

DAVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th February 2016
Held at Davenham Methodist Church Hall.
Public Open Forum 7.15 – 7.30pm, Council Meeting 7.30pm**

Present Cllr. Carter Cllr. Hudson
Cllr. Mattinson (Chair) Cllr. Ravenscroft
Cllr. Salt Cllr. Watson
Cllr. Wood

Parish Clerk Vicky Stock

Simon Kimber (Tree Officer - CWAC)
4 members of the public

PCSO Danny Blake
PC Di Woodward

Apologies: Cllr. Cooper and Cllr. Peel. Cllr. Helen Weltman (CWAC Ward Councillor),

1) Public Session

Cllr. Mattinson opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

War Memorial Trees

Members of the public had been invited to come along to discuss the War Memorial area with a Cheshire West and Chester representative. Cllr Mattinson explained that the public session was primarily to gather community ideas for the area surrounding the war Memorial since the trees were cut down. A lot of anger has been aimed at Davenham Parish Council regarding the trees being cut down therefore Cllr. Mattinson wanted to make sure that everyone was aware that we had no control over the trees being cut down or no control over what can happen with the area. The War Memorial itself is the only area that Davenham Parish Council have control over. Davenham Parish Council are happy to act as the 'go-between' and will listen to the communities views and then pass them on to CWAC for consideration.

One member of the public expressed the view that the flagstones need to be replaced as they are very slippery and therefore dangerous. This is a view shared by many people and the parish council are in agreement with this and have received numerous complaints about them that have been passed on to Cheshire West. A textured flag was suggested.

Another suggestion was a path around the war memorial and a small garden. The War Memorial areas was originally the old school garden.

Replanting the trees was also a top priority. Simon Kimber from CWAC said the trees would definitely be replaced and suggested a deciduous Callery Pear Pyrus Tree. The tree blossoms with a white flower and then in the autumn it becomes a very vivid orange. It is a very fast growing tree but will only grow to 7-12 metres. The trees have to be something that CWAC can easily manage. The previous trees had been left and neglected. They had suffered and collapsed in the canopy and that is why the decision was made to remove them. They had to go on a health and safety issue. A resident said that the public would not have a problem with this however the fact that no notice was given is what upset everyone. Simon explained that CWAC are trying to change communications however at present the time would be spent telling everyone what was happening and nothing would get done due to lack of resources. The Beech Trees by the Oddfellows were mentioned that notice was given on them. Davenham Parish Council informed the public that the Beech Trees were Davenham Parish Council property and so notice was given by the parish council of the work to be done on them.

Simon Kimeber advised that residents need to be careful what we ask for with regards to paving as due to resources being limited the area would very likely be tarmacked which would not be in keeping with the area. The current paving is York Stone which are very smooth so algae builds up very quickly. CWAC have a policy of not replacing flagstones but tarmacking. Cllr. Watson suggested asking for funding from Ward Councillors but Simon again advised that we would need to get everything approved and done via highways.

The stumps will be removed hopefully soon but CWAC are waiting on contractors for this work to be carried out. Simon will speak to Highways about the paving as removing the stumps will also damage some of the area and he will try and push for something to be done asap.

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Scouts

Mike Cleaver attended the meeting on behalf of Scouts very upset about the lack of space for Scouts to meet. The Scouts have been meeting at a farm at Bostock with no heating. The barn has rats and mice and is not at all suitable for the Scouts to meet. Mike passionately asked for help from Davenham Parish Council as they cannot continue this way anymore. He would like Davenham Parish Council to speak to developers and instead of fighting against them work with them to build a village hall. He asked if for example instead of building 50 houses build less but one village hall. Cllr. Mattinson said that Scouts had spoken to Richborough about the Fountain Lane Land and although promises were made at the time by Richborough the Inspector ruled that this wasn't a necessary condition of the land to allow building. It just isn't as simple as it seems. Developers can promise the earth but will not do what they do not have to do. They are there to make money not benefit our village. The village did not want the Fountain Lane development and therefore Davenham Parish Council had to work on behalf of the village to fight the development to its best ability not encourage it in any way shape or form. DPC could not on one hand fight the development but then say that we wanted a village hall. The Fountain Lane land has still not been sold so until it is sold we are not in a position to talk to anyone. The parish council are aware the village desperately needs a village hall as we do ourselves and this is part of our Neighbourhood Plan. As soon as there is a realistic opportunity to build a village hall somewhere then we as a parish council will proceed with this. On Scouts request the parish council spoke to CWAC about the possibility of using Butcher's Stile to house a village hall and were told that it would not be given planning permission due to its location.

The public meeting ended at 7.38pm.

