

CHELFORD PARISH MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD

TUESDAY 21ST MAY, 2019 at 7:30p.m.

at CHELFORD PARISH HALL, KNUTSFORD ROAD, CHELFORD.

PRESENT - Councillors: D. Wilson (Chairman), B. Brindley, D. Kent, N. Jehan, L. Hunt, C. Howlett, G. Willis.
Members of the Public (10).
Cheshire East Borough Councillor M. Asquith.
Dr. E. M. Maddock - Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - None.

2. **MINUTES** -

1/APM/19 **RESOLVED** a) **That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 15th May, 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

Proposed: Councillor B. Brindley Seconded: Councillor D. Wilson All in favour

3. **RECYCLING, FOOD WASTE REDUCTION, COMPOSTING AND LIFE WITH LESS PLASTIC** -

Unfortunately, the speaker was not able to attend the meeting due to a medical emergency, therefore, this item was deferred to a future date.

4. **PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2018/19** -

The Chairman introduced the newly elected Parish Council to residents. Borough Councillor M. Asquith who had been recently elected to represent the Chelford Ward at Cheshire East Council was also asked to introduce himself to residents.

The Chairman expressed a vote of thanks to the retiring Parish Councillors, Mr. B. Affleck, Mr. A. Boon and Mr. J. Leach for their work during their terms of office. It was noted that Mr. A. Boon and Mr. J. Leach had been involved in the development of Chelford Activity Park.

The Chairman reported that planning continues to be an important part of Parish Council business. The Parish Council is a consultee for most planning applications, therefore, spends time at each meeting considering the content of recently submitted applications and, where appropriate, makes comments to Cheshire East Council as the Local Planning Authority. It was reported that the two large developments within the Parish are now progressing rapidly. The Parish Council is continuing to monitor progress with the development of the Cheshire East Site Allocations and Development Policies Document which has identified a parcel of land within the Parish for development and further land to be safeguarded for development in the future.

The Neighbourhood Plan has made significant progress since the last Annual Parish Meeting. The document was completed in January, 2019 and has, since then, been going through a series of formal consultations and a formal examination by an Independent Planning Inspector. Early indications are that a few minor modifications may be required prior to the Neighbourhood Plan progressing to a Referendum in the summer. The Neighbourhood Plan, together with supporting documents and information, can be accessed on the Parish Council website.

Local consultations regarding the Neighbourhood Plan also highlighted a number of issues which, while not directly relevant to planning matters, have been addressed by the Parish Council. The Parish Council has successfully lobbied for the newly installed zebra crossing on Knutsford Road to be upgraded to improve its visibility to drivers. The beacons have now been upgraded, improvements made to the illuminated columns and an anti-skid surface has been applied to the highway. The Parish Council is working on a Parish Improvement Project to address a number of issues, including planters and litter bins, which, it is hoped, will make the village more attractive to residents and visitors. Work has also been done by local residents and Cheshire East Council to improve the appearance of the footway along Dixon Drive. A Community Speed Watch Team has also been set up to address concerns about speeding traffic travelling through the village. A number of sessions have been completed and details of vehicles caught speeding have been forwarded to the Police.

The Parish Council continues to engage with a number of local organisations including the Police, Manchester Airport, Cheshire East Council and other local Parish Councils in order to promote the interests of residents of Chelford. In addition, the Parish Council has made financial contributions to local initiatives such as the community website, the new defibrillators and work undertaken at the railway station.

In addition to work undertaken by the Parish Council, Members are very much aware of the vast amounts of

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work done within the local community by volunteers. The Chairman thanked the volunteers who contribute to maintaining the railway station and local footways, those working with young people through the Scouts, Guides and the Primary School, those supporting residents through Chelford Community Hub, Chelford Together and Connecting Chelford, those supporting recreational activities such as the Bowling Club, the Indoor Bowling Club, Chelford Players, Chelford Parish Hall. The Chairman noted that there are many other volunteers within the community who are also thanked for their work.

The Parish Council is keen to engage with the local community, therefore, has increased the frequency of the newsletter to quarterly to give a more regular round up of Parish Council news. Regular updates from the Parish Council, Cheshire East Council, Manchester Airport and other organisations are also available on the Parish Council website.

Residents were also reminded that they are very welcome to attend Parish Council meetings which take place on the second Thursday of each month.

5. PUBLIC FORUM -

A resident asked whether there were any present plans for slurry sealing to be undertaken on other roads within the Dixon Drive estate. The Chairman advised that he was not aware of any plans by Cheshire East Council to undertake further slurry sealing work as the other roads did not appear to have been as significantly damaged by tree roots as Dixon Drive. Borough Councillor M. Asquith reminded residents that highway defects can be reported online to Cheshire East Council.

A resident asked whether the hedges between Chelford Parish Hall and the railway bridge were to be trimmed in the near future. The Chairman advised that overgrown hedges had been reported to Cheshire East Council and, where appropriate, Network Rail for attention.

A resident asked what the current position was relating to the disused telephone kiosks and the building at the railway station. The Chairman reported that the Parish Council now owns the telephone kiosks and consideration is being given to how to proceed. Plans are being pursued by local volunteers to convert the railway building into a community space.

A resident offered a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Parish Councillors for their work over the last year and the positive progress that had been made within the community.

The Chairman thanked all residents present for attending the meeting.

The Meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 8:20p.m.

Signed:

Approval Date - 13th June, 2019