

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL held at the VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 10th DECEMBER 2007 at 7.15pm

Present: Cllrs D. Watkinson (Chair)
A. Burgess, M. Green, J. Kershaw and P. Vernon

In Attendance: E. Beech – Clerk
L. Williams – resident

The meeting commenced with a 15 minute session during which members of the public had the opportunity to raise questions and seek clarification in relation to village and community matters. Matters raised were:

- a) Reminder of timescale for public consultation on the Waste Management Strategy
- b) Mrs Williams had attended the Borough Council's Environment Committee meeting with particular interest in the process for permitting advertising banners for village events to be displayed, at which the relevant Council Officer had been requested to present a report to the next meeting

07.12.01 Apologies for Absence

Resolved: that the apologies for absence received from Cllrs. Sant (work) and Wood (unwell) be accepted and those of Cllr. Mashlan (Vale Royal BC) be noted.

07.12.02 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2007, including the confidential minutes, be agreed and signed as a correct record, subject to the decision made for item 07.11.04d being that Cllrs. Green and Turner and the Clerk develop the website response policy on behalf of the Council.

Proposed: Cllr. Vernon

Seconded: Cllr. Green

07.12.03 Clerk's Report

Resolved: that

- a) the Clerk's report relating to progress on a number of current matters be received;
- b) arising from the report it was noted that:
 - no action has yet been taken by the Borough Council on its consultation on Dog Control Orders
 - the possibility of changing the status of an appropriate part of the path at the rear of the village to a bridleway to enable some form of barrier to prevent vehicles and motorcycles using the path is being explored
 - a vacancy remains on the Council
- c) as the County Council has advised that it is to take no further action on re-locating or extending the pedestrian guardrail along the A556 at Davenham in support of the safe route to school, and due to the continuing concerns of this Council, the following action should be taken:
 - any incidents in relation to the use of his route by pupils which highlight the risk to their safety should be logged;
 - the first of these be that 2 pupils were seen by a Council member to run across the A556 today; and
 - this issue to be discussed on a regular basis, initially being on the agenda of the March meeting.

07.12.04 Standing Orders

Resolved: that the Council's Standing Orders (as agreed in October 2004) be revised to comply with the recently adopted, revised Code of Conduct in relation to the inclusion of the public participation session in the meeting, as follows:

Section 30.3b be revised to read:

'(b) The Council will however allocate a maximum of 15 minutes at the commencement of each meeting for members of the public to address the meeting'

07.12.05 Reports

(a) Finance

Resolved: that

- i) the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 26th November 2007 be received;
- ii) the following recommendations arising from the minutes, be agreed:

- the precept for 2008/09 be set at £23,034 which represents an increase of 8% which includes inflation and to fund an increase in the Clerk's salary to reflect increased responsibilities;
- the draft 2 budget for 2008/09 be approved; and
- the Reserves Policy be revised to:

The Council's reserves have been built up over a number of years to fund amenity development and manage key maintenance responsibilities. Amenity development will continue to be delivered wherever financially viable and the key maintenance responsibilities, which include the war memorial and the land at the rear of Regent Street owned by the Council, will be met.

The Council's reserves should therefore stand at £31,500 covering the following:

Re: land at rear of Regent Street	£ 3,000
Re: war memorial	£ 3,000
Re: any future land purchase	£15,000
Re: available to meet cash flow requirements (equal to half of 2007/08 precept)	£10,500

	£31,500

Proposed: Cllr. Kershaw

Seconded: Cllr. Green

(b) Planning

Resolved: that no objections be submitted to the following planning applications:

- 1 Niddries Lane – demolition of conservatory and erection of new single storey side extension
- 45 Whitlow Lane – extension to front and rear dormers and addition of pitched roof over flat roof to the front elevation

Noted Vale Royal BC has permitted the following application, subject to certain conditions:

- 6 Lawrence Avenue - to demolish an existing outbuilding to the side and the erection of a two storey extension to the side and single storey extension to the rear

(c) Garages

Noted skips removed from garages area following general letter to all residents and complaints regarding other matters have been investigated and any required action taken.

(d) Publicity / Website

Noted the website response policy is being finalised.

07.12.06 Village Design Statement and Parish Landscape Assessment

Cllr. Kershaw reported that the document has been edited, consultations will take place in the New Year and Vale Royal BC had committed 2 days-worth of graphic design resources.

07.12.07 Anti-Social Behaviour

Noted:

- significant PCSO resources currently focussed on issues on Kingsmead
- current work with relevant businesses in the two parishes regarding the sale of alcohol
- PCSO to attend ½ day training regarding fixed penalty notices for litter
- next Community Action Meeting arranged for Saturday 2nd February at 3.30pm

Resolved: that the Parish Council pay for the hire of the Village Hall for the CAM on 2nd February

07.12.08 Correspondence

Resolved: that correspondence received as detailed below be noted and the action list be agreed

1	Vale Royal BC	26 Nov 6 Dec	Autumn 2007 'Vale Royal Reporter' Revised Register of Electors	Noted Received
2	Cheshire CC	16 Nov 21 Nov 28 Nov	November edition of 'Cheshire Matters' 'Parish Small Grants Scheme' – further invitation to submit projects Details of winter gritting routes	Noted Noted Distributed
3	Cheshire Community Council	24 Nov	Information on grant scheme 'Strengthening Rural Communities'	Noted
4	Lostock Gralam	23 Nov	Minutes of the Joint Parish Council meeting held on	Noted

	Parish Council		14 th November regarding the Incinerator proposal	
5	Re grants	14 Nov	Thanks for grant from Moulton Old Friends Club	Noted
6	ChALC	16 Nov 30 Nov	November newsletter and notice of national pay settlement for 2007/08 2008 Clerk and Councillors' Training Dates	Noted Received
7	Community Consultation Ltd	16 Nov	Details of alternative insurance policy designed for the smaller rural council	Finance Committee to consider

07.12.09 Accounts – net payments

	Staff expenditure	£ 541.32
HMRC	3 rd quarter PAYE and NI	£ 31.89
E. Beech	postages reimbursement (Mar – Nov 07)	£ 24.15
G. J. Steele	contract - litter pick up/playground insp. Nov - 4 occasions	£ 140.00
Northwich Town Council	arson at MUGA – clear up debris and reinstate tarmac path	£ 275.00
G. W. Scott	2 nd of 2 payments for maintaining website 2007/08	£ 50.00
Open Spaces Society	subscription 1/12/07 – 30/11/08	£ 30.00

Resolved: that the above accounts be passed for payment

Proposed: Cllr. Green Seconded: Cllr. Vernon

07.12.10 Councillors' Reports

Christmas Fair 2008

Cllr. Watkinson advised that the Fair would be held on 29th November 2008.

07.12.11 Village Hall Lease

Resolved: that in view of the confidential nature of further discussions regarding the village hall lease this matter be considered at the end of the meeting and members of the public and the press be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw for that item.

07.12.12 Next Meeting

Noted the next meeting will be held on Monday 14th January 2008 at 7.30pm in the Back Room at the Village Hall, commencing with a 15 minute public participation session.

There being no further business this part of the meeting closed at 8.25pm