

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL held at MOULTON VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2012 at 7.30pm**

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

**Also In Attendance:** P. Sanders – Parish Clerk. CWAC Cllr. Weltman. 59 Members of the Public (names recorded on attendance sheet lodged with these Minutes).

**12.07.01 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**  
**Resolved:** to accept apologies from Cllr. Harris (on holiday).

**12.07.02 Public Open Session**

This section of the Meeting focused solely on the proposals by Richborough Estates (RE) to look at developing land off Beehive Lane/Barnside Way.

Cllr. Rigby commenced proceedings by issuing the following statement:-

“Having now met with a Director from Richborough Estates we are aware of the interest expressed by the Company in land within the village.

However, in the absence of a formal Planning Application, or any specific information on the Company’s intentions, we are unable to comment in any detail at this time.

Please continue, like the Parish Council (PC), to check the Company’s Web Site. We would also recommend regular visits to Cheshire West and Chester Councils’ (CWAC) Web Site (Planning Section) as any formal application for Planning Permission will be listed on the site.

We have asked Richborough Estates to keep the Parish Council updated on their intentions and they have promised to do so.

Please be assured that should a formal Planning Application be lodged the Parish Council will seek views from villagers as part of its’ scrutiny process”.

A Question and Answer session then followed, which is summarised as follows:-

Q – What is the Parish Council’s position?

A - The Parish Council is aware, at this stage, of RE’s interest in the land. Until there is a formal Planning Application submitted it is difficult to comment specifically. The PC will liaise with all interested parties before making its formal response to CWAC on the Application.

Q – How does this potential Planning Application sit against the Village Design Statement (VDS)?

A – The VDS is an Adopted Supplementary Planning Document that forms part of the Vale Royal Local Plan. Following local government reorganisation a new CWAC Local Plan is required and is currently being worked on. The Parish needs to produce a Neighbourhood Plan and the PC has started preparatory work on this in the last month. This Plan will need to identify areas of land that may be suitable for development in the future. This Plan is a Village Document, not a Parish Council Document, and will need to pass a public referendum and acquire CWAC approval before it becomes binding. The PC is actively seeking volunteers to assist in the formation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Q – RE claim to have acquired 20 acres of land. Is this true?

A – RE have an agreement with the landowner to purchase 20 acres of land, subject to Planning Permission being approved. They have registered their interest in the land with HM Land Registry.

Q – Is the land in question Green Belt?

A - No, it is classed as Open Countryside.

Q – Who owns the Vicarage?

A – It is under private ownership (answered by Rev. G Kegg).

Q – Is it known what Plans RE has for the site?

A – Not at present. They are still in the process of surveying and have not yet got so far as putting a Plot Map together. Their preliminary view is that the site could cope with max. 150 plots, although this will depend on property type. They have indicated that there

will be a mix of properties and that a third of the land acquired will become communal space.

Q – Would part approval for the site effectively create access to the rest of it by precedent?

A – Potentially yes. This is not a Parish Council decision, although the PC would have a voice in any planning process.

Q – Are you aware that RE have confirmed that they will be talking to the School about its' ability to cope with more pupils.

A – Yes, RE advised the PC that they were looking to meet with the Head Teacher at the School. It is understood that the Meeting took place last week. RE were advised ahead of this meeting that the school was at full capacity and unable to meet demand for places. RE have also been advised of other sustainability issues, such as parking and traffic flow.

Q – Will the Parish Council canvass public opinion?

A - Once the detailed plans are known the PC will liaise fully with all interested parties. Until that time nothing specific can be done.

Q – Should the PC now be letting CWAC know its' current stance?

A – No. In the absence of detailed plans there is nothing to pass opinion on. It is better to wait and respond to something definitive.

Q – How will the PC communicate with Villagers?

A – Use will be made of [www.MoultonVillage.co.uk](http://www.MoultonVillage.co.uk), the Notice Board and Newsletters. Villagers are always welcome to attend the PC Meetings for updates. Public Meetings will be arranged as appropriate. Every effort will be made to ensure that information is readily available.

Q – There is a rumour that a one way system will be introduced as part of the Plans. Is this True?

A – Nothing has been discussed about traffic flow within the village. It is just a rumour.

