

MINUTES OF CHRISTLETON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

INCORPORATING KING GEORGE'S TRUST

Held on Tuesday 5TH September 2023 at 7.30 pm.

Christleton Methodist Church

SIGNED

Present Cllr Luke Henley (**Chairman**) Susan Robson, John Beckitt, Elizabeth Inall, Andy Foxhall, Peter Tonge, Graham Ranger, Janet Brown & Lauren Buckley

In Attendance: CWAC Cllr Parker, 7 members of the public, one member of The Pit Group, PCSO Linda Bailey with colleague & Sue Thwaite (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Kate Sinclair (Covid)

Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

1. Cllr Henley declared a personal interest in planning application 23/23/02021FUL – Newlands, Bridge Drive – they are neighbours.

Minutes of the last Meeting

2. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council and Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th July 2023 were approved as a true and correct record.

Public Forum

3. Cllr Parker reported that the CWAC Council had just returned from summer recess and there was nothing to report at this meeting.
4. A member of Christleton Pit Groups raised the matter of the PC supporting the installation of a footpath along in front of the Pit on Little Heath to make it safer for pedestrians along that stretch of the road.
5. This will be investigated, with a plan, costings, and discussion with CWAC Highways to confirm that they have no issues with this plan. The Pit Groups and the PC will report back at the next meeting when it will be on the agenda.
6. PCSO Linda Bailey, who arrived later in the meeting gave a brief report and confirmed that they had visited Little Heath area including the play area every shift and has had no recent report of drug taking or anti-social behaviour and the situation is now greatly improved from when she started four years ago.
7. Anyone witnessing any incidents should ring 101 to report it on the Police non-emergency number.

Item 7b was Bt/fwd – Update on progress with LHPA project.

8. As most of the members of the public were in attendance to voice their concerns with the plans for the play area, particularly by residents adjacent to the play area and of the Alms Houses, who are most affected by the proposal, this item was brought forward. They requested that the project would not be taken any further until those concerns have been addressed. The concerns are related to access to Little Heath, to the location of the new equipment, parking, safety issues and anti-social behaviour.
9. The residents expressed their disappointment that they had not been engaged with, as those most affected by the plans, prior to the proposals being circulated the wider community. The Parish Council noted that a member of the Working Group had visited the spokesperson before Christmas 2022 making him aware of the plans and he did not raise any objections at

that time. A further meeting with the two residents by the play area was due to be held but has not happened due to holidays and other personal issues with the people involved.

10. Following further discussion, it was agreed that a working group of the three Parish Councillors on the KGF working group and three residents would be formed to address all the issues highlighted and in the meantime the Council would continue to investigate funding opportunities.

Action: The leader of the residents and KGF Group to liaise to arrange a meeting to discuss the issues, in the meantime the Council will investigate installing more signs directing vehicles to the additional parking along the edge of the First Field this will be undertaken by Cllrs Ranger & Tonge.

11. Other issues with this item, the Clerk confirmed that there so far there has been a disappointing response to the letters that have been sent to over 30 organisations and individuals request in support for this project, but there had been several positive responses from the leaflet drop in the village.

Action Item (d) was bt fwd – PROW Update

12. Cllr Tonge reported that the final report from the Consultant investigating the PROW application is now with CWAC and has requested that they be made available to Christleton & Littleton Parish Councils prior to the deadline for action by CWAC towards the end of September.
13. Despite several emails requesting sight of the report, nothing has been forthcoming, so we are still awaiting the outcome the Consultants findings.
14. Cllr Parker confirmed that he would follow this up when he returns to his office on Wednesday.

Planning

15. Planning Applications List A list of planning applications previously circulated to all councillors was considered, comments noted by the Clerk for submission to CWAC Planning Authority, all comments can be viewed on CWAC website.

16. PLANNING APPLICATION – 22/04073/FUL – Land West of Cheshire Cat – Erection of 9 affordable dwellings and associated parking and landscaping works.

Resolved: It was agreed that the objections to all previous consultations on this development would still stand.

