

DAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th July 2013

Held at Davenham Methodist Church Hall.

Public Open Forum 7.15pm

Council Meeting 7.30pm

Present Cllr Armstrong (Chairman)
Cllr. Duff (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. Ravenscroft
Cllr. Robinson
Cllr. Sellers
Cllr. Wilson
Cllr. Wood

Parish Clerk Janet Donnellan
4 Members of the Public (names recorded).

Apologies PCSO Stock

Public Session

One resident, and his representative attended the meeting to speak about concerns over contaminated land at Higgins Lane Farm, Davenham Rd, Rudheath and to ask for the advice of Councillors in bringing the matter to the attention of appropriate bodies.

Part of the farm land is on a long term lease to another party, who has planning permission to develop a Marina at the site. However, reports state that the land is contaminated with toxic heavy metals below the surface. There is concern that if the land is dug up, then the contamination will badly affect the farm and the surrounding environment. It is thought that the Planning committee did not see the contamination reports.

The resident showed a letter from the Environment Agency in which they acknowledged the danger of contamination.

Cllr Armstrong pointed out that whilst Higgins Lane Farm is not in the Parish of Davenham, DPC do share the concern over potential contamination of the local environment. The matter is on the agenda for discussion at this meeting under 130729.6 Correspondence. The resident and his representative remained at the meeting to hear later discussion.

130729.1 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

a. Apologies were received from PCSO Stock.

Cllr Wilson declared an interest in item 2d, interviews for Parish Councillors.

Cllr Sellers declared an interest in item 3a, a possible change of DPC bank account.

130729.2 Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising

As the Agenda for this meeting was not placed on the village noticeboard, all approvals and decisions were deferred until the meeting to be held on 13th August 2013.

a. There were no amendments to Part A or Part B of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th June 2013. These were approved and will be signed as a true record at the next meeting.

b. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th June 2013 are covered elsewhere on the agenda.

c. Cllr Duff has recently sent out a draft of the Newsletter to all Councillors and the Clerk, and various changes and spelling corrections have been made. A quote of £395 has been received for printing 1500 copies of the Newsletter. It is hoped that the Newsletter will be printed by week ending 2nd August. Cllr Duff estimated a cost of £80 to £100 from the village Newsagent (at the Post Office), to distribute the Newsletter to all village properties. Alternatively, we could seek volunteers to make the distribution. Cllr Ravenscroft pointed out that permission has not yet been granted to the Bulls Head Football Club to play at Butchers Stile playing field, so this should not be included in the Newsletter.

It is intended that 1500 copies of the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire will also be distributed with the Newsletter. A returns box will be located at the village Post Office to collect Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire replies by 30th August. Cllr Armstrong will email the final questionnaire document to Cllr Duff. **AP1 AP2**

d. There will be an interview evening on Tues 13th August for candidates for the Parish Councillor vacancies. Candidates who have recently expressed an interest will be invited to a short interview. Cllr Armstrong will put together an application form which will ask candidates about relevant experience, why they are interested, and what they can bring to DPC. The Clerk will book the classroom for the meeting. Those available to conduct interviews are Cllrs Armstrong, Sellers, Robinson and Wood. **AP3 AP4**

130729.3 Finance and Administration

- a. Financial Report dated 29th July 2013 was approved. Payments were proposed by Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Duff. Cllr Ravenscroft abstained from the approval of payments. Payments approved by all other Cllrs were as follows:-

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>CHQ No</u>	<u>NET £</u>	<u>VAT £</u>	<u>GROSS £</u>
29/07/13	Janet Donnellan	Clerks salary July 2013	217			592.83
29/07/13	Janet Donnellan	Clerk's Travel, Allowances, Stationery June 2013	218	102.38	6.25	108.63
29/07/13	ChALC	Clerks Training Course 4/9	219			30.00
29/07/13	Play Insp & Maintenance Servs	Playground Inspections on 27/06/13. INV: DAV008 24/07/13 INV DAV009	220	60.00 60.00	12.00 12.00	72.00 72.00 144.00
29/07/13	P Sanders	Payment of 1&1 Inv 07/07/13	22000	29.97	5.99	35.96
29/07/13	Allan James	Fencing at Butchers Stile	22001			697.57
28/08/13	Janet Donnellan	Clerks Salary August 2013	22002			592.83

Cllr Ravenscroft queried the increase of £200 in the payment to Allan James for fencing at Butchers Stile. The increase was for the removal of existing concrete posts.

Charges from 1&1 Web and Internet are still being paid by the former Clerk Phil Sanders. The Clerk investigate future payments by cheque. **AP5**

A discussion took place about the security of DPC emails and documents. Cllr Duff will look into the purchase of a DPC laptop which can be backed up. **AP6**

The Clerk will send out annual rent invoices to Davenham JFC and Davenham Cricket Club. The amounts were agreed in the Finance meeting on 03/12/12. **AP7**

There have been many problems with Santander getting new signatories and a change of address for the bank accounts. Cllrs Robinson and Armstrong spent much time in resolving this matter. Cllr Armstrong recommended a change of bank provider in the near future.

