

Plumley with Toft and Bexton Parish Council

Toft Church Hall. At 8.00 pm on Wednesday 30th May 2012

Present: Sybil Crossman, Tony Gabbott, Jane Richardson , Jim Lloyd, John Wright, David Nichols, May Taylor, and George Walton

In Attendance: Sharon Jones (Clerk) and 3 members of the public

Apologies for Absence: Andy Shaw, Dennis Fairbrother, Chris Wilson and Stephen Wharfe

Police Surgery began at 7.45pm – PCSO Claire Shepherd

CS put forward 2 dates for speedwatch training 12th & 13th June, the session would last 1 hour. AG said that he could only make the 12th June. **ACTION:** Clerk to contact volunteers and mail Jenny Regan with the required date.

CS said there had been a burglary on Truthall Lane on 15th May and there had been a reported break in at Plumley Smithy. The thefts of diesel continued.

PCSO Lindsay Whitehead will start on 3rd July. She has been working in a rural part of Macclesfield and is looking forward to starting her new role. **ACTION:** Clerk to invite her to July meeting.

AG mentioned that a car had been broken into in the Plumley Station car park, the window had been smashed.

SC enquired if Mike Dauber was back at Rural Watch, CS said he was still at Wilmslow.

GW mentioned that there were a lot of cyclists on the road, as if they were racing but there was no signage or escort vehicle. There was one that was in the middle of the road which is dangerous.

SC reminded CS about the slow signs required for the Jubilee weekend 2nd – 5th June and the day of the Village Funday 30th June.

CS did mention that they have a somewhat depleted stock of slow signs as they are not often returned.

The Parish Council Meeting began at 8.00pm

1. To explain the Evacuation procedure.

2. Parish Council Elections

Firstly nominations were received for Chairman – Stephen Wharfe was unable to attend the meeting but sent a letter read by the Clerk nominating Sybil Crossman for Chairman. This was seconded by May Taylor. There were no other nominations for Chairman. Sybil Crossman was declared Chairman for 2012-2013.

Nominations were received for Vice Chairman – Stephen Wharfe nominated David Nichols in his letter read by the Clerk. This was seconded by Jane Richardson. There were no other nominations and David Nichols was declared Vice Chairman for 2012-2013.

Other areas of responsibility were decided as follows:

Planning and Footpaths– John Wright

Transport and Highways – Jane Richardson

Community Pride and Parish Plan Implementation - Tony Gabbott

Village Hall – David Nichols

Homewatch and Community Resilience – Jim Lloyd

Actions

Responsible Financial Officer – Sharon Jones (Clerk)

Internal Auditor – Bob Mottershead

3. **Public Session** – 3 members of the public were present – there were no questions.

To receive and accept apologies for absence from those members unable to attend- Apologies received from Andy Shaw, Stephen Wharfe, Chris Wilson and Dennis Fairbrother. Tony Gabbott said he would have to leave early.

4. **To receive and accept apologies for absence from those members unable to attend.**

Apologies were received from Stephen Wharfe, Dennis Fairbrother, Andy Shaw and Chris Wilson.

5. **Declaration of Interests**

SC declared a personal and prejudicial interest because land mentioned in the affordable application is adjoining her property and membership of the chapel.

DN also declared an interest in the affordable housing application because of the Village Hall land but he will oversee the proceedings.

6. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2012.**

JR proposed the minutes were approved and JW seconded. The minutes were approved.

7. **To note the following matters arising:**

Safety signage at Holford Brinefields – write again to contact regarding this. Footpath is not on MOD land.

8. **Correspondence**

- An e-mail was received from Phillip Kuehnle Knutsford LAP Young Persons Sub Committee asking for information on the implementation of the Parish Plan with reference to issues affecting young people and also any information we have on what has worked particularly well in the parish. – **ACTIONS:** JL was to ask his son if he could comment and would send a reply to Mr Kuehnle. Clerk to send the e-mail to JL.
- The PC received a letter from the Chapel regarding a donation to the Flower festival – a donation of £50 was proposed by JR and seconded by MT.
- Transport survey – dial a ride service could be offered. JR says that there is a consultation. 2 residents have been using the village rider but the busses take too long to get to Knutsford. Takes an hour each way.
- JR said there is more need for public transport. Colleges are having to arrange services for which the parents pay. This can be up to £700 approx pa.
- SC said that groups other than disabled and elderly need to be able to use the public transport. Need a greener mode of transport.
- Community spirit award meeting 16th July. **ACTION:** Clerk to invite representative from the Chapel, WI, Yew Tree Road Residents Assn, mums and tots, Jonathan Royle, Save Plumley, Creative Stitchers, Village Hall Committee (Michelle and Sarah).
- JR mentioned potholes on Yew Tree Road and at the junction of Yew Tree Road with Holly Tree road. **ACTION:** Clerk to report these and the railings at the Smoker to Andy Wilson, CEC Highways.

