

ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th May 2011

Present: Cllr M H Williamson (Chairman), Cllrs D G Herald, M W Maczkowiak, F Keegan
M J Connor, J D Bergin, N Schofield (from point 7)

In attendance: 2 representatives from the press (alderleyedge.com and The Wilmslow Express)
1 member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence.

Received from Cllrs S Joseph and M D Lloyd.

2. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th April 2011.

Approval proposed by Councillor M W Maczkowiak, seconded by Councillor F Keegan and carried.

3. Matters Arising.

Councillor M H Williamson reported on a meeting he had attended with the police to discuss parking in the village. He met with Inspector Welsted (who is now not based in Wilmslow) and the local officer responsible for the area Sgt Andy Miller. Firstly, Councillor M H Williamson checked with the other councillors that they were happy for their e-mail addresses to be advised to the police so that they can be kept up to date with any matters affecting the village.

Moving onto the meeting itself, the police will issue penalty notices in respect of obstruction, but not in connection with yellow line abuse which is the remit of the traffic wardens controlled by Cheshire East Council. The police are keen to educate drivers and implement enforcement where necessary to stop the wide abuse seen in respect of obstruction. Local businesses are to be contacted to ascertain the numbers of employees/drivers and where their vehicles are parked. Greater use of the Festival Hall car park is to be encouraged and the PCSO is to be involved. Councillor M H Williamson hoped to advise further at the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor M W Maczkowiak stated that the future redevelopment of the Hall might mean that the car park was not big enough. The impact on local roads around the Hall needs to be understood. Councillor J D Bergin asked if Network Rail had been contacted regarding the use of the station car park. Who owned the site and could it be used by non rail users.

There continues to be problems with the parents of schoolchildren who still drop off/pick up children at the local schools with little/no thought for other road/pavements users. This anti-social behaviour is disappointing and Inspector Welsted wants to see if a park and ride scheme could be implemented to alleviate the problem.

4. To ratify the General Purposes Committee minutes of 11th April 2011.

Approval was proposed by Councillor D G Herald, seconded by Councillor F Keegan and carried.

5. To ratify the Plans Committee minutes of 11th April 2011.

Approval proposed by Councillor M H Williamson, seconded by Councillor D G Herald and carried.

6. To ratify the Finance Committee minutes of 11th April 2011.

Approval proposed by Councillor F Keegan, seconded by Councillor M H Williamson and carried.

7. Civic Service.

Councillor M H Williamson confirmed that the Civic Service is next Sunday 15/5, but apologised that, owing to work commitments that he has been unable to change, he would not be present. Councillor M D Lloyd as Vice Chairman would stand in for the Chairman and both he and Councillor F Keegan would be giving readings during the service.

A musical performance from the local primary school and Alderley Edge School for Girls is also planned.

8. To receive/approve a draft copy of the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2011.

The draft accounts and copies of the Annual Return Sections 1 (Accounting Statements) and 2 (Annual Governance Statement) had been issued prior to the meeting for review.

The clerk confirmed that the documents had just returned from the Internal Auditor with the only issue raised relating to the Fidelity Guarantee insurance cover. This is currently £65,000, but the auditors felt that it should be increased to reflect the worst case position which occurs in early April. This is when the carry forward balances (this year of around £116,000) are supplemented by the first half of the current year's precept (£45,000). Accordingly, the auditors were suggesting insurance cover of around £161,000. Councillor F Keegan explained that he felt the internal procedures of the council were sufficiently robust to negate the risk and there was little justification to increase the cover incurring a further premium of around £300. Therefore, the cover currently in place is to stand. An explanation will be presented to the auditors with next year's accounts.

It was then resolved by all present that the Chairman signs both sections as a true record of the council's finances as at 31st March 2011.

The documents have been open to public view from early April and the relevant papers are to be sent to the Audit Commission (the Parish Council's External Auditor) later this week.

9. Notices and Correspondence.

- a) Cheshire East Council: E-mail advising of Premises Licence for new Waitrose store in The Parade to sell alcohol between 07.00 and 23.00 for consumption off the premises and on the premises (restricted to the Partners Dining Room for Partners and bona fide guests only) – response required by 31/5. The councillors accepted the off-sales licence application, but queried the need for the on-sales; why would they be selling alcohol to guests..? – Councillor N Schofield to draft a response which is to be sent before the deadline

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For
MHW	Progress parking issues with police	End of May
All councillors	Attend Civic Service if available	15/5 10.30am
NS	Draft response to CEC re Licence application	Before 31/5

Councillor M H Williamson
CHAIRMAN