- b. **Standing Orders.** The amendments to clarify the Meetings section of the Standing Orders were approved by Cllrs. Cllr Armstrong recommended an additional point in the Standing Orders. It should be stated that members of the public are limited to a maximum of 3 minutes speaking time per individual. Cllr Wood will draft the addition. **AP8**

130729.4 Planning and Highways Matters

a. Applications received for consultation:

1. APPLICATION NUMBER: 13/02682/FUL DATE: 12 July 2013
PLANNING OFFICER: Ms Jill Stephens
PROPOSAL: Change of use from Guest House to 3 apartments with two storey extension to rear
LOCATION: 455 London Road Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire
2. APPLICATION NUMBER: 13/02766/FUL DATE: 27 June 2013
PLANNING OFFICER: Ms Liza Woodray
PROPOSAL: Construction of a crematorium with parking and landscaping and associated highway works
- Amendment to application 12/05365/FUL
LOCATION: Land at corner of Shurlach Road, Shurlach Lane, Davenham, Northwich

Cllr Wood has submitted comments and objections to the above planning application, which is the second for this construction. An A5 leaflet has been delivered to 90 houses along Church Street, Shurlach Lane and shops and properties in the village centre. The leaflet sets out DPC's objections and urges residents to send in objections before the deadline of 7th August. Cllrs will write to the Chief Executive of CWAC to ask for a traffic impact assessment on this site and a proper consultation. The Clerk will draft a letter and send this to Cllr Wood for approval. **AP9**

3. APPLICATION NUMBER: 13/02422/FUL DATE: 27 June 2013
PLANNING OFFICER: Mr Steven Holmes
PROPOSAL: Installation of ground floor window to rear elevation.
LOCATION: 38 Hartford Road Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire

b. CWAC Planning decisions:

1. APP NUMBER: 13/02341/FUL DATE: 12 June 2013
PROPOSAL: Two storey extension to the rear and single storey to the side
LOCATION: 633 London Road Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire **PERMISSION GRANTED**
2. APP NUMBER: 13/02443/CAT DATE: 5 June 2013
PROPOSAL: Remove 4 beech,
LOCATION: Land Adjacent 1 Hartford Road, Davenham Northwich **NO OBJECTIONS**
3. APP NUMBER: 13/01699/COU DATE: 9 May 2013
PROPOSAL: Change of use from B1 to A1 (retrospective).
LOCATION: 443A London Road Davenham, Northwich Cheshire **PERMISSION GRANTED**
4. APP NUMBER: 13/02106/FUL DATE: 29 May 2013
PROPOSAL: Conservatory to rear
LOCATION: 625 London Road Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire **PERMISSION GRANTED**
5. APP NUMBER: 13/00958/LBC DATE: 15 March 2013
PROPOSAL: Provision of a rear fire escape from the first floor
domestic accommodation and window replacements.
LOCATION: Oddfellows Arms 1 Hartford Road, Davenham, Northwich **GRANTS CONSENT**
6. APP NUMBER: 13/00957/FUL DATE: 15 March 2013
PROPOSAL: Provision of a rear fire escape from the first floor
domestic accommodation and window replacements.
LOCATION: Oddfellows Arms 1 Hartford Road, Davenham, Northwich. **PERMISSION GRANTED**
7. APP NUMBER: 13/00303/LBC DATE: 26 February 2013
PROPOSAL: Brick skin and two windows to side elevation
LOCATION: Mount Pleasant 73 Hartford Road, Davenham, Northwich **GRANTS CONSENT**
8. APP NUMBER: 13/00955/FUL DATE: 15 March 2013
PROPOSAL: Side extension to garage
LOCATION: 53 Mere Bank Davenham, Northwich Cheshire **PERMISSION GRANTED**
9. APP NUMBER: 13/01289/FUL DATE: 10 May 2013
PROPOSAL: Front porch, first floor rear extension and roof alterations
LOCATION: 22 Jack Lane Davenham, Northwich Cheshire **PERMISSION GRANTED**
10. APP NUMBER: 13/01442/FUL DATE: 24 April 2013
PROPOSAL: Replace glass roof of conservatory with slate roof
LOCATION: The Barns Dementia Unit Davenham Hall London Rd Davenham **PERMISSION GRANTED**
11. APP NUMBER: 13/01576/LBC DATE: 24 April 2013
PROPOSAL: Replace glass roof of conservatory with slate roof

LOCATION: The Barns Dementia Unit Davenham Hall London Rd Davenham **PERMISSION GRANTED**

There is an appeal regarding the Richborough development in Moulton. Cllr Wood will check the details with Moulton Parish Clerk. **AP10**

c. Planning Applications advised but not yet received: NONE

d. Report from the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

- There was a meeting held on Monday 3rd July. The meeting was attended by local resident Sara Lewis, who does not want to be a member of the Working Group, but has offered support and advice to the Group. Cllr Sellers, asked for it to be ratified that the Adviser could be called upon. All Cllrs were in favour of this. The next meeting will be held on Thurs 1st August.
- Advice has been sought from CWAC legal team about a potential conflict of interest, for some DPC Cllrs, regarding possible future planning decisions on land in the village which backs on to Cllrs properties. (CWAC Legal spoke to Cllr Armstrong following the meeting to clarify advice and advised that Cllrs are in the same position as everyone in the village, so there was no need to declare an interest. It was only when there was a pecuniary interest that it was a concern. Cllr Armstrong noted the advice given).

e. NPWG Planning Charter.

