

# ACTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5th November 2018 at 7-30pm in the Parish Rooms.

Present	R Holt Chairman C Ballantyne-Roberts H Bayley R Forbes D Hall S Pardoe J Oliver Clr H Tonge CW&C Clr P Williams CW&C
Apologies	Clr C Fifield

There was one member of the public present. Also present Vicky Cropper Head of Stakeholder and Community, London Northwestern Railway.

## 1 Public Matters

Vicky Cropper had contacted the Parish Council in October to introduce herself and explain her position in London Northwestern Railway (LNR). The Parish Council had responded by letter, thanking Vicky for the introduction and setting out a number of issues that the Parish Council would like to discuss. Vicky had agreed to come along to the meeting tonight.

Vicky gave a presentation of LNR objectives and investment plans. She explained the structure and shareholding of the venture company, 30% of which is Japanese and they are very involved. She also gave details of refurbishment of Stations and buildings.

Vicky was able to refer to an amended timetable which, although not fully endorsed gave the envisaged services involving Acton Bridge that will commence in the New Year. The timetable gave details of the five weekday services and those for Saturdays and Sundays. It was noted that it will be possible to get on a train at Acton Bridge and travel to London Euston (though it will be quicker to change at Crewe). There will be more trains and with increased capacity.

On Acton Bridge specific issues, information was provided on;  
New ticket vending machine and permit travel machine,  
Provision of digital screens for customer information,  
Consideration of expanding the Station car park,  
Installation of CCTV on Station and car park.

It was also mentioned that there are plans to form 'Community Partnerships' and that CW&C had been contacted.

There was general discussion on the topics raised, particularly on the timetable and possible operational improvements, e.g. passenger announcements and updated information on delays, etc.

It was also mentioned that LNR are keen to work with local residents on Station improvements and housekeeping. Clr Bayley agreed to liaise with Vicky on this topic.

Vicky was thanked for her attendance and the comprehensive information she had presented.

## 2 Approval of Minutes

### a) Minutes of the 1st October 2018 meeting

The minutes were reviewed and with editorial corrections were agreed and signed.

### **3 Matters Arising**

#### **Item 1 Public Matters**

Further to the situation regarding the World War I memorial plaques to 'fallen men' of the Village that are presently mounted in the Methodist Chapel and what will happen to them after the closure of the Chapel, the Chairman has written to the Vicar to register an interest in the plaques and requested that the plaques be retained by the Parish Council for the Village with possible repositioning of the plaques in the Parish Rooms.  
Action Clr Holt - Completed

A number of Parish Councillors had also met in the Chapel and carried out a survey of the plaques with a view to demounting and repositioning the plaques. The matter will be progressed with the management people for the Chapel.  
**Action Clr Holt**

**Item 4(a) Planning Applications** - *Application 18/03065/FUL for the Maypole Inn 59 Hill Top Road* - The Chairman confirmed that the forms to register the Maypole Inn as an 'Asset of Community Value' with CW&C have been obtained, completed and sent in.

#### **Public Matters**

##### **Item 1(b)**

A resident of Strawberry Lane raised an issue of the state of the road at the inner end of Strawberry Lane. Large vehicles in trying to make turning space at the end of the Lane are cutting up paths and driveways. The ownership of Strawberry Lane was discussed and also if the road was adopted.

Clr Fifield offered to contact CW&C to establish the ownership details and responsibilities for upkeep.

**Action Clr Fifield –Ongoing**

It has been reported by the resident that people from CW&C have been in touch.

#### **Matters Arising**

##### **Item 3(a) Footpaths and Public Right of Way**

It was mentioned that under Section 43(1) of the Highways Act 1980 the Parish Council can arrange for the work to be done. The resident said that there are volunteers available to do the work. It was noted that the footpath is part of the 'Petal Walk' route. Clr Fifield said he would also take up this issue with CW&C .

**Action Clr Fifield Ongoing**

##### **3b) Town Farm Quarry**

There was no news of any submissions or actions by the applicants subsequent to the Planning Committee meeting of the 6th March 2018. Clr Pardoe reported that the site survey has not in fact been carried out neither have further inquiries been held with the applicants / operators. There is concern and possible enforcement action taken on CW&C.

##### **3c) Dog fouling – Waste Bins**

Further to the meeting with a representative for 'Streetscene' CW&C, the price for a bin to be supplied and fitted is £182. The cleansing price would be £3 for a once a week service and £27.35 per additional service (e.g. twice a week). It was also stated that the cleansing prices will also be the same for the litter bin at the Parish Room car park.

After raising the issue at the recent ABCA meeting and, agreeing that there was no clash with any other request, the funds would be requested from the Members Budgets. The Chairman confirmed that the application forms had been completed and the grant had been approved. Action Clr Holt - Completed

##### **3d) Superfast Broadband**

It had been reported that a number of residents had been having problems with Broadband connections and these had not been cleared. It appears that the connection of new subscribers causes problems.

##### **3e) Interactive Signs**

Further to the TWM representative meeting with Clr Pardoe and the demonstration how to download data, Clr Pardoe had produce a number of multi-page files of the records. It is a rather onerous procedure and taking a lot of time but the results are very comprehensive and give a clear insight to traffic movements and speeds on a continuous basis. Clr Pardoe was thanked for all his efforts.