Q – Is there likely to be any impact on Davenham if these plans are approved?

A – Potentially yes, as the northern and eastern edge of the land earmarked for development is on the village border. Until actual plans are sighted it is difficult to answer this question more fully.

Q – Does the PC have an opinion on possible development type?

A – Not at this stage. We need to see what RE is proposing before reacting. Part of the Neighbourhood Plan process is to identify whether there are any shortfalls in housing stock types.

Q – Will the Neighbourhood Plan impact on the Northwich Plan?

A – No, it will be a document reflecting the interests of Moulton alone. That said, Northwich Town Council is keen to work with outlying Parish Councils as part of its' Neighbourhood Plan creation process.

Q – Is it known what timescales RE are working towards?

A – RE have advised that they are looking to submit a detailed Planning Application later this year. They hope to be working on site by late 2013.

Q – Is it correct that Developers can offer "sweeteners" as part of the Planning Application Process".

A – Yes, this is standard practice and is encouraged by Local Authorities, particularly where there is a proven requirement for community needs to be met.

Q – All previous major development applications have, in spite of strong opposition from residents, been agreed. Why should this be any different?

A – There is no guarantee that it won't. Planning regulations and aspirations regularly change and these are reflected in planning decisions. Any decision on this development will be subject to National and Local Development Policy.

Cllr. Rigby thanked everyone for attending and re-iterated that the Parish Council will continue to liaise closely with all parties as matters develop. The Parish Council will reflect the views of villagers throughout all stages of any Planning Application response.

A number of Residents put themselves forward as potential Members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

### 12.07.03

#### **PCSO's Monthly Report**

PCSO Kat Stock was unable to attend. Her Report will be held over until the next Parish Council Meeting.

#### **12.07.04 Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

#### **12.07.05 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:
  - The Parish Clerk has contacted CWAC regarding overgrown pathway hedges and the laurel bush that is growing out on to the pavement at the mini-roundabout end of Main Road. CWAC have confirmed that they are set to escalate action regarding this latter issue.
  - Letters have been sent to other property owners regarding overgrown hedges and trees.
  - Ten residents have responded to the Questionnaire covering the dilapidated fence adjacent to the path at Hillside Avenue. There is no clear first choice option selected. It was decided to hold a final decision in abeyance, particularly as CWAC Cllr. Watson has appealed to CWAC to take over responsibility for the fence.
  - Northwich Town Council (NTC) have suggested a site meeting to discuss mooted upgrades to the area at the rear of the War Memorial. The initial Plans encompass 5 trees (inc. a permanent Christmas Tree), 3 flower beds and the remainder of the area to grass. NTC are also looking at sourcing a double sided Notice Board and a Flag Pole. The Parish Clerk and Cllrs. Bowie, Vernon and Aston will arrange a meeting with Chris Shaw from NTC to take matters forward. The Parish Clerk will contact CWAC to enquire whether Planning Permission will be required for the Flag Pole.
  - The Parish Clerk confirmed that he has asked Davenham Electrical Suppliers Ltd to quote for the Annual Inspection of the MUGA Lights (due in autumn). They have also been asked to confirm what timer arrangements are currently in place.
  - CHAMP have not as yet replied in writing to the letter sent last month relating to the Parish Council covering future Village Hall Energy Costs. It was re-iterated that in the absence of any progress with the new Constitution no energy bills will be paid beyond 31 August 2012.
  - CHAMP have responded positively to the suggestion that organizers of future Events at the Village Hall include parking directions (to suggest the car park adjacent to the War Memorial) on advertising literature and tickets. The matter will be discussed at a future PCC Meeting.
  - PCSO Kat Stock has confirmed that car parking at the ends of Regent Street is being monitored. Feedback will be passed on to CWAC Highways in due course.
  - Zurich Insurance has provided the Renewal Quotation for the Playing Field Liability Cover. The Parish Clerk is seeking alternative quotes for comparison purposes.
  - Cheshire Records Office have confirmed lodgment of Parish Council and Playing Field Trust Minutes for the period 1990-2003.
  - Cllr. Hough has confirmed that matters are in hand to put in place a new, swing gate at the junction of the Playing Field and School Lane.