JL
Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

9. Update on Station – AG

Andy Yates is hoping that just after the bank holiday they will be working at the station. New border on the Altrincham platform, on the way to the shelter. This will be returned along the side of the shelter. The first part will be sleepers, the 2nd part board but the effect will make it look the same (raised boarder).

Level out the grass, the decision now is should there be turf on it or not, as grass needs cutting. AG is suggesting wild flower turf, cost is high £8 per metre but need 40 m. Plants to mask the wall of the shelter. SC asked about the other area on the platform, AG said that this part needs to be boarded as the previous attempt was not successful. Delphiniums (SC will get 6 free from a publication) and grasses to grow up to 6 ft high.

Hanging plants to cover the brick work. New boards for the other boarders need perennials (penstamens) need drought resistant plants. SG asked how much it will all cost AG estimated between £800 to £1000.

Britain in bloom judges will be visiting Plumley on 12th July. SC said we need to get some photos for the Judges. Britain in bloom like to show some community involvement. AG said he thought Sally Buttifant took some pictures the first day. Jim and John to take pictures.

Another litter pick needs to be arranged. **ACTION:** AG to arrange litter pick.

AG – Mentioned PAST on PMR and the mess. DN & SC want the hedge to be re-instated .

10. Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Update from SC

SC went over the final arrangements for the picnic and mini Olympics on 5th June.

11. Knutsford LAP – Banner competition

JR and SC announced that the winners of the Olympic Banner competition would be announced at the LAP event on 6th June. Congratulations to Margaret Hayman on behalf of the Plumley methodist Chapel who came 2nd in this competition.

12. CEC Mayor 2012 to 2013 – George Walton

SC asked the Clerk to write a letter to George congratulating him on being made mayor of Cheshire East and the Chairman also said she appreciated being invited to the mayor making.

13. To receive Cheshire East Councillors report.

GW still has work for the council and parishes. Mayoral engagements have started, so he is becoming busy but will still attend the local pc meetings when he can.

GW attended events at Chester Zoo with HRH The Queen, amongst others. Chester race course to receive the Olympic Torch, 100,000 people in the streets.

GW was instrumental in pushing out the draft of the Rural Housing Guide. Replies in by 1st July.

Brought NPPF leaflet. Still on the planning board CEC. Handed round a graph of houses built in CEC since 1996. The number per year has dropped off over the last few years.

Target of 6000 houses over 5 years new builds across Cheshire East.

AG

Knutsford Town Strategy – SC was going to attend but now cannot attend on 16th June, PC needs to be involved most specifically for Highways issues. SC asked JW to go. **ACTION:** Clerk to send details to JW and to advise that he will attend.

Clerk

14. To receive any comments and reports by Councillors concerning transport, planning, footpaths, highways, village hall, parish plan, Home watch. – None reported.

16. Meetings - SC attended the Mayor making ceremony.

17. To note the occurrence, since the previous meeting, of any road traffic accidents in the parish – No accidents were reported.

18. Finance

17.1The Clerk reported that all the new banking arrangements were now in place except online banking. Clerk also advised that a request to remove the old signatories would need to be made at some stage.

17.2 To note the current financial position.

Community Account	Business Premium Account
£	£
Balance brought forward,	2 223.68
Payments Received – Grant for Jubilee Picnic.....	
100.00	
Less payments for May 2012.....	
<u>372.00</u>	
Balance.....	
<u>9386.79</u>	
Total balance incl Earmarked funds	<u>9114.79</u>

Earmarked funds	£
Donald Sterling Legacy	367.67
Donation for daffodil bulbs	6.50
Tercentenary Lower Peover School	190.00
Playing Fields provision	3,050.00

17.3 To approve the following payments:

- £200.00 to S Jones. May Salary*
 - £50.00 to S. Jones. May payment for web site maintenance*
 - £90.00 Lithotech for May/June Newsletter
 - £32.00 to PVH for hire of Committee Room for April PC Meeting and Main Hall for Annual Parish Meeting
- *Total pay for S Jones £250 to be paid as one cheque

JL proposed the payments were approved JW seconded.

17.4 Audit Commission Form and Budget - Clerk presented form and paperwork for PC approval and signature by Chairman - JL proposed the payments were approved JW seconded. In addition the Parish Council agreed to pay and additional payment of £200 in June to the Clerk to recognise the additional work carried out for the budge and the affordable housing planning meeting.

17.5 Non Specific Parish Grant – This has still not been received but confirmation that has been received that it will be paid in the next few weeks.

18. Risk Assessment – DN reported he had completed the risk assessment for the Plumley Picnic & Mini Olympics on Tuesday 5 June 2012. SC added that soft shoes should be worn for the quick cricket on the tennis courts.

19. Planning – SC left the meeting

12/1532M Erection of 8 No. Affordable Houses. Associated Parking and Landscaping. Construction of vehicular access. Land off Truthall Lane, Plumley, Knutsford WA16 0UG.

AG started by mentioning that he had not heard of anyone first hand who was in favour of the application. JR agreed with AG but also added there there is a portion of the community that may be interested but have felt overwhelmed by the feeling against the housing in the village. But the issue is still that there are people who are not opposed to the housing but do object to the location of the site, the number of houses on the site and the general lack of consultation.

There was some discussion that there may be a need but that has not been demonstrated in the case and the issues with the land for open space. CP&P had not done their homework with regard to the hedge bordering the site.

People who want the houses should be on the waiting list, not just be asked if they want one. GW said that as this application was “called in” the case officer and the Head of Northern Planning Committee will go to the meeting on 4th July. **ACTION:** Clerk to check date of meeting with case officer.

Clerk

JW raised the point that if the app is approved we need to list the things should be done to minimise disruption and ensure safety. **ACTION:** Clerk to create the list and check with JW and circulate for approval. The Clerk had compiled a report to send to the case officer. It was proposed that this report was used with the addition of the comments and conditions noted.

Clerk

Councillors voted to reject the planning application (JR, MT, AG, JL, and JW with one absentions).

SC rejoined the meeting.

GW mentioned that at the Northern Planning Committee meeting the Parish council has 3 minutes, to put across their point of view. 3 minutes is timed to the second. Councillors should accept the decision with decorum. AG volunteered to go to the meeting.

GW also pointed out that there is usually a site meeting, and the PC would get notification, (site meetings were usually on a Friday) AG to attend site meeting.

12/1543M Erection of a single storey rear kitchen extension with three roof windows and bi-fold doors to the rear and an additional single storey rear utility extension with an external door and windows. 8 Ascol Drive, Plumley, Knutsford WA16 0UD – the comments were that the plans were difficult to read and that maintenance of the structure would be difficult. **ACTION:** Clerk to send comments to CEC planning.

Clerk

JR asked what happened to the application for Wash Farm, Pinfold Lane as the house is now being demolished. **ACTION:** Clerk to investigate.

Clerk

SC raised the issue of the Plumley Smithy. Since the tenant left taking all of the additions he made to the property with him there is concern that some windows may have been removed from the thatched cottage. **ACTION:** Clerk to write to Knight Frank to request a meeting to discuss the reinstatement of the hedgerow and construction of a footpath.

Clerk

20 To note progress on outstanding issues

20.1 Plumley Smithy – DN & SC to meet with Agents to discuss reinstatement of hedge and provision of footway.	20.4 Holford Hall – Open Day and Footpath- wait to see what happens about the planning application for catering school
20.2 Moorcroft access/roadway	20.5 Excess water – Cheadle Lane - DN asked JW for map as the dip in the road is getting bigger and it is now filling with water. As a separate issue, there is excess water on Cheadle Lane at a drain near the Peover Eye. Subsidence is ongoing and still developing – urgent attention required. ACTION: Clerk to write to Andy Wilson. This work is on the schedule no date set as yet. Ongoing. Clerk also to write to United Utilities regarding reinstatement of the verge.
20.3 PROW – Plumley Lime Beds (DMMO)	20.6 Plumley school bus

21. Welcome Letters - SC had taken a newsletter and a welcome letter to Meridian Publishers at the Station and it was noted that the cottage on Trouthall lane sold house had been sold so a welcome letter would be required.

22. To receive any items for inclusion in the agenda for the next meeting to be held on Wednesday 27th June 2012 at Toft Church Hall at 8.00pm - None received.

23. Any Other Business - None

Sybil Crossman – Chairman