

Mollington Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 12 September 2017 at 8.15pm in Mollington, Backford & District Village Hall

Present: Councillors Mike Jones (in the Chair), Phil Crane, Brian Crowe and Angus MacSween

In Attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk), PC Rob Brown and three members of the public.

17.64 CHARLES

The Chairman reported the recent very sad passing of Councillor Charles Charlesworth after a valiant struggle with cancer. He had been a Parish Councillor for many years and was particularly knowledgeable about planning issues and public rights of way. He would be very much missed by the Parish Council and residents.

17.65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors were reminded that there were now three vacancies on the Parish Council. Notices had been put on the Notice Boards and the website advertising the vacancies and it was hoped they could be filled quickly.

17.66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

17.67 VILLAGE HALL

Two members of the Village Hall's Big Lottery Fund (BLF) sub-committee attended the meeting to update the parish council on the status of the bid. The top priorities for the BLF were benefit for the community and value for money. A questionnaire had been sent out and some of the responses were surprising. The questions had focused on what people wanted to do and how they could be helped to do it, identifying needs and who could fulfil them. 14 options had emerged.

17.68 OPEN FORUM

The Parish Council considered that Mollington village was very low in crime, which happened mainly at the petrol station and the hotels. PC Brown reminded that incidents such as domestics were not included in crime statistics, and that one person could potentially create a number of statistics. One of the problems over the summer had been bikes on the old golf course, but there had been nothing since the beginning of August. Another site which had experienced some problems was Mere Farm but the issues here were to do with fishing. The old Clubhouse and Greenkeepers Hut on the former golf course had been vandalised and the police had not been able to trace the owner. Councillor Crowe could provide a contact.

17.69 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

17.70 UPDATE ON ISSUES RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- (1) The unused bus shelter on Townfield Lane had been turned into a Bookstop. Shelves had been put up and it was already well stocked with books. It was also being used as a Community Notice Board. The Parish Council owned the bus stop and the Clerk would need to check whether such a use was covered under the Council's insurance policy.
- (2) Councillor Crowe would follow up the request to list the old Mollington Hall wall with Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) Council.

17.71 PLANNING

(1) **Applications Received:** None undecided

(2) **Decisions:**

17/02009/FUL	Change of use of existing outbuilding to one dwelling at Grove Farm, Grove Road, Mollington, Chester CH1 6LG - APPROVED
17/03177/FUL	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling at 45 Mollington Court, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6LA - APPROVED
17/03180/FUL	Single storey side extension (Previously approved under 17/02207/FUL) at

	4 Gypsy Lane, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6LF – APPROVED
17/02879/S73	Removal of condition 3 (affordable housing) and amendment to condition 2 (plans) of planning permission 16/01181/FUL on Land at Parkgate Road, Mollington, Chester – APPROVED
17/02267/PDO	Change of use from offices to 30 residential units at Mollington Grange Business Park, Parkgate Road, Mollington, Chester CH1 6NP – APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

(3) **Awaiting Decision:**

17/02713/FUL	First Floor Rear Extension at Old Orchard, Townfield Lane, Mollington, Chester Cheshire CH1 6NJ
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17.72 HIGHWAY MATTERS AND AMENITY CLEANING

No issues raised

17.73 MOLLINGTON SCHOOL AND PLAYING FIELD

No issues raised

17.74 VIRGIN MEDIA UPDATE

It was agreed that Virgin should be asked to provide a timetable for the remaining work. The Clerk would ask Amanda Clarke for the appropriate contact.

17.75 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) **Electoral Review of Cheshire West and Chester: Draft Recommendations** - The Local Government Boundary Commission for England had published draft recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for Cheshire West and Chester following a ten-week initial public consultation. The draft recommendations proposed that there should be 70 councillors in the future, five fewer than at present. The recommendations outlined how those councillors should represent eight three-councillor wards, 11 two-councillor wards and 24 one-councillor wards across the borough. The consultation closed on 6 November 2017. The Parish Council was happy with the proposals and resolved not to make any comments.
- (2) The Parish Council now had vacancies for three Councillors. Mike Riley, a former Councillor, had offered to take one of the vacant places and this was agreed. The Clerk would invite him to the next meeting.
- (3) Clerks and Councils Direct – September 2017

17.76 FINANCE

(1) **Payments**

Method		Amount
BACS	HMRC-Income Tax	200.46
BACS	Village Hall – Room Hire September	16.00
S/O	Parish Clerk – salary September 2017	130.40
BACS	J Davies (Amenity Cleaner) – wages September 2017	166.40
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses August and September 2017	85.65
S/O	Parish Clerk – salary October 2017	130.40
BACS	J Davies (Amenity Cleaner) – wages October 2017	166.40

- (2) **Receipts:** None
- (3) **Balance** as at 12 September £18,532.15
- (4) **Request for Financial Contribution:** The Clerk had upgraded her computer to enable her to undertake work relating to the transparency code and it was resolved that the Parish Council should make a contribution of £100 from the funding received for transparency fund issues towards the cost of the upgrade.

17.77 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT MEETING

Councillor Crowe would invite the Lord Mayor of Chester to present the prizes for the Best Garden at the next meeting.

17.78 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, 7 November 2017 at 7.30pm to enable the prizes for the Best Garden to be presented prior to the meeting.