

MINUTES of the GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
held at the Parish Hall on MONDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2021

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. ATTENDANCE

ACTION

Chairman: R. Collier (RC)

Parish Councillors: A. Lee (AL); M. Torrance (MT); R. Wilkinson (RW); D. Hammond (DH); W. Anderson (WA)

Also present: G. Ayres (Parish Clerk); Cllr N. Wright (CWAC); Cllr L. Gibbon (CWAC) and 7 members of the public.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllrs. J. Robins and S. Coppell.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs D. Hammond, R. Wilkinson, and R. Collier in respect of item 12.

Cllr. W. Anderson did not feel it was appropriate for him to make a declaration of interest.

4. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

One person raised issues about items 10a and 17. In particular, he was concerned about speeding on High St in contravention of the 20mph limit. In response to Cllrs requests for evidence of this, he agreed to undertake a survey and will approach Comberbach PC and CWAC for assistance with the necessary technical equipment.

Another person drew attention to comments made about the proposed one-way system on Budworth Lane under item 10b.

5. UPDATE FROM CWAC COUNCILLORS

- **Highways** - A new Director of Highways has been appointed and there will also be a Head of Highways whose remit will include flooding. There has been a 3-day concentrated effort to address highway maintenance issues in Marbury Ward. Parish Cllrs. urged that more needs to be done on this. They once again expressed disappointment with the negative responses received from CWAC Highways when concerns are raised and solutions suggested. They asked CWAC Cllrs to request a move-away from patch and repair to a forward-looking, more comprehensive planned programme of works to deal with the many issues highlighted by the Parish Council.
- **Waste** - New bins will be issued after Christmas. There will be 4 in total per household and a charge will be made for emptying green bins. The recycling boxes will no longer be used. Parish Cllrs. expressed concerns about the storage required for all these bins and impact on the environment plus difficulties wheeling the bins over cobbles etc.
- **Covid** - The Covid Board is still in operation and number of infections locally is still high but this is not presently reflected in numbers of hospital admissions.
- **Planning** - There is still a big backlog of undecided planning applications at CWAC. There are 750 still outstanding and, of these, 680 have not yet been allocated to planning officers. Some are being referred to an outside organisation for initial

processing to try to speed things up. Proposals have been put forward for Urban Village phase 2 at Winnington. This includes 1500 houses but no mention of the bridge or the required infrastructure, such as schools etc, to support the size of development. There is also an application for a new sodium bicarbonate manufacturing plant at Winnington Lane which includes a 56.5m high structure.

- **Resilience** – CWAC has prepared a borough-wide plan which focusses on flooding.
- **Inspire** – This is a new on-line engagement hub launched by CWAC to help local groups and individuals play their part in making communities greener and better places to live.
- **Funding** – Various opportunities for funding local projects were highlighted, notably the new “spacehive” crowdfunding initiative and the Landfill Communities Fund.
- **Adopt a Grid** - The Parish Council was asked to consider supporting this initiative to encourage local people to clear leaves and other debris from the surface of the grid near their property in an attempt to reduce flooding risk.

6. GROOBOX

Due to illness, the planned presentation was postponed until the next meeting. The Parish Council wished the presenter a speedy recovery.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 6th September 2021 were a correct record and they were approved.

8. BUDGET 2021 /22

The budget for 2021/22 was reviewed against actual spend to end September and approved by the Parish Council. Payments, as set out in the agenda, were also approved.

9. LOWER PUMPHOUSE

The analysis of water samples is complete and the results are satisfactory. The temperature of the water was tested and found to be very cold. Cllrs Lee and Anderson have completed the Risk Assessment and this has now been sent to CWAC. Cllr. Anderson will look to move the “health warning” notice in the Pumphouse to a more prominent location.

WA

10. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

a) **Parking** – In light of the number of objections raised and the aesthetic impact on the historic village, CWAC have decided not to proceed with the proposed scheme to prohibit waiting on High St (yellow lines). The Parish Clerk will investigate if there is any opportunity for appeal and if safety issues were considered, especially given the recent incident that blocked the road for some long time. Emergency vehicles would not have been able to pass.

GA

b) **Budworth Lane** - Having considered the responses to the consultation, the Parish Council decided not to pursue the idea of making Budworth Lane one-way, either fully or partially.

11. TOP PUMPHOUSE TREES

The Parish Clerk will contact the owner of the neighbouring property to advise that under common law it would still be necessary to seek approval from CWAC for works to TPO trees. CWAC have themselves suggested a site meeting of the interested parties to discuss options and Cllr Gibbon will help to arrange this. Evidence that the trees are causing structural damage would help to inform this discussion but has not yet been received.

GA

12. PARISH HALL AND PARISH FIELD AGREEMENT

a) Charitable Incorporate Organisation – Work is still in hand to transfer assets etc to the new Parish Hall CIO and deal with related administrative matters. **DH**

b) Parish Field – Work is still hand to convene a working party to tackle the improvements to the surface. **DH**

13. BOWLING GREEN AND TENNIS CLUB AGREEMENT

Following feedback on the meeting held recently, the Parish Council agreed that there should be a joint lease for the Bowling and Tennis Clubs and that it should be for 25 years (subject to appropriate conditions). The individual Clubs will be responsible for insurance arrangements. Cllr. Wilkinson will arrange a further meeting with the person drafting the lease to agree the detail. **RW**

14. QUEEN'S JUBILEE

A meeting is being held on 15th November in the Parish Hall to discuss ideas for celebrating the Platinum Jubilee. This will also consider the possibility of a beacon. All are welcome to attend. **JR**

15. ASSETS

The Parish Council thanked the person who has kindly offered to update the Asset Report and will contact them to reach agreement on the matter of professional indemnity. **GA**

16. DEFIBRILLATOR

a) Pads – the wrong pads were initially sent but replacements have now been dispatched and should be received shortly by Cllr. Coppel.

b) Battery – The battery has been ordered and paid for by the Clerk. It was agreed that she will reclaim this via expenses. It will be delivered to Cllr. Lee. The total cost including delivery is £276.00.

17. SPEEDING ON HIGH ST

See item 4 above. The member of public who raised this issue will seek to provide evidence to the Parish Council that the speed limit is regularly being ignored before any further action is taken.

18. RESILIENCE PLAN

It was agreed that the Parish Council will not prepare a local Resilience Plan. It was felt that there are already sufficient processes in place, such as the Village What's App Group, to deal with any emergencies.

19. CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2022-2023

It was agreed that the Parish Council will not respond to the consultation on this Plan or the related proposal by the Fire Authority to increase Council Tax.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed as a true record
Chairman of the Parish Council