



**PLUMLEY WITH TOFT & BEXTON
PARISH COUNCIL**

2nd November 2023

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 1st November 2023 at 7.30 pm**

Councillors in Attendance : G Coates (Vice Chair) J Wright, D Nichols, S Jones, A Shaw, A Thompson
A Harrison (CEC)

1. Apologies were received from Cllrs A Gabbott (Chair), S Crossman, VR Leycester, M Pickup

2. Declaration of interests

There were no declarations of interest raised by members

3. Minutes PTB/29/2324 Resolved to approve & sign the Minutes of the meetings held on the 13th September 2023

4. Co Option of a councilor

PTB/30/2324 Resolved to defer this item this item to the meeting 10.1.24. Prior to the meeting the chair plus 1 councillor will arrange to meet any applicants

5. Cheshire East Council Matters:

To receive a report on Cheshire East Council

6. Clerks Report

6.1 Correspondence and to take decisions on items where necessary

6.2 Reports of additional Road Traffic Accidents and near misses

Financial Payments –

6.3 To approve payments. Includes: Salaries & expenses.

6.4 To approve the balances in the Community and Business accounts.

PTB/31/2324 resolved to approve the items **6.1,6.2,6.3,6.4**

Items for next Newsletter

5.5 To receive any Items for the Next Newsletter (December 2023)

These are to be forwarded to the clerk by the 3rd week in November 2023

7. To receive any comments and reports by Councilors concerning transport, planning, footpaths, highways, Village Hall, Parish Plan, Community Pride, Community Resilience, Home watch

Note - When receiving reports and making resolutions perceived risks need to be identified and if necessary agreed actions required to mitigate them

8. General Highways issues – To receive any updates

8.1 23 Trouthall Lane Plumley WA16 0UN, verge/ visibility complaint

PTB/32/2324 Resolved that the response from Cllr J Wright provide a formal report and for the clerk to record (attached) and forwarded to CEC highways via Cllr A Harrison (CEC)

9. Average Speed Camera Scheme To receive any updates:

Noted that there was an ongoing issue with regards to the supply of power for the Average Speed Cameras **Action** Cllr A Harrison to discuss with CEC Highways

10. Planning To review current planning applications

10.1 23/3907M WILMAR, PLUMLEY MOOR ROAD, PLUMLEY, KNUTSFORD, CHESHIRE, WA16 0TT

PTB/33/2324 Resolved to objects to the proposal, as there would be a loss of car parking/turning space, which is essential in this position, even though the accommodation has increased .

10.2 23/3677M Moss Farm, The Paddy Shant, Cheadle Lane, Plumley, Cheshire East, WA16 9SW
Noted that this had previously been commented upon

10.3 23/4038M PLUMLEY SERVICE STATION, CHESTER ROAD, PLUMLEY, WA16 0TY

PTB/34/2324 Resolved to make no comment on this application

11. Cheshire Oil Development

Noted that an unmarked tanker visiting the site struggles to get over the bridge

12. Police Liaison

No further updates provided

13. Footpaths

Updates on footpaths 17/18 provided to cllrs prior to the meeting Cllr A Harrison CEC to check on Kissing Gate at Pepper Street

14. Meetings – To note feedback from meetings attended since the last meeting on the 13th September 2023

- **Manchester Airport Parish Council Forum** – Attended by S Crossman and VR Leycester and information sent to cllrs

15. To receive any items for inclusion in the agenda for the next meeting **Wednesday 10.1.2024**

Clerks Report September 13th 2023

6.1 Correspondence of note

General correspondence		Received	Sent
6.10	S Crossman -THE ALLOSTOCK, LOWER PEOVER AND PLUMLEY AID FUND		
11.10	S Crossman -Manchester Airport Parish Council Forum attendance SC &VRL		
16.10	Cheshire East Green Spaces Maintenance Review - Public Consultation		
24.10	CEC re New footpaths at Limebeds update		
2.10	Letter of thanks re Lower Peover church contribution for grass cutting		
2.10	Replacement Pediatric pads for Defib		
25.10	CEC Parish Precepts and Taxbase Arrangements 2024/25 req 12.1.24		
25.9	CEC Advertising councillor vacancy		
9.10	04733593 - CONSULTATION - Definitive Map Modification Order Footpath application, Toft		
19.10	J Beever re Toft Road footpath		
9.10	CEC Statutory Consultation Documents - Parking review		
20.10	CEC Genni Butler -access to new footpaths at Limebeds		
19.10	CEC Genni Butler – installation of Kissing gate (2 nd communication)		

