

ACTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd December 2018 at 7-30pm in the Parish Rooms.

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

There were three members of the public present.

1 Public Matters

A resident who had been present at the October meeting, when the application to develop the Maypole Inn and associated site had been discussed, made a complaint that the minutes of the meeting did not record the issues she had raised in favour of the application.

The Chairman said that the minutes were to reflect the mood of the meeting not to give a verbatim report, not all the points raised by other residents who were against the application had been recorded in the minutes.

It was pointed out that the fact that there was a supporter for the application had been noted in the minutes.

There was a brief discussion on the provision of affordable housing in the area. The application for the Maypole Inn development did not mention or claim provision of affordable housing. It was also noted that developers were reluctant to build on the basis of affordable housing as there is difficulty in obtaining 'sponsors'. It was also mentioned that there have been significant building projects in locations only 10 minutes from Acton Bridge but only limited numbers of affordable or starter homes had been provided.

2 Approval of Minutes

a) Minutes of the November 2018 meeting

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

3 Matters Arising

November meeting

Item 1 Public Matters – Meeting with Vicky Cropper London Northwestern Rail

a) Clr Bayley said that she has been in touch with Vicky Cropper regarding the volunteer work at the Station and had discussed items where the volunteers could assist. Vicky Cropper was pleased to have been contacted and will arrange a date to meet Clr Bayley.

Item 10 Village Matters

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. The Chairman said that he had contacted CW&C Highways. Some work had been done to clear growth from around the sign, but Highways had stated that the sign could not be lifted due to the limited space on the verge and would be likely to be struck repeatedly if relocated. Action Clr Holt – Completed
Clr Fifield offered to enquire about relocation of the sign. **Action Clr Fifield**

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. The Chairman said that he has spoken to the Enforcement Officer and discussed the legislation re buildings inside and outside the house curtilage. Action Clerk – Completed

The Enforcement Officer had said that she will visit the site and get back but has been away from work due to illness. The Chairman will try again to make contact. **Action Clr Holt**

October Meeting

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, 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. The Chairman reported that a letter had been sent to the Administrator on similar lines to the earlier letter to the Clergy requesting that the Parish Council be allowed to take possession of the plaques and to mount them in a suitable place in the Parish Rooms. No reply has been received to either letter. **Action Clr Holt – Completed**

The Chairman mentioned that the list of the 'Fallen Men' of Acton Bridge had been displayed at the Parish Rooms during the weekend of the 100 years commemoration events. He also thanked Clr Bayley for setting up and mounting of the National flag at the Parish Rooms.

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. It has been confirmed that CW&C have received and validated the nomination and have notified Punch Partnerships of the nomination.

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 that is part of the 'Petal Walk' route (FP24) had been completed. Clr Fifield said he would take up this issue of cutting on this path with CW&C. **Action Clr Fifield Ongoing**

3b) Town Farm Quarry

There was no information on any progress or new data. Clr Pardoe said there appears to be a lull in activities on the site and that there had only been a few vehicle movements through Acton Bridge.

3c) Dog fouling – Waste Bins

Subsequent to the approval of the grant from the Members Budgets, fresh contact had been made with the CW&C representative on the provision and the emptying of the bin together with emptying of the litter bin on the Parish Room car park. CW&C had queried if the Parish Council can pay by cheque but no other action has taken place. The Chairman will check on progress. **Action Clr Holt**

3e) Interactive Signs

Following the two and a half month period at the original locations, the interactive signs had been transferred to Milton Rough and Acton Lane, from Station Road and Hill Top Road. A great deal of useful data, speeds, times and numbers, had been obtained and there had been positive reduction in the speed of vehicles. Similar data will now be recorded for the new locations. The first week of operations at the new locations had been in covert mode so that the effect on traffic when the signs were visible could be assessed.

A resident in the Village, who has expertise in data analysis, has spoken to Clr Pardoe and offered to carry out some review analysis. This has been accepted.

