

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TARVIN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE EDNA ROSE ROOM, TARVIN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2019**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor E Lush (Chairman)  
Councillor R Ford (Vice Chairman)  
Councillor D H Cotgreave  
Councillor S Dutton  
Councillor J Norrie  
Councillor M Pochin  
Councillor P Ryan  
Councillor S Wiley

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

7 members of the public  
Cheshire West and Chester Council – Councillor J Leather  
Cheshire West and Chester Council – Councillor H Tonge  
Parish Council Clerk – Mr M Hassall

**APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillor B Dean (holiday), Councillor H Flynn (holiday), Councillor P Twigg (family commitment)

**19/113 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, AND DISPENSATIONS**

**19/113.1 New Written Requests for Dispensations**

There were no new requests.

**19/113.2 Declarations of Interest**

Members were invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or other Interest in any item of business on the agenda and, if necessary, leave the meeting prior to discussion of that item. Councillor Wiley declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in the second decision listed under minute 19/119.2 and Councillor Dutton declared a similar interest in minute 19/126.2.

No other declarations were made.

**19/114 OPEN FORUM**

**RESOLVED:** that the Council meeting be adjourned for the Open Forum.

**19/115 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** that the Council meeting be reconvened.

**19/116 REPORT ON OPEN FORUM** (This minute was not reported to Council in the formal meeting. It is a record of the items raised in the Open Forum)

**19/116.1** An update on the locked gate between the Ridgeway and Forge Way had been requested. A resident had indicated that a number of those living on the Ridgeway would like to know if the reason for the gate was because the area had not been registered. If that was the case they would like details of the process to complete registration. The same person had stated that she had been given a key from one of the households and would continue to use it. One of the residents who lived in the five properties where the gate was

situated had stated that the area (formerly known as Top Farm) was privately owned and that there was no public right of way through.

**19/116.2** The Clerk had been thanked for his interest in helping to remove a large branch of a tree which had been dumped on the Ridgeway by those carrying out building work. The branch had been removed on 23rd September.

**19/116.3** Borough Councillor Leather had indicated that there was some doubt as to whether the proposed consultation draft Traveller Development Plan would be ready for the cabinet meeting in October.

#### **19/117 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH AUGUST 2019**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th August 2019 be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a correct record.

#### **19/118 REPORT ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH AUGUST 2019 NOT COVERED BY THE AGENDA**

**19/118.1 Hedge Side Verge Tarpurley Road** (Previous Minute 19/102.3)

The work had been completed on 10th September 2019

**19/118.2 Traveller Development Plan Document** (Previous Minute 19/109.4)

The meeting noted the comments from Borough Councillor Leather (minute 19/116.3).

#### **19/119 PLANNING MATTERS**

##### **19/119.1 Planning Applications**

**RESOLVED:** that the following comments be made on the planning applications submitted:

**19/03142/REM** - Erection of one dwelling and detached garage (Following 18/03613/OUT) – Broomacres, Broomheath Lane, Hockenhull

Comment: No Objections

**19/03329/FUL** - Two storey side extension - 28 Tarpurley Road, Tarvin

Comment: No Objections

##### **19/119.2 Notices**

**19/01160/FUL** – Proposed Rear Dormer - Fir Tree Cottage, Ryecroft Lane, Bruen Stapleford - **PERMISSION**

**19/02524/FUL** - Single storey rear extension and front entrance porch (retrospective application) - Cross Hey Cross Lanes Oscroft – **PERMISSION**

**19/02571/S73** - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on planning application 19/01438/S73 - to make use of void over garage with an additional bedroom - Oak Tree Cottage, Ryecroft Lane, Bruen Stapleford - **PERMISSION**

#### **19/120 KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD**

**19/120.1 Wooden Gates** (bottom of the field by Meadow Close and between the Community Centre and the field)

The work was scheduled for 30th September 2019

##### **19/120.2. Defibrillators**

**19/120.2.1** The George Heath Foundation had ordered the defibrillator and delivery was expected during the coming week. A quotation of £70.00 plus VAT had been received to

cover the installation of the equipment which would be housed on the outer wall of the Scout Hut.

**19/120.2.2 RESOLVED:** that the defibrillator at the Community Centre, originally meant for users of the playing field and Community Centre, be donated to the Tarvin Community Centre (Registered Charity No 506560).

