

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL held at MOULTON VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 14th MAY 2012 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr. A. Rigby (Chair)
Cllrs. A. Aston, C. Bowie, A. Burgess, P. Vernon, D. Watkinson
and A. Wood

Also In Attendance: P. Sanders – Parish Clerk. PCSO Kat Stock. B. Barnes. A. Bennett. L. Williams.

12.05.01 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Hough (Moulton Crows AC Meeting re Jubilee Beacon), Cllr. Kershaw (Work Commitments) and Cllr. Harris (Vacation).

12.05.02 Public Open Session

On behalf of Moulton Events Committee Andy Bennett put forward a proposal for the replacement of the Fixed Barrier at the bottom of School Lane by a moveable, locking structure. This would improve access for Playing Field based Events; assist Contractors by providing a second entry point; increase access for Emergency Services and Disabled Visitors. The Parish Clerk commented that the issue has already been raised with CWAC and it is hoped that some proposals for a new, more user friendly barrier will be forthcoming shortly. In any event the Parish Council is committed to introducing a more workable alternative.

Andy Bennett asked for the Parish Council's permission to use Maps contained within the Village Design Statement for the forthcoming Jubilee Weekend Treasure Hunt. This was agreed.

PCSO Kat Stock advised that eight Crimes have been reported since the last Parish Council Meeting. These included a house burglary, an assault, an incident of smashed windows and a suspected fraud. In addition there were two minor cases of anti-social behaviour reported.

12.05.03 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2012 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

12.05.04 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:
 - Cllrs. Bowie, Vernon and the Parish Clerk are walking the village on 17 May 2012 to identify damaged verges suitable for the new strengthening material.
 - CWAC have advised that large wheelie bins/dumpsters can only be utilised by commercial concerns, thus ruling out the possibility of their being used in the village by domestic property owners. Similar trials elsewhere in the Borough have proved problematic.
 - CWAC have confirmed some concerns about parking within 10m of the ends of Regent Road and have asked Cheshire Police to monitor.
 - CWAC have again refused to take any action regarding the dilapidated fence at the top of Hillside Lane. Additionally, CWAC Legal Services will not assist in identifying the landowner. They have suggested a direct approach to HM Land Registry. It was decided to ask Northwich Town Council to undertake a general tidy up of the strip of land, including removing all existing wiring and making safe metal bars protruding from the concrete fence posts. Additionally, it was agreed that all residents should be approached to ascertain what they would like to see happen to the fence. The Parish Clerk will prepare a letter/questionnaire for discussion prior to circulation amongst residents.
 - The CWAC Community Wardens visited the village on 24 April 2012 and commented that, in their view, dog faeces had not become more of a problem since they last visited. More

stickers/signs were put up to re-enforce the existing "clean it up" messages. The Wardens have promised to visit more often and will issue on the spot fines if appropriate.

- Cllr. Bowie and the Parish Clerk accompanied Trish Johnson and Jerry Gibbs from CWAC on the annual environmental walk of the village. Primary topics discussed were the junction of Main Road and Whitlow Lane; security around the War Memorial and Playing Fields; dog faeces; the dilapidated fence along Hillside Lane; the barrier between School Lane and the Playing Field; potholes. A full report of the Walk will be generated by Trish Johnson.
- Police have confirmed that the VW Commercial Vehicle that parks on Niddries Lane is not left too close to the junction with Jack Lane.
- Northwich Town Council have advised that no cutting down/removal of trees/shrubs can take place until at least 1 July in the vicinity of the War Memorial/Playing field. This is to comply with legislation aimed at protecting nesting birds. After further discussion it was agreed to look at maintaining the current tree stock, albeit with the canopy raised, and to replace a number of the taller shrubs with lower lying stock. The Parish Clerk will discuss with Northwich Town Council and obtain a quotation for the work.
- The winners of the Individual and Organisation Prizes (Mary Mitchell and Moulton Panto Group) have been advised and are expected to attend the presentation on the night of the Annual Parish Meeting. The School have advised the name of their nominee and a presentation will be made by Cllr. Rigby at a mutually convenient date before the end of the school year.
- Chris Shaw, from Northwich Town Council, has agreed to judge the finalists in this year's Best Kept Garden Award. Cllr. Vernon has reviewed the roads allocated to Councillors for the preliminary judging. Revised lists will be sent out by the Parish Clerk.
- CWAC have advised that they neither supply nor fund Notice Boards for Parish Councils. CHAMP have been approached for permission to place a new Board outside the Village Hall. A response is awaited.
- Work on the drainage ditch at the top end of the Playing Fields has been completed. At present, following sustained heavy rain, the ground is very muddy. It was decided to see how the land settles over the next month or so before deciding whether some form of additional top layer is considered appropriate.
- The Annual Full Inspection of the Play Area was recently carried out by Morral Play Solutions. The Report did not highlight any major concerns. It was agreed to ask a representative from Play and Leisure to meet with the Parish Clerk to discuss the finer points of the Report.
- An applicant for Garage Plot 24B has been advised that their proposed garage is too large for the plot. They are now reviewing the position before returning to Cllr. Burgess/the Parish Clerk. If they decide they wish to proceed a letter will have to be forwarded to CWAC Planning in line with the Planning Consent.
- Andrew Ross has confirmed that he is available to demonstrate his new Community Web Site at the Annual Parish Meeting on 23 May 2012. Cllr. Watkinson will provide a Projector and Screen to aid viewing.