**Resolved: to** approve expenditure of max. £300 on materials for the new gate.

#### **12.07.06 Reports**

##### **(a) Planning**

**Resolved:** that the following be noted

- i). None.
- ii) 12/01385/FUL – Two storey side and single storey rear extension, new porch to front – Wynford, Jack Lane, Moulton – Planning Permission Granted.
- iii). None.
- iv). Given the time devoted earlier in the Meeting (Ref 1207.02) to the plans by RE no further discussion was held. RE are to be approached to enquire whether they have any objection to their letter dated 29 June 2012, summing up the recent meeting with the PC, being made public.

##### **(b) Community**

**Resolved:** that the following be noted

- i). Preliminary Judging Sheets for the 2012 Best Kept Garden Competition were collected in. Cllr. Vernon will liaise with Chris Shaw from NTC to arrange the final judging.
- ii). Following last months brief discussion on the provision of Adult IT Training within the village, Cllr Rigby and the Parish Clerk spoke with the Head Teacher at Moulton School. The School has an IT suite that it is keen to see more fully utilized. The Parish Council will now seek to ascertain demand for IT Courses before taking matters further.
- iii). The Parish Council has arranged to have a stall at the Crow Fair on Saturday 14 July 2012. The stall will be manned throughout the afternoon by a team of Councillors. It is hoped that the Community

Wardens will also be able to attend and meet with parishioners. The Fields In Trust Plaque will be unveiled late in the afternoon. It will be attached temporarily to the War Memorial Railings, prior to being placed in storage in readiness for more permanent placement later in the year.

**(c) Administrative Issues**

**Resolved:**

- i). The Parish Clerk confirmed that he has spoken with the Clerk of Works at Northwich Town Council. They have emergency call out fees built into some of their maintenance Contracts. Should the Clerk, or another member of Staff, be called out to attend an incident the individual is paid for their time at the appropriate rate, plus mileage if a private car is used. It was agreed to ask both NTC and Gary Steele whether they would like to quote for emergency call out services provision.
- ii). The Web Site Working Group held its' first meeting on Monday 2 July 2012. Andrew Ross was present at the meeting and set up a user name and password to enable Parish Council access/input to the new Moulton Village Web Site. The placement of Parish Council Notices and Records on the site was also discussed. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would monitor activity on the Site, referring to the Chairman and Vice Chairman should further postings be thought necessary. Furthermore, it was agreed that Meeting Agendas, Minutes and other Notices would be put on the site at the appropriate times.

**12.07.07 Correspondence**

- a) **Resolved:** that the correspondence received as below be noted and the following action be agreed.
  - Item 1 (3) – Approval has been obtained for Christmas Lighting at either the Village Green or adjacent to the War Memorial. It was agreed to use the Village Green again. The Parish Clerk will take forward the usual set up arrangements.
  - Item 1 (4) – The Parish Clerk will attend on behalf of the Parish Council.
  - Item 2 (1) – Cllr. Rigby and the Parish Clerk will attend.
  - Item 2 (3) – Noted. Finalised Code of Conduct wording is anticipated in readiness for the next Parish Council Meeting.
  - Item 4 – Parish Clerk to continue liaising with Arthur Neil as appropriate.
  - Item 13 – Parish Clerk to confirm to Mr Slaney that the Moulton School 7's can be held on the Playing Field on 13 July 2012.
  - Item 14 – Parish Clerk to advise Mrs Randerson to contact Bostock Estates direct regarding the condition of the footpaths.

1	Cheshire West and Chester Council	Various Various 19 June 21 June 6 July	Various briefing notes for Elected Members 'Altogether Better' - updates June Bulletin for Town and Parish Councils E-mail relating to Christmas Lights Administration E-mail relating to Partnerships Network Event – 26 July 2012	To note To note To note To discuss To discuss
2	ChALC	14 June 15 June 25 Jun 4 July	Notice of Annual Meeting Newsletter – June 2012 Briefing – New Codes of Conduct Localisation of Council Tax Support	To discuss To note To discuss To note
3	Cheshire Police	26 June 9 July	Police Community Support Officer Survey Newsletter	To note To note
4	Cheshire Community Development Trust	Various	E-mails relating to Moulton Play Scheme	To discuss
5	Cheshire and Wirral NHS Trust	22 June	Engage Journal – Issue 15/2012	To note
6	CWAC Cllr. E Watson	28 June	E-mail relating to Fence at top of Hillside Lane	To notes
7	S Ledger	16 June	E-mail relating to Proposed Development to land surrounding Beehive Lane, Moulton	To note
8	A Whiteley	26 June	E-mail relating to Proposed Development to land surrounding Beehive Lane, Moulton	To note
9	Neuro Muscular	22 June	NMC News – Summer 2012	To note

