

DAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 26 January 2009 at Davenham Methodist Church Hall at 7.30pm

Public Attendance: No member of the public attended the meeting

Present: J Curran; Chairman, C Colclough; Vice Chairman, B Robinson, D Ravenscroft, A Wood, S Batten, G Roberts, S Grozonkowski, A Bridge and Jo O'Donoghue; Clerk

1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest in items on the agenda

There were no apologies

2 Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising

2.1 It was resolved to accept the minutes of 24 November as a true and accurate record of the minutes of the meeting.

2.2 Cllr Wood confirmed that he had contacted John Jeffries at VRBC regarding the flooding on Hartford Road and agreed to pursue this prior to the next meeting.

3 Finance and Administration

3.1 It was resolved that payments for December 2008 totalling £1,964.74 be approved. It was further resolved to approve the accounts for payments for January totalling £4,038.76. It was resolved to accept the payment to MCE Electrics for installation of the Christmas lights and Cllr Roberts pointed out the payment for Christmas expenses should read £14.75 not £14.72.

3.2 Following an interview conducted before the start of the meeting it was proposed by Cllr Ravenscroft, seconded by Cllr Colbourne and agreed by all Councillors present at the interview that Simon Harding be co-opted onto the Council. Cllrs Bridge and Robinson abstained from the vote as they had not been present for the interview.

3.3 To note correspondence received:

- *Consultation Document – Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service*
- *Invitation to meet members of CWAC on 28th January 7pm-8.30 at Winsford Civic Hall and at the Guild Hall, Chester on 29th January from 7pm to 8.30pm – **Cllr Roberts to attend***
- *Invitation from the Chair of CCC and the Chief Executive of CCC to attend a Thanksgiving Service to celebrate 120 years of CCC at Chester Cathedral on Sunday 29th March at 3.30pm **Cllr Roberts to attend***
- *Invitation from Mayor of Vale Royal to a Charity Ball on 6 February 2009 at the Memorial Hall, Northwich starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £35 per guest and table bookings can be made for 8 people.*
- *CHALC newsletter*
- *CCC notification of proposal to introduce 40mph speed limit on Bostock Road from a point 350m northwest of the junction with Brick Kiln Lane to a point 290m south east of junction with Brick Kiln Lane – **Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Robinson and agreed by all to respond to the document requesting the introduction of the speed limit from the Peckmill roundabout to a point beyond Bostock Hall***
- *CCC notification of 7.5 tonne weight restriction on Billinge Green railway bridge and Shipbrook Road railway bridge*
- *CWAC Housing Market Assessment*
- *Notice of appeal findings Peach House, Davenham Nurseries, London Road*

4 Planning Matters

The schedules of Applications Received and Decisions made by VRBC were noted. Cllr Wood expressed concern that the Cricket Club has made an application for a storage facility on land owned by the Parish Council and leased to the Club without consulting the Parish Council. It was further inaccurately stated on the planning application that the land is owned by the Cricket Club. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk will write to the Club to express their concerns.

5 Borough and County Issues

5.1 **Highways** – Cllr Curran recommended to Councillors that the Clerk write to CCC Highways asking for a commitment to a complete and thorough road survey throughout the Village.

Chairman's initials

Following discussion this was approved and it was agreed that the Clerk would keep a log of defects as reported by Councillors and members of the public.

6 Ward Issues

6.1 Christmas arrangements

Cllr Curran reported that the arrangements for Davenham had not been successful as the electrics box provided by CCC was too big and heavy to be situated near the top of the tree and that subsequently the tree remained unlit for the majority of the Christmas period. Following discussion Cllr Curran agreed to speak with CCC to try to resolve the issue in good time for December 2009. Cllr Roberts noted that the support for the electrical box for the Kingsmead tree was broken and agreed to investigate further.

6.2 Cleaning of Village Memorials

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ravenscroft, seconded by Cllr Roberts and unanimously agreed to clean both the War Memorial and Fountain Memorial and paint the fencing around the War Memorial. The Clerk agreed to obtain quotes for the work to be discussed at the next meeting.

6.3 Kingsmead Community Hall

Cllr Colclough reported that she had attended a meeting on 4th December to discuss the possibility of a Community Hall in Kingsmead. The meeting was intended to demonstrate the aim is to join together different groups of people from different areas such as the local council and other community groups and emphasised that the hall would be of use to the whole community and not just for the school. The first stage to do a feasibility study which it is estimated with cost approximately £10,000 with a potential build cost of £1,000,000. Cllr Colclough further reported that the Parish Council has been asked to put forward a representative to take place in the study and following discussion Cllr Colbourne agreed to fulfil this role.

6.4 PCSO

There was no report from Tom McDermott, PCSO for Davenham and Moulton although it was agreed by members that he has been seen regularly in the Village. Cllr Colclough reported that Martyn Parsons, PCSO for Kingsmead, was involved with a joint operation at the Kingsmead Shops before Christmas, using the VRBC Street Scene mobile CCTV van, to catch people littering which resulted in one person being given a warning. This operation will be carried out again in the near future. There have been very few problems in the Kingsmead although PCSO Parsons reported to Cllr Colclough that there have been a number of thefts of and from motor vehicles the estate. Some of these were due to vehicles being left insecure and/or leaving valuables on display. Other than that, there have just been the typical run of the mill incidents and nothing of note. Cllr Colclough reported that the duck house on the pond in Kingsmead is still under water and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact CPM to try and get the situation resolved. Discussion took place as to whether it was appropriate for PCSO Parsons to attend the MADSAG meetings as matters discussed rarely pertained to Kingsmead. It was agreed that it was only necessary for him to attend if matters directly relate to the areas he is involved with.

7 Village Garden Playing Fields and Footpaths

7.1 Laburnum Road Field development

Cllrs Curran, Robinson and Wood, members of the Special Project Group, agreed to meet to discuss future options for Laburnum Road Field Development.

7.2 Fencing of the pond

This item was discussed under Part B – exclusion of the press and public

7.3 Footpath

Cllr Wood reported that Moulton Parish Council has made a request to Davenham Parish Council to co-fund work on footpaths within the parish. It is proposed that CCC carry out maintenance work on the footpath running from Eaton House Farm to the river Weaver under the Parish Path Scheme. CCC has asked for a contribution of £210 in total and Moulton Parish Council has agreed to pay half that figure and have asked Davenham Parish Council to fund the rest. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk will confirm exactly what work is taking place before making a decision as to whether to offer any funding.

8 General Reports

Cllr Ravenscroft reported that the wall around the substation on London Road next to the bus stop is in a very poor state of repair and now represents a hazard to members of the public. Following discussion the Clerk agreed to contact Scottish Power.

Chairman's initials

9 Any Other Business

9.1 There was no other business

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Date of Next Council Meeting – 23rd February at 7.30pm at Davenham Methodist Church Hall

Minutes Approved:

Jo O'Donoghue

Parish Clerk

Chairman

Date: