

TIVERTON AND TILSTONE FEARNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9 January 2007 at Tiverton Village Hall, Tiverton.

Present: Parish Councillors Cheshire (Chairman), Turner, Evans, Povall, Wright and Farrall. Chester City Councillors Jones and Haynes. Parish Clerk. 6 Members of the Public.

Open Forum:

Maureen Blake advised that the recent Carol Service and New Years Eve Dance organised by the Village Society were both highly successful. She is looking to organise a meeting in the near future to seek further support in the organising of additional events.

Chas Hardern (Canal Boats) has offered to donate a prize – a weekends' use of a barge –for any village based raffle/lottery. The Parish Council is authorised to decide how, and when, the prize is won.

Mrs Marshall raised the question of cars speeding through the Village, particularly on Huxley Lane. Cllr. Cheshire confirmed that the Council was aware of the issue and that initiatives are in the pipeline to address the problem (see later comments under 12.3).

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Brewin and Pilgrem.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** No Declarations of Interest were made.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 November 2006:** The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.
4. **Matters Arising:**
 - 4.1. **Huxley Lane T-Junction Turning Point** – Cllr Turner advised that Cheshire County Council have confirmed that the proposed placing of yellow lines on the road adjacent to the Junction will not now take place. This decision is based on cost considerations and questions as to who would patrol the area to ensure enforcement.
 - 4.2. **Signposting** – Cllr. Turner reported that Contractors are expected to start the work in the next 3/4 weeks. Delay has been due to an administrative error by Cheshire County Council Highways which has now been rectified.
 - 4.3. **Bus Stop Shelters** – The Parish Clerk confirmed that a letter has been sent to Andy Nickson at Cheshire County Council asking for funds to be earmarked from the 2007/8 budget to cover the provision of Shelters at the Red Fox Bus Stops.
Action 1 - Parish Clerk to monitor receipt of response letter from Andy Nickson re Bus Shelters.
 - 4.4. **Commercial Vehicle Overnight Parking in Lay-By** – The Parish Clerk commented that VOSA have advised that Licensed Commercial Vehicles (with or without tractor units) should not park overnight in lay-bys. Should such instances occur the name of the Haulage Company should be noted and the details advised to VOSA, who will contact the Haulage Company direct.
 - 4.5. **St Judes Churchyard, Tilstone Fearnall** – Cllr Cheshire advised that he had spoken with Alan James at Chester City Council to seek guidance on who has responsibility for Churchyard maintenance should the Church merge with Bunbury Parish Church. In the event that the Church closes, but the Churchyard remains in

use, responsibility for maintenance will rest with the Church. Should both the Church and the Churchyard close, the Church can then ask the Parish Council to attend to maintenance issues. However, should the Parish Council feel that it is unable to handle the work it can approach Chester City Council (within three months of the initial request from the Church) and ask that the City Council assumes responsibility for maintenance issues.

5. **Beeston Area Transport Needs Assessment (BATNA):** Derek Marshall gave an updating report on initiatives regarding the possible re-opening of Beeston Railway Station. Recent discussions and correspondence have centered on the question of “reasonable travelling distance”, with the previously advised standard of 5.1km not being as rigidly applied as first thought. Nonetheless, accepted standards in calculating likely user numbers suggest that the feasibility of the plan is in serious question – there are too few people living within a 5/6 km radius of Beeston. Stephen O’Brien MP and the Department of Transport remain involved in the consultation process and District Councils have been asked to raise awareness of the campaign in the Tarporley, Tarvin and Tattenhall areas. In the event that requests to re-open the Station are declined, representations will be made to Local Bus Operators to ask that all services to Crewe call at the Railway Station – they currently only stop at the Bus Station in the Town Centre.
6. **Homewatch and Police Report:** Roger Blake advised the Parish Council of two recent local robberies - a Vehicle Trailer and a Motor Cycle owned by local residents.
7. **Planning Applications:**
 - 7.1. Application 06/02148/FUL, Fountainhead Cottage, Huxley Lane, Demolition of Garage and construction of 2 storey extension – no objections.
 - 7.2. Cllr. Povall commented that she had raised the question of the recently built Barn opposite Daisy Bank Cottage with Andy Farrall at Chester City Council, key issues being Location, Size and Usage, all of which appear at odds with the originally approved plans. Mr Farrall has promised to provide Cllr Povall with feedback in the near future.
 - 7.3. Cllr Jones commented that the Parish Council should approach H Dickinson, the Conservation Officer at Chester City Council, and register its’ wish to ensure that future property improvements/renovations take into account the need to protect the heritage of the Village. **Action 2 – Parish Clerk to write to Mr Dickinson, with particular reference to Daisy Bank Cottage, Huxley Lane.**
 - 7.4. In view of recent Canalside Excavations made at Wharton Lock Farm to accommodate an additional mooring, it was felt appropriate to contact British Waterways to confirm that permission to undertake the work had been granted. **Action 3 – Parish Clerk to write to British Waterways concerning mooring of boats within the Parish.**
 - 7.5. Cllr Haynes passed on prior notification of a Planning Application – 06/02300/FUL - relating to the conversion of a barn into private leisure suite facilities at Tiverton Hall. The standard notification letter should be received in the next seven days.