Cllr Wood has drafted a NPWG Planning Charter and asked DC Councillors for their support. Cllr Wood would like CWAC to adopt the Charter and ask other Parish Councils to use it. It will be discussed at the next joint meeting with Moulton Parish Council. The Clerk will find out the date of the next meeting. **AP11**

Cllr Sellers commented that Point 12 should be changed from 5 to 3 minutes of time to address Planning Committees. Cllr Wood moved to adopt the Charter. Cllr Robinson seconded this. All Cllrs were in favour.

f. 20 MPH speed limit proposal.

It was agreed that we should contact the local CWAC Councillors' to ask if they are prepared to contribute towards the estimated cost of £1272. Cllrs will then assess the contribution to be made by DPC. All Cllrs were in favour of this action. The Clerk will write to CWAC Cllrs. **AP12**

g. Broadband in Rural areas.

Cllr Wilson proposed a link on DPC website to direct Parishioners to www.connectingcheshire.org to raise awareness of the campaign for Better Broadband in Cheshire and to record the speed of the broadband received in Davenham. All Cllrs were in favour of this. **AP13**

130729.5 Playing Fields, Pathways and Gardens

a. Laburnum Road Playing Field Special Projects Group.

There was no update this month.

b. Pathways, Playing Fields and Gardens Working Group.

- The beech trees in the village garden will be pruned on Friday 23rd August. Cllr Wood has put a notice on the village noticeboard to inform residents.
- Cllr Wood will arrange for the bin at the village garden to be repainted. **AP14**
- Cllr Wilson will rewrite the grass cutting specification by the due date of January 2014.
- Cllr Ravenscroft reported that the hedge, which borders the pensioners' bungalows and the Cricket Club, needs to be cut. The Clerk will ask CWAC to attend to this. **AP15**

- Cllr Ravenscroft reported two recent incidents of Anti-social behaviour on Friday and Saturday nights at Butchers Stile Playing field. On the first occasion the Police were called by a resident but they did not attend. On the second occasion, a bonfire was lit by youths and Cllr Ravenscroft personally challenged the offenders and called the police, who did attend. Cllr Sellers thanked Cllr Ravenscroft for his actions.
- Cllrs expressed concern regarding the fact that PCSO Stock is rarely attending DPC meetings or sending a report. Cllr Armstrong will send an email to Inspector Snasdell to highlight the issue. **AP16**
- Cllr Wood has arranged a meeting with Quadrega to obtain a quote for cleaning the War Memorial. It was noted that the railings need repainting and the gate socket needs fixing **AP17**

c. Hedging/fencing between Mount Pleasant Road and Butchers Stile Playing Field

The fencing has now been erected.

d. Playground Inspection Reports.

Bolts have fallen off the picnic benches at Laburnum Rd playing fields. It was decided to contact the equipment supplier, Playdale, to rectify this, as the benches are less than 12 months old. Cllr Robinson will look into this. **AP18**

130729.6 Correspondence

a. The following items were brought to the attention of Members:-

1. Email received from the Secretary of Mid Cheshire Against HS2 on 08 July 2013. Subject: Asking for DPC support in fighting against HS2 phase 2.

DPC are concerned about the local impact on the environment and residents, and are sceptical about the financial benefits of HS2. However, DPC is not able to join Action Groups but will feed in to official consultation. The Clerk will draft a reply for Cllr Armstrong to approve. **AP19**

2. 3. 4. Several emails have been received from a spokesman on behalf the owner of a local farmer. See minutes above in the Public Forum section.

Cllr Wood recommended writing a letter expressing concerns to CWAC Environmental Health. Cllr Sellers asked for it to be noted that DPC have limited jurisdiction but we will try to bring some pressure. Cllrs agreed that the Standards Office should be alerted to a possible conflict of interest for a Rudheath Parish Councillor. **AP20**

5. A letter has been received enquiring about the vacancies for Davenham Parish Councillors. This matter was dealt with under Matters arising 130729.2d.

130729.7 Urgent Matters

a. Decisions made at this meeting will be ratified on 13th August 2013.

130729.8 Confirmation of Date of Next Meeting – Monday 2nd September 2013.

130729.9 The Part A meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed/ Dated

Chairman