	Centre			
10	Mid Cheshire Footpath Society	15 June	Walks Programme – July to December 2012	To note
11	VREN	2 July	Newsletter	To note
12	Clerks and Councils Direct	5 July	July 2012 Issue	To note
13	Michael Slaney	6 July	E-mail re Use of Playing Field on 13 July	To discuss
14	Hannah Randerson	9 July	E-mail re Condition of Pathways off Niddries Lane	To discuss

#### 12.07.08 Accounts – Net Payments / Income

##### Payments:

PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
P Sanders	Salary – Clerk	462.71
HMRC	PAYE for PS July 2012	115.80
P Sanders	Expenses – Mileage, Computer Protection, Postages	41.40
GJ Steele	Litter Clearing and Playground Inspections – May 2012	150.00
Davenham Parish Council	50% share of PCSO Costs for April to September 2012	2,950.00
Office Essentials Ltd	Stationery	*68.45
Northwich Town Council	Contract – Playing Fields	*578.10
Northwich Town Council	Contract – Church and Playschool	338.40
Cheshire Playing Fields Assoc	Subscription y/e 31/3/13	18.00
British Gas Business	Gas Bill – Church Hall	305.17
County Landscape Development	Playing Field MUGA Lights and Servicing	*834.54
Northwich Town Council	Contract – Playing Fields	*211.50
Northwich Town Council	Contract – Church and Playschool	112.80

\*55% rechargeable to DPC and T&TF PC  
\*rechargeable to MPFT (net values)

##### Resolved: that

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

##### Income:

Noted receipt of the following income since the last meeting:

	£
Bank Interest	3.68
Davenham PC - Stationery Recharge	27.78
Jubilee Pledges	70.00
Jubilee Bucket Collection	94.40
MPFT – Recharges	2,696.70

#### 12.07.09 Councillors' Reports

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

- Cllr. Kershaw commented that the hedge at the property next door to the Co-Op store is growing outward into the road. The Parish Clerk will ask CWAC to contact the property owner.
- Cllr. Burgess commented on the volume of litter regularly seen around the Play Area. The Parish Clerk will source more secure replacement litter bins in readiness for discussion at the next Playing Field Trust Meeting in September.
- Cllr. Burgess commented that the ground adjacent to the Kissing Gate at the top end of the playing field needs checking later this year to ensure that it will hold up during the winter months.
- Cllr. Hough commented that the pathway to the rear of Eaton View is in need of a cut-back. The Parish Clerk will liaise accordingly with CWAC.
- Cllr. Hough commented that the MUGA regularly floods at times of high rainfall. This issue will be discussed at the Playing Field Trust Meeting in September.

- Cllr. Wood asked that an Agenda be prepared for the forthcoming Joint Parish Council Meeting on 23 July 2012.
- Cllr. Vernon advised that Di Woodward is now an Acting Sergeant, based at Northwich Police Station.
- Cllr. Aston advised that, along with Cllr. Harris, he attended the latest meeting of Northwich and Rural West APB. Northwich Town Council advised that they will be approaching all neighbouring Parish Councils as part of their Neighbourhood Plan preparations. Mark Simmonds, the CWAC Area Manager, also offered his services with regard to Neighbourhood Plans.

**12.07.10 Next Meeting**

Noted the next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 7.30pm at Moulton Village Hall (Back Room). There will be a 15 minute public participation session.

Also: Moulton Jubilee Events Group Meeting – 17 July 2012 – British Legion – 7.30pm.

Joint Parishes Meeting (Neighbourhood Plan Liaison) – 23 July 2012 – Village Hall – 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.58pm.