Action: The Clerk to forward the Council's objection to CWAC Planning Authority.
ROAD NAMING - Beechmoor Nurseries – The suggestion by CWAC to the name Hathaway Lane for the road on the new Beechmoor Nurseries development retirement village was accepted.

To consider Draft Guidance on Local Planning Applications

17. This report was circulated to all Councillors and the contents were noted.

Update from University of Law Development

18. It was noted that the Bridgemere S106 agreement was now available.
19. The agreement very specifically, and in detail, allocates the S106 to the schools and variety of sporting facilities around Chester – an analysis would be circulated to Councillors.

Update from Beechmoor Liaison Group

20. At the last Liaison Meeting it was confirmed that:
21. The new development manager stated that a review of the forward financial forecast for the development indicated that they could not honour their previous commitment to make a financial contribution to resurfacing of the Canal footpath.

22. The £30K S106 payment defined allocation of the funds to 'off site cycling and pedestrian improvements' – the only options to date that broadly align these objectives are a zebra crossing and/or air quality continuous measurement a list was being assembled with input from Great Boughton.
23. Retirement Villages have also indicated that they would appreciate inputs from the Parish Council on how to screen and green the front of their site.

Update on Manor Bridge Ltd

24. Plans are progressing for the development of a Christleton Neighbourhood Plan (NP) with a volunteer briefing session taking place on 20th September 2023.
25. CWAC Planning have been requested for a CWAC link person for the NP and an update timing for the review of the local plan.

Traffic & Road Safety

Update on Traffic and drain issues.

26. The Plough Lane junction improvements will follow the recent resurfacing with information signs on the road, vehicle activated warning signs, reduction of speed limit where possible.
27. The concentration of maintenance during the school holidays was very much appreciated by the Parish Council and a letter will be dispatched to Highways thanking them for this new focus.
28. Birch Heath Lane build out consultation has now been completed and will be installed in due course.
29. The Chairman reported that the Village Assistant has tendered his resignation and a review of the role will be discussed at the next meeting to include drain monitoring on a regular basis in addition to the other tasks undertaken by the Village Assistant.

Speedwatch Update

30. There was nothing to report at this meeting.

ISTFF Update

31. There was nothing to report at this meeting.

Air Quality Update

32. The AQ working group were having difficulty persuading CWAC to assist with the facilitation of PM2.5 and NO2 continuous monitoring.

KING GEORGE'S TRUST ITEMS

To approve expenditure for September 2023 was approved.

33. The expenditure is set out in Appendix 1

Play Area report for August & annual report from Winsford Town Council Play Area Inspector

34. There were no issues to report this month.

Allotments

To receive report form Allotment Group

Cllr Tonge & the Clerk were asked to judge the produce show at the annual Allotment bar-b-que on Saturday 1st September which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

35. An inspection of the Allotments highlighted several plots where there had been little or no cultivation this year. These plot holders would be contacted to ascertain the reason for this situation.

Finance

To approve expenditure for September 2023

36. The expenditure set out in Appendix 2 was approved.

External Audit Report

37. There were 3 minor issues highlighted in the External Audit Review for y/e 31st March 2023 report and these were noted, the External Audit Report was then approved by all members.

To discuss financial support for Little Heath Play Area project

38. Following discussion, it was proposed that the sum of £35,000 be earmarked as a contribution towards the cost of the project. This was agreed by all members present.

Christleton Schools

Update from Christleton High School

39. There was nothing to report at this meeting.

Update from Christleton Primary School

40. There was nothing to report at this meeting.

Monthly Inspection Report

Capesthorpe Road Community Orchard

41. There were no issues raised with the Orchard.

To discuss correspondence from neighbouring resident.

42. The adjoining neighbour to the Orchard wrote with his concerns about the large sycamore tree overhanging his garden causing a great deal of shade and overgrown shrubs.

Action: Cllr Tonge will visit the Orchard and assess the matter to ascertain what action needs to be taken.

