

# TIVERTON AND TILSTONE FEARNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20 November 2007 at Tiverton Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

## **Present:**

Parish Councillors Turner (Chairman), Cheshire, Evans, Farrall, Povall and Wright. Chester City Councillor Weaver. Parish Clerk. 3 Members of the Public.

## **Open Forum:**

- i. Derek Marshall sought an update on the implementation of the Parish Plan, commenting that considerable work went into its' creation. It was suggested that a review of the Plan be completed, with the Parish Plan Working Group, the Parish Council and Chester City Council meeting with a view to taking forward a number of issues. **Action Point 1 – Parish Clerk to write to Angela Loftus, Parish Plan Co-ordinator at Chester City Council, to seek her involvement in the review process and enquiring how the City Council will support the implementation of the Plan.** Linked to this issue, Steve Armitage commented that a number of working parties across the North West are currently reviewing the Parish Plan Process to ensure that the Plans have a value as ongoing, working documents.
- ii. Derek Marshall requested that attention be given to the signage at the “Red Fox Crossroads”. Please see comments under “Matters Arising - Damage to Lay By Fences/Warning Signs for High Vehicles”.
- iii. Roger Blake commented on the need for repairs to a Stile Footstep in Townfields Lane, Tiverton. Mr Blake was advised of the appropriate reporting lines (Mike Boulton at Vale Royal Borough Council) and the need to involve the landowner (Mr. Postner) in the repair work.
- iv. Roger Blake enquired whether the Parish Council could arrange for permanent speed warning signs to be erected in Huxley Lane, Tiverton. Cllr. Cheshire advised that the recent week long exercise utilising the Speed Indicator Device (SID) suggested that speeding in the area was not sufficiently problematic to justify the placing/cost of the equipment. City Councillor Weaver advised that enhanced equipment may become available in 2008 which will record speeds, but will be less visible to motorists than the SID.
- v. Steve Armitage advised that a two page article on Tiverton was recently included in “Cheshire Life” magazine. The Parish Council thanked Mr Armitage for the positive publicity that accrued.

## **1. Apologies for Absence:**

Cheshire County Councillor Moore-Dutton. Chester City Councillor Jones.

## **2. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no Declarations of Interest made.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting Held on Tuesday 11 September 2007:**

The Minutes were unanimously approved (Proposed by Cllr. Cheshire. Seconded by Cllr. Evans) and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4. Matters Arising:**

- a) **Damage to Lay By Fences/Warning Signs for High Vehicles –** Cllr. Turner advised that he attended a site meeting with Chester City Councillor Weaver and Helena Crawford and Jamie Barron from Cheshire County Council on 18 October 2007. Following this meeting it was agreed to replace missing/damaged low bridge warning signs on both the A49 and A51; commence a six month trial of new signage designed to confine car parking to the right hand side (travelling uphill) of the turning circle; repair the damaged grass verge adjacent to the entrance to Gardenhurst.  
**Action Point 2 – Parish Clerk to contact Jamie Barron to ascertain probable dates for the completion of the above.**
- b) **Barbed Wire Fence Preventing Access to the Public Footpath Adjacent to The Fields, Tiverton Heath –** Steve Armitage advised that the Fence has been removed.
- c) **Conversion of Outbuilding at Hilly Bank, Huxley Lane –** Cllr. Evans advised that Chester City Council have confirmed that no Planning Permission is required to cover the conversion of a Garage into Living Accommodation, subject to the converted part of the property being subsequently occupied by the Landowners. Clarification of this ruling has been sought from City Councillor Jones and County Councillor Moore-Dutton. **Action Point 3 – Cllr. Cheshire to update the Parish Council at the next meeting.**
- d) **Speeding Checks –** The Parish Clerk confirmed that the Speed Gun has been used on a number of occasions since the last Parish Council Meeting. Details of speeding vehicles have been passed on to Cheshire Police who will issue warning letters to the vehicle owners.
- e) **Kissing Gate Project for Public Rights of Way –** Survey work is still being undertaken with a view to applying for a batch of Gates in Spring 2008. **Action Point 4 – Cllr. Cheshire to update the Parish Council at the next meeting.**
- f) **Community Pride Awards Evening –** Whilst acknowledging that 4<sup>th</sup> place in the competition was a successful outcome, Cllrs. Turner and Cheshire commented that elements of the marking system have the potential to undervalue villages that do not have specific amenities such as a Post Office, Public House, Library etc. Additionally, the Judges had not included Tiverton Village Hall in their evaluation. These observations have been made in writing to Cheshire Community Council and their response is awaited. **Action Point 5 – Cllr. Turner to update the Parish Council at the next meeting.**
- g) **Code of Conduct –** The Parish Clerk confirmed that both the Standards Board for England and Chester City Council have been informed that the Parish Council has adopted Local Authorities

(Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007. The Parish Council's Standing Orders have been amended to allow Parish Councillors with a Prejudicial Interest to make representations at a Council Meeting prior to leaving the room whilst voting takes place.

**5. Homewatch and Police Report:**

Roger Blake re-iterated the need for care with regard to Cold Callers - a number of Bogus Callers are still known to be active in the locality. He also confirmed that Chester City Council will make one free special collection of rubbish, e.g. furniture, per year for each household. The contact number to arrange collections is 01244 402477.

**6. Planning Applications:**

07/01677/FUL – 2 Townfields Lane, Tiverton. Planning Permission has been refused, although Chester City Council has indicated that it would like to see the site developed in some format. Cllr. Evans made comment on the volume of work undertaken by Mr. and Mrs. Roger Blake in connection with this Planning Application. The time allocated and level of research undertaken was commended by both Chester City Council and the Parish Council.

07/01641/FUL – Vale Mount, Vale Road, Tilstone Fearnall. Planning Permission granted.

07/01894/FUL – Demolish existing house and rebuild as a five bedroom detached property. Mr C Jenkins. Drumber Castle Cottage, Huxley Lane, Tiverton. No objections raised.

07/01723/LBC – Remove asbestos cement tiles and replace with thatched roof. Mr M Williams. Yew Tree Cottage, Huxley Lane, Tiverton. No objections raised.

07/01969/FUL – First floor store/playroom with water closet over existing garage. Mr A Rennie. Lake Cottage, Nantwich Road, Tiverton. No objections raised.

07/01900/FUL – Erection of timber stable block and store, sand exercise area and change of use to equestrian. P Jones & N Stoker-Jones. Field OS 0816, Tilstone Bank Road, Tilstone Fearnall. No objections raised.

06/02301/FUL – Replacement of existing vehicle store and workshop. Mr & Mrs Edwards. Tiverton Hall, Huxley Lane, Tiverton. No objections raised. The Parish Council discussed the recent e-mail from Mr & Mrs M McGrath seeking the Council's views on the possible creation of a Camp Site on land at Cribb Lane, Tiverton. To date no formal Planning Application has been submitted. The Parish Council felt that before commenting in detail it requires sight of a Planning Application/Detailed Plans. However, it felt that, as an indication of current thinking, support would not be forthcoming.

**Action Point 6 – Parish Clerk to send an e-mail to Mr & Mrs McGrath on the above lines.**

Cllr. Evans commented that the Air Conditioning Units attached to the outside walls of the Red Fox have been removed after inspection by Chester City Council. However, it is anticipated that Mr Jilani will submit a Planning Application aimed at having them approved for re-instatement in the near future.

Cllr. Evans advised that the Appeal against the Enforcement Notice issued against Mr Houghton in respect of his activities at Moss Lane is likely to be scheduled for January/February 2008. In the meantime Mr Houghton can continue his business.

