

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL held at MOULTON VILLAGE HALL (Main Room) on MONDAY 9 DECEMBER 2013 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT	
Councillors	Cllrs. Rigby (Chairman), Burgess, Harris, Hough, Vernon, Watkinson and Wood.
Other Attendees	PCSO Kat Stock. 3 Members of the Public (names recorded).

A Minute's silence was held to mark the recent passing of former Parish Councillor Alf Poole and Mrs Laura Williams.

1	<p>To receive Apologies (and record reasons for absence) and to note any Declarations of Interest Resolved: to accept Apologies from Cllrs. Aston (holiday) and Bowie (holiday).</p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest.</p>
2	<p>Public Participation David Watkinson and Margaret Black (representing MADCA) asked how the Parish Council wished to proceed regarding CHAMP's request to meet only with Parish Council Representatives regarding the release of Village Hall related monies held by MADCA. See comments under Clerk's Report.</p> <p>Margaret Newton expressed disappointment at the sentiments expressed by CWAC Cllrs. Watson, Sinar and Weltman in their recent letter to the Guardian Newspaper regarding the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). In particular, she felt that the implied criticism of Cllr Wood was not justified.</p> <p>Primary concern is the fact that the SHLAA, whilst not intended to be a definitive guide to possible development land, is being treated as such by developers. The presence of an area of land on the SHLAA is being seized upon by builders as a clear indication that development, of the right type, will be permitted.</p> <p>It was agreed to refer the matter to the CWAC Ward Councillors for further dialogue.</p>
3	<p>To receive the PCSOs Report PCSO Kat Stock gave an overview of her Monthly Report covering November 2013. 68 recorded incidents during the month. Primary Issues to note include burglaries in Moulton and Davenham; Anti Social Behaviour; monitoring of Dog Fouling; Speed Checks in key locations. A copy of the Report is held on file.</p>
4	<p>To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11 November 2013 for signature as a true record. Resolved: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2013 be agreed and signed as a true record.</p>
5	<p>To receive the Parish Clerk's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Tree Lights Switch On Event (Saturday 7 December 2013) – the Event went well and the Parish Clerk thanked those Members who assisted in the organisation of the Event. Thanks were also recorded to Moulton School Year 4 Children who sang Carols at the Event. A collection for the School Equipment Fund realised £53.74 and this is to be augmented by a Donation from the Parish Council of £50. • Updated Web Site – new Photographs of Councillors are to be taken at the conclusion of this Meeting for placement on the Web Site. It is envisaged that the new Web Pages will be live in early 2014. • Defibrillator – the Manageress of the Co-Op Store has confirmed that the Machine can be held on the premises. The Parish Clerk will now take matters forward with CWAC. Cllr. Harris will liaise with the Resident who offered to be a lead contact point. • Fence bordering Hillside Lane – to date no objections to the removal of the fence have been received from Residents. It was agreed to discuss again at the January 2014 Meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broken Swing Seats/Hole In Wetpour – the Contractor, Phil Davies, has completed all of the work today. • Bus Service Cut-backs – CWAC has confirmed that Subsidies were withdrawn as part of overall budget controls. Arriva has confirmed that the post 17:40 midweek services were deemed to not be commercially viable. It was agreed to seek dialogue with Arriva to see if a compromise can be found across all services that are routed through/near Moulton. • Meeting with CHAMP re Village Hall – Tuesday 17 December 2013 has been pencilled in as the date of the Meeting. CHAMP have suggested that the Meeting only include representatives from the Parish Council and themselves. A response will be forwarded confirming that it is appropriate for MADCA to attend as they currently hold the monies in question. • MUGA Lights – Keith Carter (Davenham Electrical Services) has confirmed that the full annual service will be undertaken this week, subject to weather conditions. New Bulbs are to be fitted to each pylon. • Co-Option Vacancies – the Formal Notices will be posted early in January 2014. One expression of interest received to date.
6	<p>Planning</p> <p><u>i. to note comments made by the Planning Committee on recent Applications</u> None.</p> <p><u>ii. to note Planning Application Responses from Cheshire West and Chester Council 13/04123/FUL – 1 Verdin Close – two storey side extension. Application Refused.</u></p> <p><u>iii. to note Planning Applications advised but not yet received</u> None.</p> <p><u>iv. to further discuss Neighbourhood Plan related issues</u> The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) last met on Wednesday 4 December 2013. Following this Meeting, which included a review of work to date, the intention is now to work towards producing a Draft Plan during Q1 2014. Once this is in place Consultation with Local Residents will take place – probably in the form of a Newsletter outlining the key issues and inviting feedback. The Parish Clerk is in the process of submitting an Application for Grant Funding from the Community Development Foundation for £7,000 – this can be put towards the cost of any Neighbourhood Plan related spending. The NPWG will next meet on Thursday 23 January 2014 (subject to room availability).</p> <p><u>v. to discuss any other Planning Related Issues arising</u> Cllr. Rigby commented on the ChALC organised Planning Seminar that he attended on Friday 6 December 2013. This focused on Neighbourhood Planning and confirmed the need to formulate the Plan as soon as possible. Embryonic Plans that have been through initial local resident consultation do carry some weight in determining planning decisions. Neighbourhood Plans approved by referendum have to be complied with as they form part of Local Planning Policy.</p> <p>It was agreed to ask ChALC how they intend to proceed with the recently approved Planning Charter for Town/Parish Councils that have a Neighbourhood Plan in place. The Charter was endorsed by ChALC Members at the recent AGM.</p>
7	<p>Financial Issues</p> <p><u>To discuss the recommendations of the Finance Committee Meeting dated 21 November 2013 – Budget 2014/15; Precept 2014/15; Insurance Cover Review; Asset Register Update; Risk Assessment Update</u></p> <p><u>Budget 2014/15</u> Resolved: to accept the Budget proposed by the Finance Committee. A copy is held on file.</p> <p><u>Precept 2014/15</u> Resolved: to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to request a Precept of £30,750 from CWAC. This figure takes note of the 10% reduction in the Council Tax Benefit Support Grant recently advised by CWAC.</p> <p><u>Insurance Cover Review</u> Resolved: to confirm the Cover Schedule as recently amended. Now includes the recently acquired Flag Pole, Notice Board and Sandstone Plinth.</p> <p><u>Asset Register Update</u> Resolved: to accept the updated Asset Register. A copy is held on file.</p>

