

CHELFORD PARISH MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD

TUESDAY 15TH MAY, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

at CHELFORD PARISH HALL, KNUTSFORD ROAD, CHELFORD.

PRESENT - Councillors: D. Wilson (Chairman), B. Brindley, B. Affleck, A. Boon.
Members of Public (26).
Mr. W. McKellar - Chief Officer, Citizens Advice Cheshire North.
Cheshire East Borough Councillor G. Walton.
Dr. E. M. Maddock - Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, Chelford Parish Council.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Councillor G. Willis, Councillor J. Leach, Ms. L. Hunt.

2. **MINUTES** -

1/APM/18 Resolved a) **That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 16th May, 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

Proposed Councillor A. Boon Seconded Councillor B. Brindley All in favour

3. **PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2017/18** -

Councillor D. Wilson reported that the annual newsletter had been distributed to properties within the Parish to provide an overview of recent issues which have been considered by the Parish Council.

Chelford is presently undergoing important changes which will result in an increased housing stock and population together with changes to the local infrastructure and services. The Parish Council continues to respond to consultations relating to these changes with a view to securing the most favourable outcome for residents. The Cheshire East Council Site Allocations and Development Policies Document is expected to be available for consultation in Autumn 2018 when further information will be available about potential development within the Parish.

The Parish Council has been supported by Borough Councillor G. Walton who has instigated a number of meetings between the Parish Council and Cheshire East Council officers to discuss issues affecting the Parish, for example the developments at the former Stobart site and former Chelford Agricultural Centre site. Residents were reminded that individuals are able to submit representations in respect of planning applications and Local Plan consultations.

The Parish Council has requested work to be undertaken to improve the illumination of the zebra crossing on Knutsford Road. Efforts are also being made to engage with the process for allocating section 106 funds associated with community facilities. Consultation is expected shortly in respect of improvement work at Mere Court recreation area. It is understood that the sale of the remainder of the Chelford Agricultural Centre site is progressing and that a planning application for development of this site is expected in due course.

The Station Volunteers, now known as Friends of Chelford Station, continue to improve the appearance of the station. The group was recently recognised with an award at the Cheshire Best Kept Stations awards in memory of Mr. Tony Icke, a former volunteer with the group.

The Parish Council has secured the removal of the yellow parking restriction lines within the Dixon Drive estate. The red telephone kiosks within the Parish have been purchased in order to retain these heritage features. Police speed checks have been undertaken to address concerns raised by the Parish Council. The Parish Council continues to engage with Manchester Airport to represent the interests of residents as noise and airspace issues are considered by the Airport.

The Chelford Neighbourhood Plan is making good progress. Recent consultation events were well attended and responses to the questionnaires have been good. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is now moving towards developing policies to guide future development within the Parish, however, residents are reminded that there are some issues which, although important to the Parish, cannot be addressed through the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council has secured funding to develop a new website. This will provide access to residents to a range of Parish Council documents and information.

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4. CITIZENS ADVICE CHESHIRE NORTH -

Mr. W. McKellar introduced himself as the Chief Officer at Citizens Advice Cheshire North which is a charitable organisation, affiliated to the national Citizens Advice organisation, offering advice and support within the northern part of Cheshire East. The service is provided by volunteers who undergo a rigorous training regime prior to engaging with the public.

Citizens Advice Cheshire North is able to offer support in respect of a large range of subjects including employment issues (both to employees and employers); housing matters; relationship issues and immigration matters. The service also provides support to those requiring debt advice, support in claiming benefits, money management advice along with mental health issues.

At present efforts are being made to raise awareness of the service and the routes by which advice can be obtained. Individuals are able to meet with advisors at their offices in Macclesfield or at community outreach locations (e.g. Knutsford, Wilmslow, Poynton and Handforth). Support can also be offered by telephone, email and, in the future, by online web chat.

The Parish Council was encouraged to raise awareness of the service within the Parish and, if necessary, to assist in supporting residents making initial contact with the advisors.

A resident asked whether it would be possible to provide a Citizens Advice service in Chelford. Mr. W. McKellar advised that this could be considered, however, there are a range of factors which would need to be addressed prior to any commitment being made.

The Chairman thanked Mr. W. McKellar for attending the meeting and providing an interesting presentation.

8:25p.m. - Mr. W. McKellar excused himself from the meeting and left.

5. PUBLIC FORUM -

The following points were raised by residents:

- A resident expressed support for improvement work to be made at Mere Court recreation area, however, asked for assurance that the work would not be detrimental to wildlife at the site.
- A resident expressed gratitude to the Parish Council for securing the removal of the yellow parking restriction lines within the Dixon Drive estate.
- A resident asked for further information about the allocation of section 106 funds and the timescale within which the funds will be made available. Dissatisfaction was expressed regarding the present position and available information and a request was made for pressure to be applied to accelerate the process to allocate funds. The Chairman and Borough Councillor G. Walton advised that the process is guided by national and regional planning policy, therefore, it is necessary to adhere to the appropriate policies.
- A resident questioned whether the Parish Council was supporting the currently ongoing defibrillator project. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council is supportive of the project and will be considering, in due course, a financial contribution to the project.
- A resident raised concern regarding the location of a mobile telephone mast adjacent to the Chelford Activity Park. The Chairman advised that this mast is a temporary installation until a permanent site is operational. The temporary mast is not in breach of planning regulations.
- A resident asked whether the potential development of land opposite to The Egerton Arms was still being pursued. The Chairman advised that no further information had been received.
- A resident made a statement regarding planned development within the Parish which would result in a significant increase in homes and population. This was likely to be accompanied by an increase in pressure on local facilities. The resident urged everyone present at the meeting to engage with the Cheshire East Local Plan process to ensure that the views of Chelford residents are made known.
- A resident asked whether the illumination of the zebra crossing on Knutsford Road can be improved. The Chairman advised that this matter is currently being pursued by the Parish Council.
- A resident reported that one of the 'no-through' bollards on Dixon Drive was broken. The Chairman advised that this had been reported to Cheshire East Council for repair, however, a date for the work

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had not yet been made available.

- A resident asked whether there was any update relating to the future of the Bowling Green. The Chairman advised that no further information had been received.
- A residents enquired about the future of the Chelford Cricket Club. The Chairman reported that no information had been received by the Parish Council relating to the Cricket Club.

The Chairman thanked all residents for attending the meeting.

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 9:03p.m.

Signed: Approval Date - 12th July, 2019