### **19/121 LOCKED GATE AT TOP FARM**

When the householders had met with Councillors they had agreed to go away, consider the matter, have their own meeting, and then inform the Clerk of their conclusions. That meeting hadn't taken place and the proposal from Council had not been considered by the group as a whole. One of the residents had considered that a compromise was not appropriate, had made contact with other residents, and then sent a handwritten letter to the Clerk indicating that the majority of residents indicated that they stood by their initial response. The residents at 36 The Ridgeway had contacted the Clerk and said that they would like it to be publicly known that they strongly opposed the locked gate and the signs and were more than happy for people to be aware that they always left the gate unlocked and encouraged people to use it as access.

**RESOLVED:** that Council take no further action at the present time.

### **19/122 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL – ENFORCEMENT POLICY CONSULTATION**

**RESOLVED: (19/122.1)** that generally Council do not support the delegation of enforcement powers from the Borough Council to Parish Councils.

**RESOLVED: (19/122.2)** that Councillor Ford prepare a draft response to the survey for consideration by Council at the next meeting

### **19/123 A51 TARVIN TO CHESTER IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

**RESOLVED:** that the following response to the two residents who had raised questions be approved:

1. Whilst the road widening at Stamford Bridge will increase road capacity between Tarvin and Littleton there are apparently no changes proposed to improve traffic flow at the A51 junctions with the A55 and Inner Ring Road apart from preventing traffic from turning right into Hare Lane. So, there will still be queuing traffic through Littleton and most probably back to Tarvin at peak times. If traffic volumes continue to increase as predicted it will not be long before Tarvin experiences same or worse congestion towards Chester as now.

No one suggests that this scheme will solve the problems on the A51, but it will help to alleviate congestion on the second most congested section of the A51 from the M6 to the A55. This is the reason why Parish Councillor Ford (and before him Councillor Lloyd) is a member of the group of parish councils lobbying for a comprehensive solution to A51 problems along the entire length. The Parish Council notes that the most congested part of the route, the Barthomley link, is to become a dual carriageway.

2. What is the air quality measurement at Tarvin roundabout now and what significant air quality improvement is the Parish Council expecting if the scheme is delivered? Cheshire West and Chester Council has confirmed that there are no monitoring facilities at Tarvin roundabout, as there are no receptors/ properties in the vicinity. Levels of nitrogen dioxide tend to decline rapidly away from the carriageway.

The monitoring information they have for the A51, in the area of our scheme, shows that the NO<sub>2</sub> levels does not meet or exceed the annual objective. The annual objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) is 40 micrograms per cubic metre. They have however installed another 3 monitoring locations to gauge NO<sub>2</sub> before, during and after construction of the

scheme. Although, they have installed monitoring at new locations, the annual figure will not be available until approximately March next year (2020), to allow time to collect the data for a full year and also to wait for the conversion factors to be released. These new sites will be loaded on the Council's website once data for the full year is available.

3. What is Tarvin Parish Council doing about trying to persuade more residents to consider walking (and then catching the bus) or cycling to Chester? What pressure is the Parish Council putting on CWaC to improve bus services from Tarvin to Chester and reduce fares so that residents will feel more confident about using and relying on travel by bus?

To date the Parish Council has not done anything to encourage walking/catching the bus or cycling to Chester. This is a good idea and the Council will discuss how best to take this forward. The Council is keen to see the shared space (pedestrian/cycle) footpath on the north side of the A54 from Tarvin Sands to the A55 better used, but such use requires owners of the hedges adjacent to the footpath to cut them back to keep the footpath clear. As for pressure on Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding bus services, the Parish Council doubts this would be successful as it believes the service to be non-subsidised, giving the Borough Council minimal influence.

4. Are Tarvin residents aware that, in order to gain any alleged benefits from this scheme, they are probably going to be subject to 6 months of disruption, whether travelling by car or bus, during the construction phase of the proposed road scheme? Are residents aware that if one of the A51 Tarvin bypass lanes is allowed to merge with A54 traffic rather than give way to it at Tarvin roundabout this will inevitably lead to longer delays emerging from High Street onto the A54, particularly at peak times? The idea of a feeder lane from the A51 bypass has been dropped on cost grounds. The Council believes that spending £7m will produce tangible benefits. Regarding disruption, it is worth noting that before the decision of the Cheshire West and Chester cabinet was taken the Chairman of the Parish Council spoke about the scheme. Two of the points made were: (i) when the scheme starts, there should be no work carried out on any alternative route(s) at the same time (unlike when Holme Street was resurfaced, and work was also undertaken on the road from Tarvin to Waverton); (ii) signage on the A54 approach to the Tarvin roundabout should tell drivers to use both lanes on the Chester side of the roundabout to maximise the capacity of the road. The Council considers that a six-month disruption will not be acceptable for a long-term improvement.