8. **Correspondence:**

8.1. Letter from Cheshire Police Authority including a questionnaire relating to Draft Policing Objectives for 2007/08. **Action 4 - Parish Clerk to action and return Police Questionnaire.**

8.2. Flyer from Chester City Council advertising a Training Event, “Developing your Fundraising Strategy”, on 22 January 2007 at Chester Town Hall..

8.3. Letter from Chester City Council enclosing adopted copy of the Local Development Framework, Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (November 2006). To be held with Planning Files for future reference.

8.4. E-mail from Cheshire County Council detailing Annual Town and Parish Councils’ Conference at Winsford Civic Hall on the evening of Wednesday 14 March 2007. Parish Clerk will attend.

8.5. Advance Notice of Rural South Area Committee Meeting on Thursday 18 January 2007 at Victoria Jubilee Hall, Malpas. Cllr Povall to attend.

8.6. Notice of Verbal Communication from Cheshire County Council regarding forthcoming roadworks on the bridge over the River Gowy adjacent to Beeston Cattle Market. The work will take about 4 weeks and will commence on 15 January 2007. Temporary Traffic Lights will be in operation.

8.7. Letter from Jean Green, the Church Treasurer, thanking the Parish Council for donating the Christmas Service Collection Monies (£64.55) to the Methodist Church.

9. **Financial Report:** The Parish Clerk presented the Financial Report dated 9 January 2007. This was approved unanimously by the Council (Proposed by Cllr Turner, Seconded by Cllr Wright).

The Parish Clerk confirmed that, as at 1 January 2007, the Bank Balance in the Councils’ Books was £5,125.80 Credit and that Budget Targets were being met. Given the level of credit balance currently standing, it was agreed to investigate possible Short Term/Notice Interest Bearing Investment Opportunities. Care should be taken to ensure the funds remain liquid to cover anticipated expenditure on conservation projects covered in the Village Plan. **Action 5 – Parish Clerk to research investment of earmarked reserves in time for next Parish Council Meeting.**

10. **Accounts for Payment:**

Payments processed since the last meeting, and given retrospective approval, are as follows:-

Royal British Legion – Donation - £25.00

Armitage Systems Limited – Newsletter Printing - £26.38

The following payments were also approved:

Harold Withe (January and February 2007 Salaries) - £162.40 per month before PAYE.

Phil Sanders (January and February 2007 Salaries) - £100.00 per month before PAYE.

11. **Parish Council Budget for 2007/8:** The Parish Clerk presented a Draft Budget for 2007/8 which was approved unanimously (Proposed by Cllr Evans, Seconded by Cllr Wright). Precept request for £2,575.00 is to be sent to Chester City Council by closing date of 26 January 2007. **Action 6 – Parish Clerk to action Precept request letter to Chester City Council.**

12. Any Other Business:

- 12.1.** Damage to Lay-By Fences – It is understood that Beeston Reclamation have a number of large stone pieces which may be suitable for placing in the Lay-By to prevent HGV's from damaging fences. **Action 7 – Cllr Evans to investigate stone pieces for village greens.**
- 12.2.** Conservation Areas – Cllr Jones gave advance notice of a letter from Chester City Council seeking the Parish Council's views on the future management of conservation areas within the Parish. Receipt of the letter is anticipated within the next month.
- 12.3.** Speeding – It was decided to recommence use of SID and hand held Speedguns. **Action 8 – Parish Clerk to take forward Speed monitoring in line with the recent letter from Cheshire County Council.** Cllr Jones suggested that a letter be sent to Cllr John Burke asking that the Speed Review Panel re-assess current limits on A class roads within the Parish. **Action 9 – Parish Clerk to request reassessment of Parish "A" Roads by Speed Review Panel.**
- 12.4.** Local Government Reorganisation – Finalised policy decisions are still awaited from both Cheshire County Council and Chester City Council.

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 13 March 2007 at Tiverton Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

The Meeting was closed at 9.28pm.