2) PCSO Report

Reports included:

- Member of public on a bike when a young man 17-18 years of age approx pulled alongside him in his car and started giving the cyclist verbal abuse
- Drunken male outside the Oddfellows taken away in an ambulance, a male walked up a pathway to a front door around 12.30pm but didn't knock and went to next door and looked through the window. He then drove off in a Vauxhall Astra,
- Two Cyclists travelling down the Davenham By-pass with no lights on their bikes.
- A man knocked on a door in Hartford Road claiming to be from MacMillan Cancer Research and asked to use the toilet and didn't visit any further houses, suspicious activity phone call.
- A male offering to service a washing machine, drive off at the garage – the car had been stolen from Winsford.

Advice given to residents - do not answer door or the telephone if you do not know who it is. There are specialist telephones available now to block nuisance calls. The PCSO will send an advice note through to the clerk to pass on to residents and will look into stickers/signs for doors to try to prevent cold callers.

Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence – Cllr. Cooper (maternity leave), Cllr. Peel (work commitments)

Declaration of Interest – Cllr. Carter in relation to expenses for the Jack Lane notice board and installation of the Defibrillator.

3) Approval of Minutes

3a) To review and approve the Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Carter. Seconded by Cllr. Mattinson – all Cllrs who attended the last meeting voted and the Minutes were approved as a true record.

3b) Recap and update on Actions from previous minutes.

Some actions still outstanding from last meeting but are logged.

Patch of Land to the rear of the Bulls Head

The land is actually only about an acre but was originally told it was 4 acres. Cllr. Mattinson needs to see exactly the size of the plot of the land and if it is indeed still for sale.

New Homes Bonus

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An email has been received today informing the council that we will not get a new homes bonus in the future.

Church Street (16 houses)

A letter has been drafted to the Planning Inspectorate, local MP and ChALC regarding our disappointment yet again in the Appeals process in light of the Church Street planning application for 16 houses being allowed on appeal despite CWAC refusing this. The letter is just doing the rounds for councillors to check before this is sent out. Cllr. Wood has sent off a letter to CWAC regarding challenging the appeal at high court.

Meeting with Nial Casselden – Planning Officer CWAC

Councillors met with Nial in light of the above Church Street decision and this is in the hands of CWAC legal team. The call of sites in the local plan part 2, Nial didn't feel that these sites would be called forward as they have enough allocation at present.

Verges

The clerk spoke to CWAC regarding the state of the verges along Mount Pleasant road. CWAC will look at the verges and assess them but said there is no provision for funding verge replacement at the moment.

4) Finance and Administration

4a) To approve the Financial Report and Monies for payment

The Financial Report dated 4th January 2016 was approved. Cllrs approved the payments as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>CHQ No</u>	<u>NET £</u>	<u>VAT £</u>	<u>GROS S £</u>
29/02/16	Dixon Rigby Keogh	Professional and Land Registry Fee for Butcher's Stile Field.	100144	326.00	60.00	386.00
29/02/16	Davenham Electrical Services	Materials to repair Jack Lane notice board	100145	38.80	15.20	54.00
29/02/16	Davenham Electrical Services	To install a power supply and mount Defibrillator cabinet on outside wall of Willowgreen shop.	100146	145.00	0.00	145.00
29/02/16	Scottish Power	Electricity for Christmas Lights including standing charge	100147	37.38	2.30	39.68
29/02/16	Cardiac Science	Electrodes for defibrillator (previous ones had expired Dec 2015)	100148	53.95	10.79	64.74
29/02/16	Simply Signs	No dogs allowed in Play area signs	100149	90.00	18.00	108.00
29/02/16	Vicky Stock	Clerk Expenses for January 2016	100150	68.52	5.07	73.69
29/02/16	Vicky Stock	Clerk Salary for January 2016 including back pay (18 th Nov – end of Jan 2016). Will have some tax & NI to pay in the next month or two.	100152	894.04	0	894.04
29/02/16	John Price	Village gardening services Sept 2015 – March 2016. (£125 per month)	100153	875.00	0	875.00
29/02/16	Simply Signs	Sign for Notice board (Jack Lane)	100154	12.00	2.40	14.40
29/02/16	TH Rowland	Supply of post frame for parish notice board (Jack Lane)	100155	100.00	20.00	120.00
29/02/16	Davenham Electrical	To supply 2 x bags of post mix for notice board (Jack Lane)	100156	12.04	2.41	14.45

Proposed by Cllr. Mattinson. Seconded by Cllr. Watson. All Councillors voted to approve payments.

As at 31st January 2016, the reconciled Bank Balance totalled **£59,453.35** in credit.

Payments Received in January

None.