On the subject of the Police speed van in Station Road, Clr Ballantyne-Roberts had queried if the interactive signs had any effect on the results obtained via the van. The Chairman and Clr Pardoe had raised this with the PCSO but this data was not available. Action Completed.  
Copies of the summary sheets from the data print outs were passed to the PCSO.

The Clerk mentioned that the VAT, claimed on the TWM Invoice, has been refunded by HMRC.

### **3f) Replacement Bowls Storage Facility at the Parish Rooms.**

Further to the proposals to renew the present structure with a similar size timber building, the Parish Council had submitted an application for a Lawful Development Certificate (LDC). CW&C had been in touch and requested that a full planning application should be submitted instead. The Chairman reported that the forms for the full application have been completed and the decision is awaited. CW&C Planning Dept had advised that the fee for the full application was less than that for the LDC and a refund would be made.

### **Item e) Risk Management**

Further to the discussion on the Register of Assets, it was decided that details relating to the protection of the assets covered by the JCC should be included in the Risk Management document. The Chairman reported on the contact with the JCC Clerk and the insurance of the assets. Action Clerk Completed

The JCC Clerk had said that she is not aware of a Risk Management document and if one was required it would have to be produced. This will be followed up by our JCC Members.

### **3h) 11 A.O. B**

b) Following a report that a tree on the Parish Room car park was dying back and should be cut down, enquiries had been made regarding insurance for the work by the Parish Council and ABCA. There are volunteers willing to do the work. The volunteers were willing to do the work at their own risk and the tree has been removed.

## **4 Planning Applications**

There were no new planning applications this month.

## **5 Planning Decisions**

There were no new planning decisions.

## **6 Financial Matters**

### **6.1 Authorisation of Cheques**

A cheque for £75 being cost of hire of materials for the tree removal was approved and signed.

## **7 CWAC Ward Councillors**

Clr Tonge gave a review of a number of topics that are currently under consideration or are open for comments. The following were mentioned;

Members Budgets completed. The application by the Parish Council for a grant to fund the provision of a dog waste bin has been approved.

Public Spaces Order – has been approved. Covers many aspects of duties of residents and especially dog owners.

Clr Williams reported that none of the trees that had been cut down at the Maypole Pub had Tree Protection Orders.

Clr Williams also gave the name of a contact in CW&C, Mark Brazil, who, on request, could supply plants and compost for the planters located at the entrances to the Village.

He also mentioned a project, sponsored by Chester Zoo, to protect the habitat of orangutans by preventing the cutting down forests to plant oil palm trees for production of palm oil and that Weaverham would join in the scheme.

## **8 Reports from other meetings**

**Joint Cemetery Committee.** A meeting has been held but there is no information on the 'Risk Assessment' for the Cemetery property and grounds. It is known that insurances are in place for the JCC property.

**Weaverham and Acton Bridge Trust** Councillors Pardoe and Hall had attended the recent meeting. They said that matters have improved and Mr Andy Thompson is doing a good job as secretary. It has also been announced that a Reverend Paul Withington is to be installed as the new vicar for St Mary's and that he will be chairman of the Trust.

## **9 Correspondence**

CW&C and ChALC correspondence has been circulated electronically to all Members.

Councillor J Oliver has written to resign from the Parish Council and will formally leave after the December meeting. The Parish Council members and Chairman thanked John for his many years of service and his willingness to join in and support all the activities of the Council. The Chairman mentioned the many years of work that John had also done as Secretary of ABCA especially at the time when plans and fundraising were very active for the building of the car park and the Parish Room extension.

It was noted that Clr Oliver can continue as a Parish Council representative on the JCC as had been the case when other Councillors had left the Council.

CPRE – Countryside Voice  
CPRE – Field Work  
CPRE – Viewpoint Autumn 2018  
CPRE – Christmas celebrations, booking form.

Publicity brochures have been received from;  
LAPU – Landscape and Amenity update.  
HAGS 2018 – Community equipment.  
Kompan – street furniture and play equipment.

## **10 Village Matters**

**a). Best Kept Village** – Clr Bayley reported that Acton Bridge has been placed second in the related group. This is a great achievement as the Village is now in a much larger (population size) group and the competition is much stiffer. Clr Bayley was thanked for her efforts with the scheme. She would contact Mark Brazil at CWAC, <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mark-brazil-53aa4643/>

**b).** It was reported that the 'No Through Road' sign at the entrance to Strawberry Lane was almost at ground level and additionally obstructed by the hedge. Several vehicles had not seen the sign and had entered the Lane only to become stuck at the far end. It was agreed that CW&C be requested to reposition the sign.  
**Action Clr Holt**

**c).** It was reported that a large building, of timber construction, has been erected at the rear of 25 Chapel Lane. It was agreed that as there has not been a planning application the installation should be reported to CW&C Enforcement.  
**Action Clerk**

## **11 A.O. B**

A resident had commented on the item in the recent Village Newsletter that appeared to ask residents to object to the planning application concerning closure of the Maypole Inn and the development of the site. It was agreed that the Chairman should respond to the resident and explain that the intention of the item was to thank those residents and visitors who had objected to the closure and development. The time for comments on the application had expired before the Newsletter was published.

## **12 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Monday 3rd December 2018, starting at 7-30pm.