Planit

Planit Update

43. The Mott McDonald TDM (Traffic Demand Study) study was completed last year and feedback from CWAC is timed for later this month.
44. The lack of engagement by CWAC Highways with the Parish Council on roadway improvements and cycling infrastructure is of fundamental concern which must be addressed.

This matter will be brought back to the next meeting in October.

Action Items

Visit by Lord Mayor of Chester

45. The Parish Council has received 3rd prize in the CWAC Biodiversity competition, the Lord Mayor of Chester will be visiting Christleton on Thursday, 21st September to take a tour of the areas of interest.
46. Cllrs Buckley & Tonge will welcome the Lord Mayor on behalf of the Parish Council

To consider Rowton PC's suggestion to set up Biodiversity Working Group

47. Cllr Buckley will represent Christleton Parish Council on the Biodiversity Working Group being formed.

Update on Little Heath Road Maintenance Deed

48. This matter is ongoing.

Update of Village telephone box plans

49. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Neighbourhood Planning update

50. A briefing session is to be held by John Heselwood from Cheshire Community Action on Wednesday 20th September 2023 for a group of Parish Councillors and resident volunteers.
51. Cllr Beckitt itemised several topics to be considered at the briefing and would report back to the October meeting on progress.

To consider query regarding fishing rules at The Pit

52. The Parish Council are seeking legal advice in connection with this matter.

To discuss Licensing Events application in the Village

53. A recent event in the village, attracted several complaints about noise and did not follow the guidance stipulated when the permission was granted. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Licensing Authority requesting that the Parish Council be consulted on any future events and to inform Authority that conditions were not complied with on this occasion. If conditions were not going to be enforced, then not to licence events at this location in the future.

Action: Cllr Beckitt to action this matter.

Garden Competition

54. A suggestion that a garden competition should be held in the Village was briefly discussed and it would be considered at a future meeting.

Notice Boards

55. This matter is ongoing.

Information Only Items

56. CWAC Online Connections Event.: West Cheshire Crowd on 12/09/2023

Dates of the next meeting: Tuesday 3rd October 2023

CPC 05/09/2023

Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

APPENDIX 1 KING GEORGES FIELD TRUST PAYMENTS

PAYMENTS	£	Act
Rob Pierce – Groundworks for August 2023	325.00	Open Spaces Act 1906
Groundforce Landscapes Ltd – Grass cutting of first field for April	120.00	Open Spaces Act 1906
Gt Boughton Parish Council – Monthly Play Area Inspection	24.00	Open Spaces Act 1906
BHIB Ltd – KGF Annual Insurance Policy premium	264.72	LGA 1972 – Sec 142
BANK BALANCE @ DATE September 2023	4518.43	

APPENDIX 2 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE

ORGANISATION	£	Act
Sue Thwaite – Clerk Expenses – August 2023	66.23	LGA 1972 – Sec 112
Microsoft Office 365 monthly subscription (Sue Thwaite)	82.86	LGA 1972 – Sec 112
PKF Littlejohn LLP – External Audit	378.00	LGA 1972 – Sec 112
Mr C M Hodgkinson – 5ltr Weedkiller spray for Allotments	84.00	Small Holding & Allotment Act 1908
Mr C M Hodgkinson – Lawn mower service and repairs	164.90	Small Holding & Allotment Act 1908
GeoXphere Ltd – Parish Online – Digital Mapping	81.00	LGA 1972 – Sec 112
Rob Pierce – Groundworks June 2023	395.00	Open Spaces Act 1906
No Prior Approval Payments		
Sue Thwaite Clerk – Salary and add hours for August 2023	652.96	LGA 1972 – Sec 112
Derek Garner – Village Asst Pay & expenses August 2023	129.73	LGA 1972 – Sec 2
HMRC – PAYE & NICS for August 2023	203.43	LGA 1972 – Sec 111
Christleton Methodist Church – Rom Hire	36.00	LGA 1972 – Sec 112
Bank Balances – @ 22/08/21		
H/I Account	167,851.98	
Current A/C	100.49	
Dredging A/C	19,174.00	