The value of the recorded data to the Police was discussed and it was agreed that the data should be forwarded to the Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner. **Action Clrs Pardoe and Holt**

It was commented on, that already since the sign in Station Road has been moved that there is a noticeable increase in vehicle speeds. The possibility of more signs being purchased was raised. It was said that the cost per sign is about £1,500 to £2,000.

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

The full planning application has been approved by CW&C. Bowls Club members have started to dismantle the old building.

4 Planning Applications

a) There was one new planning application this month. The application, reference 18/04420/REM, is a follow on to the previously approved outline application for 'Infill' number 17/03017/OUT at 71 Cliff Road. The Parish Council discussed the application and decided that the building plans proposed departed greatly from the indication given in the outline. The proposed building is a massive structure, almost filling the width of the plot. The ridge height is also quite high and blocks the sight line of houses in Orchard Avenue. It was also felt that the position of the proposed garage and car port, located at the front of the property, would be an eyesore. The Parish Council will send a letter objecting to the proposals.

The neighbour adjoining the site has been consulted. He has concern over the existing, adjoining, hedge to his property and is to check with his solicitor.

b) It was mentioned that the applicant for the proposed new development at Hill Top Farm (18/02282/FUL) has appealed against the refusal by CW&C. An inspector has been appointed and has stated that evidence will be taken on the existing submissions.

5 Planning Decisions

There were two planning decisions.

a) Maypole Inn and buildings (Application 18/03065/FUL) has been refused by CW&C. The Planning Officer's report has not yet been published on the web site.

b) The replacement bowls storage building has been approved by CW&C.

6 Financial Matters

6.1 Authorisation of Cheques

Two cheques were approved.

£378.23 being payment to ABCA for the Contribution by the Parish Council to the purchase and installation of the bench around the tree at the junction of Cliff Road and Hill Top Road.

£240.00 being the cost, including VAT, of relocation of the interactive speed signs paid to TWM Ltd.

6.2 Precept for 2019 / 2020

The Chairman said that the Parish Council will have to consider at the January meeting, the amount to be requested in Precept for 2019 /2020 and members should give thought to requirements and possible purchases. He also said that he and the Clerk will circulate the spreadsheets of past and forecast expenditure to assist assessment of the required precept.

7 CWAC Ward Councillors

There were no new topics.

Clr Fifield mentioned that Weaverham Parish Council has been showing interest in the interactive speed signs and could be contacting Acton Bridge PC for details. It was also mentioned that Crowton PC has been showing interest.

8 Reports from other meetings

a) Joint Cemetery Committee. A meeting has been held. A draft Constitution has been prepared and circulated to the Parish Council. It was agreed that comments would be collated and forwarded.

A comment was raised regarding ownership of the cemetery land. It was stated that the JCC are responsible for all management activities but ownership of the site is with Sandiway. It was agreed that this should be stated in the Constitution.

b) WW1 - 100 Commemoration Service

It was noted that a number of Acton Bridge Councillors had attended the memorial service at the Memorial Wood in Weaverham on 15th November.

c) HS2 Proposals

Clr Pardoe reported on the Public Information event for the latest phase of the project. He tabled a publication showing proposed routes in the area. There is going to be large scale disruption of the road systems while the work is in progress. The A556 is particularly badly affected.

d) Hazel Pear Wood

Clr Forbes reported on recent coppicing and clearance work that had been carried out. More volunteers are required to assist with the work.

9 Correspondence

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

Police & Crime Commissioner – letter thanking PC for update on signs.

Mid-Cheshire Footpath Society – programme of walks January to June

CPRE – Countryside Voice – Winter 2018

CPRE – Field Work – Winter 2018

10 Village Matters

a). A serious crime had been reported being the theft of a motor-home from a property in Milton Rough.

b). The Chairman had attended the recent meeting of ABCA. The WI local branches had been asked if they would plant a tree to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of the National organisation. The Acton Bridge WI has requested if a tree could be planted at the Parish Room. This was agreed although a request should be made to choose the species carefully. The foliage of the crack willow, recently removed, had caused problems with the drains.

c). It was reported that there had been an incident of 'road rage' in the Village. Details of the incident had been forwarded to the Police.

11 A.O. B

None.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 7th January 2019, starting at 7-30pm.