

HENBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th March 2024, 7.30pm, at St Thomas Church Hall.

Part 1 Public and Press present

Present

Councillor David Nuttall DN
Councillor Mike Wood MW
Councillor Simon Browne SB
Councillor Janet Bailey JB
Councillor Jane Beeken JBE
Cllr Lesley Smetham LS (Cheshire East)
Sue Loxham-Clerk SL

Public Forum

24/20 Apologies for absence . None

24/21 Declarations of Interest

Cllr SB is a member of the Millennium Green Committee

24/22 Minutes of last meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2024 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by the chairman.

24/23 PCSO Report

No PCSO report was received.

24/24 Cheshire East

Cllr LS provided an update on the continuing, serious financial difficulties facing CEC. A budget was set at the full council meeting in February.

24/25 Status Update on Major Development Planning Applications.

No updates on any of the following *19/3098M*, *19/3816M*, & *19/5582M* *21/0289M*. Cllr LS agreed to approach planning for any updates on *21/0289M*.

24/26 Highways

Work on the Broken Cross junction, to address the outstanding safety issues, is due to start on 2nd April. Progress will be monitored and reviewed at the next meeting.

24/27 Safety / Speed Limits

Cllr MW has witnessed and provided supporting Dashcam footage to the police of an incidence of particularly dangerous driving on A537.

Concerns were again expressed about the lack of replacement of warning signs following accidents, insufficient safety barriers and the lack of investment on this main artery into Macclesfield.

24/28 Flood Risk

Cllr DN expressed concern that, despite 5 years of trying to address the serious flood risk to 7 properties at the head of Henbury Rise, the situation was still a long way from being resolved. He acknowledged that the situation is complicated, since resolution involves several landowners working together. He questioned who was taking responsibility, if anyone, to ensure a plan would be enacted. Whilst he acknowledged that the CE drainage engineer was committed to the scheme, he felt he should be held responsible for delivery. Cllr LS will be raising her concerns over the issue of flooding in Henbury and Eaton at the Scrutiny meeting.

A majority of the council felt that there was evidence to suggest that Bellway has started the process, and that Mr Mitchell might be in a position to start his drainage work. It was agreed that the council write to Mr Mitchell to seek clarification of the situation. If for any reason no response is received from Mr Mitchell, then the council would review the situation on 22nd May meeting.

24/29 Footpaths

The council agreed to adjust the levelling of the newly renovated footpath from Henbury to Whirley, now that it has settled, and to extend the improvements to include the area in front of the cottages.

24/30 Infrastructure projects 2024/25

The council agreed to send a letter to the planning officer seeking clarification on the types of projects which CIL funding can be used. A potential project suggestion could involve work on a footpath from Anderton lane to Church Lane.

24/31 Lower Church Hall carpark

Cllr DN has raised with the PCC the increased vandalism of the carpark sign and the increase in non-church use of the carpark. Cllr DN circulated their solutions, and it was agreed to support the Church should it be required.

24/32 Millennium Green Trust

Cllr SB updated the council that work on the play area will start once the weather is drier. A willow arbour will be planted around the bench. The committee are aiming to start recruiting volunteers to help with Millennium Green and assist with the Bonfire event.

24/33 Environmental Project

Cllr SB stated that 150m of hedgerow has been planted. Some further work may be required if some of the hedging doesn't take. A grant would cover the initial work, and in addition, it was hoped to achieve a contribution from the landowner.

24/34 Review of Trees

Nothing to report.

24/35 Village Housekeeping

No support was required for D-day celebrations.

Cllr DN raised the issue of potentially having to restore the grass verges outside the substation following the drainage work. It was hoped that CE would make good the verges.

Cllr MW stated that he was unhappy with the level of service provided by the current gritting contractor. The previous 2 years' service levels had been excellent, but this year, he felt that the gritting was not done when needed, and evidence that it had been done was difficult to determine. Going forward he was keen to find a new contractor and ensure that clearly defined measurable service agreements was in place.

24/36 Accounts

Cash books and bank reconciliations were circulated prior to the meeting.
 Balance of CIL account = £10114.35 (- as per bank statement to 07/03/2024)
 Balance of Main account = £35 763.63 (- as per bank statement to 07/03/2024)

LCS Gritting	£ 396.00
Transfer of CIL funds to CIL account	£ 10,114.35
KR removal Xmas tree & crowning lower car park	£ 450.00
TCS Management - payroll fee	£ 59.40
Allport Fix Xmas tree lights & replace damaged timer	£ 176.63
Clerks salary	£ 268.71
HMRC	£ 60.80
Flowers bereavement	£ 45.00
LCS Gritting	£ 528.00
HMRC	£ 60.60
Clerks salary	£ 268.91
DR Gutter clearing Church Ln & Pepper St + Davenport Heyes	£ 120.00
DR mowing of verges	£ 65.00
LCS Gritting	£ 396.00

Resolved the above payments and receipts be approved and signed for as a true and accurate record.

24/37 Planning Applications

It was noted that there were no outstanding planning applications to be reviewed.

24/38 Clerk's Report / Parish Council Housekeeping

Nil.

The next meeting will be the Annual Village Meeting on 22nd May 2024 @ 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm.