pm and this needs to be brought up at the public meeting.

A reply has been received from the Bereavement Council Services blaming Macclesfield Borough Council for the poor upkeep of the Alderley Edge headstones.

The Poppy Appeal letter was sent round.

Cllr Keegan brought up the issue of dog fouling. A discussion followed about ways of dealing with the problem. A request will be made to Cheshire East for a log of the Dog Wardens rota going back three months.

Banners should be removed and stored in the Festival Hall until owners collect.

**Meeting Closed:** 8.55pm

#### **ACTION SUMMARY**

<b>Undertaken By</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>When For</b>
Cllr Keegan	Contact Cheshire East about allotments	As soon as possible
Cllr Williamson	Contact Cheshire East about War Memorial	As soon as possible
Cllr Williamson	Raise the issue of building work on the old site of The Oak	Whenever practical
Cllr Maczkowiak	Letter to House of W with regard to parking	Whenever Practical
Clerk	Request Dog Warden rota	As soon as possible

**Councillor F Keegan**  
**CHAIRMAN**