

Mollington Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 July 2016 at Mollington, Backford & District Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors Mike Jones (in the Chair), Charles Charlesworth, Phil Crane, Brian Crowe, Angus MacSween and Mike Riley

In Attendance: Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk), Chris Jones, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, Dave Reeves, Highways, Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) and PCSO Lauren Davies. There was one member of the public present.

16.54 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

16.55 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Charlesworth declared an interest in Minute 16.63 as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.

16.56 OPEN FORUM

PCSO Lauren Davies reported that Cheshire Police were currently investigating a number of incidents relating to elderly residents receiving phone calls from a male purporting to be a Police officer. The caller gave a plausible story that their bank card had been used and he required them to phone 999 so that Cheshire Police could investigate the matter. A warning letter had been issued which she would forward to the Parish Council to put on the Notice Board. She also reported that there had been some issues relating to criminal damage and drug dealing.

A resident reported that Mere Farm was currently being offered for sale as an equestrian facility with the possibility of planning permission being granted for an ancillary dwelling. She was concerned that the site might be developed for housing but was assured that this would not happen as it was in the Green Belt and was not allocated for housing in the Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) Local Plan.

16.57 VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR

An application had been received from Mrs Amanda Clarke of North Lodge, Well Lane, Mollington. Mrs Clarke had previously served as a Councillor in Ilkley in the Yorkshire Dales. The Parish Council resolved that she be co-opted to the Parish Council with immediate effect and welcomed her to the meeting.

16.58 MINUTES

It was resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 3 May 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.

16.59 MOLLINGTON SCHOOL AND PLAYING FIELD

The Parish Council welcomed Dave Reeves, CWaC Highways to the meeting. He reported that it was now CWaC policy to consider a 20mph zone around schools and a 3-year programme of reviews was under way starting with those areas considered to be most in need of a reduction in the current speed limit. Mollington was scheduled to be considered in Year 3. In the meantime, CWaC should be asked to consider moving the start of the 30mph limit back along Grove Road at least to Grove Farm and all the roads between the A41 and the A540 should be assessed. The creation of a one-way system at school drop off and pick up times was suggested but this was not considered to be a feasible option as it would be too long and it was likely that people would abuse it.

The school had explored several options for parking. CWaC Highways had looked at the area where a tree had been taken down with a view to creating additional parking but they felt that, although more parking spaces could be provided in that area, it would not be worth it for the costs involved. The diocese had been asked whether the grounds of the vicarage, which was currently empty and was opposite the school, could be used for parking but they were not willing to allow this. The Community Safety Warden had issued leaflets to parents about parking. From September it was proposed to start a campaign aiming to educate parents on safe and considerate parking. This would involve a Parents

Charter which they would be asked to sign up to as well as a map showing dangerous places to park. The children would be involved in designing posters which would be made into signs to remind parents to park safely and considerately. The feasibility of a walking bus would also be explored.

Councillor Crowe reported that the school would, for the first time, be oversubscribed for the September intake and that there were concerns that children from Mollington might not get a place.

16.60 PLANNING

(1) **Applications Received:** None

(2) **Decisions:**

16/01629/OUT	Outline application for two detached dwellings on land adjacent Greenfields, Grove Road, Mollington, Chester – APPLICATION WITHDRAWN
16/01181/FUL	Conversion of one building to dwelling, demolition of all other structures and erection of four new dwellings on land adjacent to Mollington Banastre Hotel Parkgate Road, Mollington, Chester - APPROVED

(3) **Awaiting Decision:** None

16.61 FUTURE OF MOLLINGTON GOLF COURSE

Councillor Crowe had met the new owner of the golf course who had confirmed his intention to develop it as a private residence, including the greenkeepers hut which would be used to store garden equipment. He would not use all of the land as a garden and would leave it to return to its natural state.

16.62 HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND AMENITY CLEANING

(1) A letter had been received from a resident expressing concern about the condition of the road and kerbs around Mollington Court and along Townfield Lane. The Parish Council was asked to request that specific maintenance and repair work be undertaken by CWaC Streetscene as a matter of urgency. Councillor Crowe reported that weed spraying would be undertaken by CWaC within the next two weeks. If the hedges were on private land they would be the responsibility of the landowner, but it would soon be time to start cutting hedges now that nesting time was finished.

(2) **No.22 Bus Service:** Councillor Crowe would follow up the possible reinstatement of a bus service in Mollington with John Ellis-Jones at CWaC but did not hold out much hope of success. The recent questionnaire had shown that some residents had been disadvantaged by the loss of the bus service, but others had started using the Plus Bus.

16.63 VILLAGE HALL

Councillor Charlesworth declared an interest in this item as he was the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.

The cost of building the new Village Hall would be in the region of £50/60k. The Committee had been put in touch with someone who could help them put together a lottery bid. There had been some useful feedback from the recent Open Day and some weaknesses had been identified which could be put right without the need to change the planning permission.

16.64 WEBSITES

Chris Jones reported the good news that Carl Stagg was slowly improving and was now out of bed and in a wheelchair. Permission had been given to transfer the Mollington Villages site from CoSocius to 1&! And this would happen fairly quickly. The Parish Council website just needed populating, which would be completed by 1 August when it could go fully live.

16.65 PARISH PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Parish Plan questionnaire and Chairman's Report had now been printed and the Parish Council discussed how these should be distributed throughout the Village.

16.66 CORRESPONDENCE

Publication – Clerks and Councils Direct July 2016

16.67 FINANCE(1) **Payments:** It was resolved that the following payments be approved:

Cheque No		Amount
BACS	Came & Company – Insurance Premium	164.05
221	J Davies (Amenity Cleaner) – wages June 2016	156.00
S/O	Parish Clerk – salary June 2016	129.20
222	Village Hall – Room Hire	16.00
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses June/July 2016	28.68
BACS	Wellfield Accounting Services – Internal Audit fee	100.80
S/O	Parish Clerk – salary July 2016	129.20
223	J Davies (Amenity Cleaner) – wages July 2016	156.00
224	J Davies (Amenity Cleaner) – wages August 2016	156.00

(2) **Receipts:** It was resolved that the following receipts be noted:

Unity Trust Bank – Interest	2.61
Little Stanney & District Parish Council – share of Conference fees	94.00

(3) **Balance** as at 5 July 2016 was £15,306.06.(4) **Internal Audit:** The internal audit had been completed by Wellfield Account Services and signed off with no further action required.**16.68 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NEXT MEETING**

None.

16.69 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 6 September 2016 at 8.00pm