#### 7. **Correspondence:**

- a) Letter dated 18 October 2007 from Cheshire County Council regarding “Cheshire Sandstone Ridge – Habitats and Fill Forts Project”.
- b) Letter dated 1 November 2007 from Cheshire County Council regarding “Public Consultation – Strategic Environmental Assessment of Cheshire’s Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy”. Closing date for comments/observations is 4 February 2008. **Action Point 7 – Parish Clerk to circulate papers amongst Members with a view to finalising feedback at January 2008 Parish Council Meeting.**
- c) Agenda for Rural South Area Committee Meeting on Thursday 29 November 2007 at Malpas Victoria Jubilee Hall.
- d) Cheshire Police Authority Forum Newsletter dated October 2007.
- e) The Past Uncovered dated October 2007.
- f) Letter dated 3 October 2007 from the Leaders of Congleton and Crewe and Nantwich Borough Councils regarding “Local Government in Cheshire”.
- g) People and Places Leaders Bulletin Issues 4 and 5.
- h) Leaflets from Cheshire County Council covering the A51 Feeder Bus Service to connect with Service 84 (Chester to Crewe). For Public availability.
- i) Cheshire Matters Journals dated October and November 2007.
- j) E-mail from Phil Addison, Rural Housing Enabler, outlining a Public Open Day to be held at Tattenhall in January 2008. Further details to follow. **Action Point 8 – Parish Clerk to forward details, as and when to hand, to Steve Armitage for inclusion in the next Village Newsletter.**
- k) ChALC Newsletter November 2007.
- l) Letter, dated October 2007, from Community Consultation Limited regarding Insurance Policies for smaller rural councils. **Action Point 9 – Parish Clerk hold on file for next Policy Renewal date.**

#### 8. **Financial Report:**

The Parish Clerk presented the Financial Report dated 20 November 2007. This was approved unanimously by the Council (Proposed by Cllr. Evans. Seconded by Cllr. Cheshire). The Parish Clerk confirmed that, as at 14 November 2007, the reconciled Bank Balance in the Council’s Books was £5,303.00 Credit. Messrs UHY Hacker Young have issued the External Audit Certificate for the year ending 31 March 2007 and appropriate Public Notices have been posted.

**Action Point 10 – Parish Clerk to prepare a Draft Budget for 2008/2009 in readiness for the next Parish Council Meeting.**

It was unanimously agreed (Proposed by Cllr. Evans. Seconded by Cllr. Wright) to uplift the Parish Clerks hourly rate of pay to £8.234 with effect from 1 December 2007. Additionally, the Parish Clerk is to receive back pay of £0.35 per hour worked for the period 1 April 2007 to 30 November 2007 – total due £36.75. The Street Orderly's hourly rate of pay is to increase to £6.00, an increase of £0.20 per hour, back dated to 1 April 2007. Back pay due totals £49.00.

Cllr. Povall is to enquire over the availability of a further Churchyard Grant for St. Judes. **Action Point 11 – Cllr. Povall to advise Parish Clerk of appropriate action required, if appropriate.**

**9. Accounts For Payment:**

The following payments were unanimously approved (Proposed by Cllr. Evans. Seconded by Cllr. Wright):-

H Withe (November and December) - £203.00 and £162.40 per month retrospectively, less Income Tax. Increased hourly rate, as detailed above, to be added.

P Sanders (November and December) - £100.00 per month, less Income Tax. Increased hourly rate, as detailed above, to be added.

Retrospectively agreed:-

UHY Hacker Young (Audit Fee) - £58.75

S Armitage (Newsletter Copying) - £25.50

Bunbury British Legion (Donation) - £25.00

**10. Any Other Business:**

- i. Cllr. Povall confirmed that the New Year Dance, organised by the Village Society, is sold out.
- ii. It was unanimously agreed (Proposed by Cllr. Turner. Seconded by Cllr. Farrall) to accept a Quotation of £100 from Buckland Tree Care Ltd to cover the removal of the Tree Stump adjacent to the A49 Turning Circle and making good the resultant hole. **Action Point 12 - Parish Clerk to arrange for the work to be completed.**
- iii. Cllr. Cheshire commented that large quantities of new clothing are still being left in the A49 Traffic Lay-by. The Community Safety Warden and Cheshire County Council have been made aware of the problem. Battery operated surveillance equipment is being considered as a means of identifying those leaving the garments.
- iv. It was agreed to obtain signage – “Parish Council Notice Board” - for the two Parish Council Notice Boards. **Action Point 13 – Cllr. Cheshire to forward details of the surface area dimensions to the Parish Clerk. Action Point 14 – Parish Clerk to then obtain a quotation for the signs from Inprint Colour Ltd of Crewe.**

**11. Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 15 January 2008 at Tiverton Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 9.24pm.