Risk Assessment Update

Resolved: to accept the updated Risk Assessment Document. A copy is held on file.

8**To consider Correspondence received since the last Meeting**

Cheshire West and Chester Council	Various	Members Briefings (<i>e-mailed on receipt</i>) Local Councils Bulletins (<i>e-mailed on receipt</i>)	To note To note
	19 Nov		
	15 Nov	Northwich and Winsford Locality Team Newsletter (<i>e-mailed on receipt</i>)	To note
	17 Oct	Self Care Week Information (<i>e-mailed on receipt</i>)	To note
	28 Nov	Letter re New Homes Bonus Community Fund 2013/14	To discuss
	6 Dec	Letter from Cllr. Ford re Borough Finances	To note
Cheshire Police	Various	Weekly Newsletters (<i>e-mailed as appropriate</i>)	To note
Vale Royal Disability Service	Various	Newsletters (<i>e-mailed as appropriate</i>)	To note
VREN	Various	Newsletters (<i>e-mailed on receipt</i>)	To note
NALC	Various	Messages re Council Tax Benefit Support Grants	To note
RA Pickthall	Various	Assorted Communications	To note
R Pearson	Various	E-mails regarding Guardian Newspaper article on Village Hall Funds	To note
GW Scott	4 Dec	E-mail addresses	To discuss
Moulton Matters Members	Various	Assorted Communications (<i>e-mailed as appropriate</i>)	To note

Resolved: to ask Graham Scott to set up dedicated Parish Council e-mail addresses for those Councillors who do not have one in place.

The Parish Clerk will confirm acceptance of the CWAC New Homes Bonus Community Fund Payment of £1,307. The funds will be put towards the War Memorial Area refurbishment costs.

9**To authorise Accounts for Payment and note Income Received**

Resolved: to authorise the following Payments and to note Income Received.

Payments:

P Sanders	Salary December – Clerk	603.94
HMRC	PAYE + NI for PS December 2013	178.97
Northwich Town Council	War Memorial Area Improvements Programme	7136.29
ChALC	“Local Councils Explained” Publication	54.99
Scottish Power	Xmas Tree Electric Costs 2012/3	68.17

	SLCC	Membership Fee	129.00
	P Sanders	Expenses – Nov/Dec	71.04
	GJ Steele	Inspections and Litter Picks	150.00
	Cllr. C Bowie	Christmas Fayre Stand Cost	7.50
	UK Mailing	Autumn 2013 Newsletter Printing	154.80
	Office Essentials	Stationery	99.10
	ChALC	Planning Seminar Fees	80.00
	PIAMS	Playground Inspection for November and Repair Work	793.50
	Moulton School	Donation	50.00
	Income Received:		
	Bank Interest Received		4.36
	Davenham re PCSO		2950.00
10	<p>To receive Reports from Councillors and the Parish Clerk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr. Hough advised that the Moulton Crows Auto Club does not have a Bank Account. Therefore a Cheque to cover the recently awarded Community Grant will be of little value. It was agreed to make the Award in cash. • Cllr. Burgess asked that a letter be sent to the Occupier of a specific Garage Plot requesting that rubbish within the garage be removed. • Cllr. Burgess commented that Trees on Parish Council land adjacent to Whitlow Lane are growing over the pavement/road. It was agreed to ask Northwich Town Council to check all trees on Parish Council Land and take whatever action is felt appropriate to ensure safety. • Cllr. Harris commented that the first batch of IT Training Courses will end this week. To date VRDS have been unable to secure funding for the initiative to continue into Q1 2014. It was agreed that the Parish Council would, if necessary, cover the costs of £500 from its' own reserves. A request for Local Councillor Budget Funding will be submitted to the three Ward Councillors. • Cllr. Vernon thanked all of those Councillors who recently delivered Parish Council Newsletters at short notice. • The Parish Clerk suggested that Garage Rent Monies be sought by letter for 2014, rather than the usual Saturday Morning Collection Meeting. It was agreed to take this forward as a pilot exercise. Letters will be issued in early January 2014. Rents will remain unchanged. 		
11	<p>To note that the next Meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 13 January 2014 at 7.45pm – Moulton Village Hall (Main Room) – commencing with a 15 minute Public Participation Session</p>		

There being no further business the Meeting concluded at 9.40pm.