5. CWaC has declared a Climate Emergency. Road schemes should be called in to examine their justification from a climate impact perspective rather than an economic one. Does the Parish Council agree? If so, will TPC make such representations to CWaC? The Parish Council understands that it is too late to "call the scheme in", the decision has been made.

6. What is TPC doing to persuade more residents to consider telecommuting, taking the bus or cycling to Chester?

Tarvin Neighbourhood Development Plan advocates superfast broadband throughout the Plan area in order to reduce the carbon footprint of the community (para 7.1.3 on page 30) and policy ED3, page 32, encourages home-based businesses and live/work units provided there are certain safeguards for neighbours.

## **19/124 FOOTPATHS**

**19/124.1** Okell's Garden Centre (Previous Minute 19/063.2)

The following response had been received from Cheshire West and Chester Council:

“I contacted Okells Nursery I had a response on the 30th August apologising and that they will make sure the footpath is cleared of any objects, I mentioned the hedge and it is cut by contractors of Scottish Power, it was stated that the hedge was due to be cut back in September due to the overhead power cables and also at the end of the bird nesting season.”

#### **19/124.2 Platts Lane Hockenhull**

A resident had reported the poor condition of the section of Platts Lane down to the Roman Bridges and had received a response from the Borough Council indicating that it wasn't their responsibility.

**RESOLVED: (19/124.2.1)** that Councillor Ryan work with Tarvin Civic Trust and the Borough Council Rights of Way Officer to resolve all the issues including having the area registered.

**RESOLVED: (19/124.2.2)** that the Clerk ask Highways to inspect Platts Lane between The Sheaf and the start of the path

#### **19/125 RIDGEWAY PARKING**

PCSO Sue Keers had considered that whilst parking on the rise considerably slowed traffic down it was not necessarily dangerous. However, she could not monitor the area all the time so if anyone experienced anything considered dangerous they should report it to her, ideally including a photograph.

#### **19/126 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**19/126.1** The meeting noted the result of the referendum:

In response to the question “Do you want Cheshire West and Chester Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for the Tarvin area to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?” Yes 526. No 34. Turnout 22.8%.

The Plan was formally made by Cheshire West and Chester Council on 9th September 2019.

**19/126.2 RESOLVED:** that “Additional Leisure Facilities” be added to the list of items being considered by the Finance Working Party.

The meeting noted that it was an aspiration in the Neighbourhood Plan

#### **19/127 INSURANCE**

Parish Council Insurance was due for renewal on 1st October 2019. An alternate quotation had not been sought as Council had a long-term agreement which was due to expire on 30th September 2021.

**RESOLVED:** that the new premium of £1,908.93 be approved.

#### **19/128 SAXON HEATH ESTATE**

##### **19/128.1 Adoption of the Estate**

The meeting noted the following update from Cheshire West and Chester Council:

“Taylor Wimpey have a number of Legal and Technical matters that they need to address on this site before we can progress the roads to final adoption, which they are working on. And it is up to them to resolve these first there being no responsibility for CWAC in delaying matters.

As the roads are currently unadopted and in the private ownership of Taylor Wimpey it is their responsibility to maintain them, therefore any issues relating to routine maintenance works should be dealt with by them accordingly. Consequently, any residents who have any issues relating to the same need to contact Taylor Wimpey directly as they also need to take ownership of the problems and address them in a timely manner.”

**19/128.2 20mph Speed Limit**

Cheshire West and Chester Council had indicated that they would be consulting with residents of the Saxon Heath Estate regarding the programme to introduce signed only 20 mph speed limits on all roads that meet Department for Transport criteria. The period of consultation would commence during the week commencing 23rd September and end on Friday 18th October.

**RESOLVED:** that Borough Councillors Leather and Tonge be asked to find out whether the 20mph limit could be implemented before the estate was adopted.

**19/129 STREETLIGHTING**

**19/129.1** The lighting column outside the property Fortifer, Broomheath Lane, Stapleford had not been working. This lighting column along with those previously reported as not working in Oscroft had been repaired on 2nd September 2019.