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6.2. Road Traffic accidents and near misses (to be advised at the meeting)

Date	RTA/ Near miss	Location	B Lights y/n Incident ref
27.9.23		Man lying on the A556 Chester Road Northwich to Knutsford bypass at round 11am	

Financial Payments

6.3 to approve payments and balances

COMMUNITY ACCOUNT		
Opening Balance		17718.71
Receipt – precept CEC		0
Available balance		17718.71
chq Ref	Payee	
	D McGifford – clerk salary including website	576.38
	D McGifford – Expenses	118.13
	HMRC	511.12
	Plumley Village Hall -second 50%	2500.00
	Knutsford First responders - replacement pads	80.00
	Total	3785.63
	Balance carried forward for PTBC	13933.08

6.4 Business Account –Council Earmarked Reserves

Historic Reserves		
ASC capital reserve		26,199.00
Interest received		122.08
General reserve required – 3 months of annual budget incl election		5,000.00
Total		31,321.08
Plumley Station reserve		500.00

Highways and footpaths log

Date	Reference	Status	Actions / outcome
24.10	Limebeds footpaths	Access to them still prohibited	CEC in communication re an objection to them being opened
19.10	Installation of Kissing Gate	Awaiting response from CEC	Emails sent latest 19.10
19.10	Trouthall Lane / PMR 4860952.	Flooding caused by drain blockage (leaves) reported on Fix my Street	Noted and scheduled
19.10	Plumley Moor Road 4762164.	Lamppost 9 opposite entrance to Plumley station reported on Fix my Street	Noted and scheduled

20.5.23	Gulley issue PMR 4541613.	Localised flooding – blocked gulley	Noted and scheduled

Report from J Wright item 8.1

David,

I have received a verbal complaint that the highway verge has been planted up with mature hedging plants, up against the steel Cheshire fencing, at the above so there is no longer a view around the bend, for vehicles or pedestrians.

The hedging was planted last Sunday 22nd Nov. 2023, I spoke to one of the owners, Jamie Rogerson, to say that I had received a complaint, he said that he was an architect, and had checked that he was allowed to plant up the verge, as it was not adopted, he had received many complements about the hedge. He said that the hedge is to provide privacy.

He has partially cut one very large tree down, and two others, from the front garden, a large stump of one remains. The hedge is up to the highway will get taller, wider, and overhang the highway.

There is a planning application for extensions and alterations, App.23/2120M (I could not review this as the application drawings are not shown on the planning web site), but I have been given copies of the plans by the owner, the house is to be extended, and the garage converted.

The house was sold at the end of last year, it is where Ann and Rodger Barlow used to live, and had done so for many years.

Cheshire steel fencing can be seen through and is used to provide visibility for road users at road junctions, sometimes it is stipulated as a planning condition when planning permission is given, for a new development, to ensure adequate visibility, or erected by the council on verges adopted by them, to maintain visibility, it would not normally be erected by private householders on their land.

The property is at the bend in the road (opposite Pepper Street and Brookfield Cottage) there are no pavements, and now, no view round the bend, or grass verge to one side, to take refuge on from oncoming traffic.

This section of road is used a lot by dog walkers, the elderly, children, and other pedestrians, as well as vehicles, it has been frequently used as an alternate route for when Plumley Moor Road is closed (several times this year). The bend is close to Moorcroft Council Estate, where there are families with children and retired/elderly people, who have no option but to walk along the road as there are no pavements.

Pepper Street, at the bend, leads down to a group of dwellings and Holford Hall, and public foot paths and is used by pedestrians, and vehicles.

Grass verges are usually part of the highway, and should not be planted up or obstructed, although the land under the highway is usually in ownership of the property.

Even if the grass verge is not adopted or part of the highway, and the owner has a right to plant a hedge and obstruct the visibility, he may still be accused of causing an accident, or death, if there is a collision on the bend, in my opinion. The owner could provide privacy by the use Venetian blinds, plantation shutters, or move the hedge back from the fencing, to give visibility.

In my opinion the Parish Council/Councillor's, should notify The Highways Dept/Cheshire East, about the danger of an accident that has been created, and the grass verge obstructed ASAP.

John Wright FRICS

Chartered Surveyor.

A Gabbott Chair