12.05.05 Reports

(a) Finance

Resolved: to receive the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 23 April 2012 and to act on the following recommendations:-

- i). The Accounts for 2011/12 be accepted and the Annual Return to the Audit Commission be completed and signed.
- ii). A letter be forwarded to CHAMP re-affirming that the agreement to cover the first £3,000 of electricity costs at the Village Hall expires in September 2012. Any future agreement will be dependent on a new, acceptable Constitution being in place by 31 August 2012 and will be subject to full Parish Council approval.
- iii). That a contingency fund of £250 max. be made available to cover unforeseen expenditure over the Jubilee Weekend Celebrations.
- iv). That Cllr. Hough be authorised to spend up to £120 max. on additional lighting for the Jubilee Beacon (actual spend subsequently advised as £84).

(b) Planning

Resolved: that the following be noted

- i). None.
- ii) 12/01815/LDC – Single storey rear extension – 61 Regent Street, Moulton. Lawful Development Certificate issued.
- iii). None.

(c) Administrative Issues

Resolved: to forward items to Cheshire Records Office for safe keeping. Also to lodge Title Deeds relating to Playing Field, War Memorial, Church Hall and adjacent land and Regent Street Garages area with Co-Operative Bank, or another similar agency, for safe keeping.

12.05.06 Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr. Vernon confirmed that MADsAG Meetings have been suspended indefinitely. It is felt that problem areas are now much less prevalent and that day to day liaison with the Police, primarily via PCSO Kat Stock, quickly addresses any issues that arise.

12.05.07 Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr. Rigby reported on the meeting of representatives of community groups, organisations and local businesses held on 1 May 2012 at the Moulton British Legion. Notes of that Meeting are held on file. It was agreed to focus on the Jubilee Beacon/Childrens Procession and Publicity at the next Meeting scheduled for 16 May 2012.

12.05.08 Correspondence

a) **Resolved:** that the correspondence received as below be noted and the following action be agreed.

Item 3.1 – to adopt the following Resolution as regards the pending new Code of Conduct. “In principal, with effect from the date of coming into force of Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011, the Council resolves that the Code of Conduct adopted by Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council be adopted as this Council’s Code of Conduct, on the basis that references in the Code to Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council’s register are to this Council’s register”.

Item 3.3 – Cllrs. Aston and Burgess to attend.

Item 3.4 – Parish Clerk was authorised to enrol on the Course.

Item 5.2 - Parish Clerk to check with predecessor as to what paperwork has already been created/filed. To then liaise accordingly with Fields In Trust.

Item 6 – Parish Clerk to write to CHAMP on the lines outlined under Minute Reference 12.05.05 (a) ii).

Item 9 – Parish Clerk to reply advising that no Web Site Link to the Counselling Directory will be put in place.

Item 10 – Parish Clerk to confirm that the Playing Fields can be used for the start and finish of the race. Organisers to be asked to advise residents of the Race Times beforehand, put up information signs and to be mindful of the need for considerate parking throughout the village.

1	Cheshire West and Chester Council	Various 17 Apr Various 23 Apr 17 Apr 23 Apr 27 Apr 14 May 14 May	Various briefing notes for Elected Members April news from Northwich and Rural North Area Team 'Altogether Better' - weekly updates Cheshire Together - Partnership Bulletin – April 2012 E-mail re Invitation to Visit Northwich’s Entertainment and Leisure Venue Exhibition at Barons Quay, Northwich April Bulletin for Town and Parish Councils E-mail re Barons Quay, Northwich, Draft Proposals Drawings relating to proposed lay-by adjacent to Co-op frontage Northwich and Rural North APB Newsletter dated May 2012	To note To note To note To note To note To note To note To note
2	Cheshire Local Access Forum	23 Apr	Best Practice Recommendations for Town and Parish Councils	To note
3	Cheshire Assoc. of Local Councils	25 Apr 25 Apr Various 10 May	E-mail relating to changes to Code of Conduct E-mail relating to early day HOC Motion on Planning Appeals (by Town and Parish Councils) E-mails relating to Joint Parish Councils Meeting at Cuddington and Sandiway VH on 13 June 2012 General Power of Competence Course for Parish Clerks	To discuss To note To discuss To discuss
4	Cheshire Community Development Trust	13 Apr	E-mail from Arthur Neil relating to 2012 Play Schemes	To note

5	Fields In Trust	24 Apr 10 May	Trustees Report and Accounts E-mail relating to admin issues for QEII Field status	To note To discuss
6	CHAMP	18 Apr	E-mail relating to Public Meeting on Constitution and Minutes of last Users Meeting	To discuss
7	County Playing Fields Association	25 Apr	Annual Report 2012 Playing Field Journal Spring 2012	To note To note
8	Vale Royal Environmental Network	Various	E-News Bulletins	To note
9	Counselling Directory	27 Apr	E-mail relating to a possible link to "counselling directory.org.uk" via Village Web Site.	To discuss
10	David Stevens	3 May	Request to use Playing Field for start and finish of Pie & Peas Road Race on Wednesday 1 August 2012	To discuss
11	Connecting Cheshire	3 May	Digital Champion Update May 2012	To note
12	Northwich and Rural North APB	9 May	Minutes of Meeting held on 14 March 2012	To note
13	Clerks & Councils Direct	11 May	Journal dated May 2012	To note
14	Samaritans	2 May	Letter seeking Donation	To note
15	Neuro Muscular Centre	25 Apr	Letter highlighting Open Day on 28 June 2012	To note

12.05.09 Accounts – Net Payments / Income

Payments:

		£
P Sanders	Salary – Clerk	462.81
HMRC	PAYE for PS April 2012	115.80
P Sanders	Expenses – Mileage, Computer Protection, Postages	129.35
GJ Steele	Litter Clearing and Playground Inspections – April 2012	212.50
GW Scott	IT Issues relating to change of Parish Clerk	32.00
Office Essentials	Stationery Supplies – Newsletter Paper, Staples and Printer Toner	*114.95
D Watkinson	Expenses – Procession Lanterns	47.52
Suddenstrike	Mole Treatment at Playing Field	111.00
Peter Harding & Co	Excavate Test Hole and Replace Manhole Cover	360.00
Peter Harding & Co	Construction of Soak Away	1140.00
Morral Play Solutions	Annual Inspection of Play Area	59.94
Office Essentials	Stationery Supplies – Printer Toner and Office Paper	^61.74
Northwich Town Council	Contract Work – Playing Fields	423.00
Northwich Town Council	Contract Work – Church and Play School	225.60

* £23.39 to be covered by DPC and T&TFPC

^ £28.40 to be covered by DPC and T&TFPC

Resolved: that

i). The above accounts be approved for payment. Proposed by Cllr. Vernon. Seconded by Cllr. Wood.

Income:

Noted receipt of the following income since the last meeting:

		£
CWAC - Precept		27,696.00
Bank Interest		1.49

12.05.10 Councillors' Reports

The following were highlighted for report, action or to note:

- The Parish Clerk gave a Report on the West Cheshire LSP Event focusing on Altogether Better held at Winsford Lifestyle Centre on 19 April 2012. The Event outlined the ideals and concepts of

“Altogether Better”, aiming to provide services more effectively and with less cost. A set of Meeting Notes are held on file.

- Cllr. Watkinson commented on the number of loose Wheelie Bins seen throughout the village following delivery of the new Bins. Cllr. Rigby advised that CWAC are aware of the problem.
- Cllr. Bowie highlighted the forthcoming Litter Pick on Niddries Lane, scheduled for 10 June 2012. The Parish Clerk will liaise with the Grenville Millington at the Probation Services to seek extra support.
- Cllr. Vernon commented that there is an unauthorised gate at the side of a private property on Main Road that leads directly on to the Playing Field Car Park. It was felt that efforts should be made to close the gap in the hedge adjacent to the gate opening. The Parish Clerk will discuss this issue with Northwich Town Council.

12.05.11 Next Meeting

Noted the next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 11th June 2012 at 7.30pm at Moulton Village Hall (Back Room). There will be a 15 minute public participation session.

Also: Jubilee Events Meeting – Tuesday 16 May 2012 – 7.15pm – meet at bottom of School Lane.

Annual Parish Meeting – 23 May 2012 – 7.30pm - Village Hall.

Joint Parishes Walk – 27 May 2012 – 2.00pm – meet at War Memorial.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.48pm.