**19/129.2** It was reported that the lighting column opposite Bank Cottage on Cross Lanes, Oscroft was not working.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk ask the contractor to repair it.

**19/130 SANCTUARY HOUSING WALKABOUT**

The Clerk had represented Council at the Sanctuary Housing Walkabout on 11th September which had covered Hockenhull Lane, Hockenhull Avenue, Heath Drive, Gowy Crescent, and Hallfields Road.

The poor state of the walkway between Gowy Crescent and Heath Drive which had already been reported by the Clerk had been raised. Since the meeting Cheshire West and Chester Council had treated the weeds (12th September) and removed the rubbish (17th September) from the Walkway and a letter had been sent to the immediate neighbour where there was overgrown greenery within the walkway.

Sanctuary had again promised to attend to the damaged bench that they owned at the junction of Tarporley Road and Hockenhull Avenue.

A problem of raw sewage in a couple of gardens on Hockenhull Avenue was being investigated by Sanctuary Housing and United Utilities.

**19/131 LIST OF OUTSTANDING ITEMS**

**RESOLVED:** that Borough Councillors Tonge and Leather be asked to try to obtain an installation date for the traffic island on the A54 road.

**19/132 CLERK’S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE**

The following e-mail correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors. Councillors were provided with an opportunity to comment on them.

- a. Cheshire Association of Local Councils E Bulletins
- b. PCSO Sue Keers – Monthly Reports – August and September 2019
- c. Manchester Airport Future Airspace
- d. Cheshire Association of Local Councils – Annual Meeting – 24th October 2019
- e. Tarvin Community Woodland Trust – Minutes of their September 2019 meeting

**19/133 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**19/133.1 Payment made between meetings**

<b>County Landscapes</b>	10% Deposit for work on gates on King George V Playing Field	<b>82.92</b>
0.00	82.92	900.00

**19/133.2 August 2019 Payments**

Councillor Ford had confirmed in writing that all the payments made by the Clerk were as approved by Council.

**19/133.3 RESOLVED:** that the following payments be authorised and that payments be made by internet banking:

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Amount to be Paid</b>
VAT	Net Amount to Charge against budget	Budget available before payment
<b>Groundforce Landscape Ltd</b>	Grass Cutting King George V Playing Field August 2019	<b>459.85</b>
76.64	383.21	1,416.26
<b>Cheshire SLCC</b>	Cheshire Branch Conference 2019	<b>30.00</b>
0.00	30.00	500.00
<b>Cheshire West and Chester Council</b>	Uncontested Election Recharge Fee	<b>213.00</b>
0.00	213.00	2,205.00
<b>PKF Littlejohn</b>	External Audit Year to March 2019	<b>360.00</b>
60.00	300.00	314.00
<b>Tarvin Community Centre</b>	Hire of Room for Council Meetings – July, August, and September 2019	<b>83.25</b>
0.00	83.25	486.75
<b>Payroll</b>	September 2019	<b>1,351.76</b>
0.00	1,351.76	11,301.00
<b>HMRC</b>	PAYE and Nat Insce July to September 2019	<b>1,135.73</b>
0.00	1,135.73	10,165.27

#### **19/133.4 Direct Debit**

The meeting noted that the following payment had been made by direct debit:

British Telecom Plc – 29th August 2019 - Telephone and Internet August 2019 – £155.20

#### **19/133.5 External Audit**

The External Audit had been completed and the Annual Return had been returned to the Clerk. No issues had been raised. The Completed Annual Return was presented to Council.

**RESOLVED:** that the Annual Return including the certificate signed by the External Auditor be approved and accepted by Council

The Clerk was congratulated on the work and result.

#### **19/134 TOPICS FOR TARVINONLINE**

**RESOLVED:** that articles be written on the locked gate, defibrillator, Ridgeway parking, Saxon Heath, External Audit

**19/135 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Monday 28th October 2019 – 7.15pm – Edna Rose Room, Tarvin Community Centre

**19/136 RESOLVED** – That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the public and press be temporarily excluded due to a potential change to value of land/properties

#### **19/137 LAND AND POTENTIAL PROPERTY ISSUES**

**RESOLVED: (19/137.1)** that the proposal from the Finance Working Party be approved and that the Clerk and Councillor Lush take the necessary action to progress two items.

**RESOLVED (19/137.2)** that Councillor Dean be invited to join the local resident looking at Additional Leisure Facilities.