4b) To agree a date for the next Finance meeting

The clerk will email the Finance Committee dates and arrange. **AP1**

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5. Planning and Highways Matters

a) Applications Received for Consultation:

Item No.	Application No	Proposal	Location	Comments by:
1.	16/00189/FUL	Two storey side and single storey rear extensions with internal alterations	28 Prospect Drive, CW9 8JS	25 th February 2016 (DPC Comments submitted)

b) CWAC Planning Decisions:

Item No.	Application No	Proposal	Location	Decision
1.	15/05070/LBC	Repairs to small lock swing bridge and associated works	Vale Royal Locks, Davenham	Approval
2.	16/00030/LBC	Remove cement render from side elevations, re-render with lime/sand render and paint with mineral based paint.	Vale Royal Locks, Davenham	Approval

5c) Neighbourhood Plan

To discuss the possibility of setting up a direct debit for land registry e-business account for the Neighbourhood Plan

We have areas on our Neighbourhood plan where we need/want to protect as green space areas and as part of that DPC need to consult with owners of the land. Cllr. Salt has had to send off a lot of small cheques and has filled out numerous forms. Setting up an e-business account will help to make this process less laborious but to do this we would need to set up a direct debit. There is no annual fee for the service but just much easier than sending off lots of small cheques.

Proposed by Cllr. Salt. Seconded by Cllr Mattinson. All councillors approved. Direct Debit mandate signed by Cllr. Ravenscroft and Cllr. Salt.

Neighbourhood Plan Update

We are almost at the consultation stage. Our consultants have sent through a survey which the working group need to go through. The date is set for 24th March for the start of public consultation (community, land owners, developers etc.) and then will comment on the survey. The public consultation will last for a 6 week period after which comments are reviewed and any changes made if required. After the public consultation review, the plan will go to referendum to then be ratified.

5d) Community Building

No land for sale as we know at present in the village (other than the small plot at the rear of the bulls head). Cllr. Mattinson and the clerk recently met with Rev. Rob Iveson who was still not in a position to talk about the church hall situation but he has promised to tell us as soon as he is but it is not likely to be any time soon. Cllr. Mattinson said Richborough are not willing to meet up to discuss the plans for Fountain Lane until the land is sold.

5e) Discuss/approve questionnaire to be sent out to Church St residents

Due to the increased traffic travelling down Church Street (to avoid Gadbrook Park traffic build up) Cllr. Salt has put together a short survey for Church St residents. Nothing may come of this but at least it will be an evidence base to show the Highways department.

6) Parish Council Managed Assets and Maintenance

6a) Laburnum Road /Butchers Stile (including drainage)

Drainage quotation

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Cllr. Hudson has spoken further to the contractors who installed the drainage at Laburnum Road. The quotation for this was £6,630 plus VAT. Butcher's Stile quotation was £20,480 plus VAT. The clerk will forward the list of contractors to Cllr. Hudson for follow up/further quotations **AP2**

Tree Quotations

The clerk obtained further quotations for pruning of three trees on the Butcher's Stile (Cricket Club). Following the last quotation from Old Vicarage Tree Surgeons, Monkey Business have quoted £250 plus VAT it all three trees are pruned on the same day. Cllr. Ravenscroft to double check that the all three trees are the responsibility of Davenham Parish Council **AP3**. Once all double checked we can then go ahead with the quotation.

6b) Cricket Club Lease meeting update

Cllr. Salt and Cllr. Mattinson are hoping to meet with the Cricket Club over the next week or two to discuss the lease further. Cllr. Salt and Cllr. Mattinson recently met with the solicitor who said that they can see no reason to change the lease as even after the 13 years have lapsed the cricket club would still have security as DPC would have to terminate the agreement (of which there is no intention on our behalf of doing this). Cllr. Salt and Cllr. Mattinson need to discuss this issue further with the Cricket Club to understand a bit more about why they need a 25-year rolling lease. Any changes to the lease (if made) need to be made by the Cricket Club.

6c) Notice board for Jack Lane update

The notice board has been refurbished Cllr. Carter and has now been installed. The clerk will put some information in the notice board asap. **AP4**

6d) Memorial Gate Update – Laburnum Road

Currently waiting to hear from CWAC to hear whether planning has been approved before we can proceed any further.

6e) Defibrillator Update

Cllr. Carter has now fitted the Defibrillator to the side of Willowgreen. New electrode pads have been purchased. The code needs to be changed to a code given by North West Ambulance service. Cllr. Carter needs to speak to the Cardiac Science technical departments to get the defibrillator back to factory settings so the new code can be entered then the defibrillator will go live. **AP5**. Once this has gone live we can set up some defibrillator training for the community.

8) Correspondence received

8a) To review Correspondence

- An email was received from CWAC re: Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule Consultation. Cllrs are asked to look at the draft document and commented as necessary.
- An email was received from 1st Davenham Scouts thanking Davenham Parish Council for the grant funding for 2016/17.
- An email was received advising DCP of the annual playground inspections for Butcher's Stile and Laburnum Road.
- An email was received re: waterlogged areas on Laburnum Road field. The clerk has advised the writer that we are looking into further drainage solutions for the area.

9) Community Pride Competition

9a) To briefly discuss which areas of the completion we plan to enter this year.

Cllr. Salt, Cllr. Mattinson and the clerk recently met to look over the areas of the Community Pride Competition to enter and decided to enter Best Kept Village, Community Spirit, Best Community Initiative, Best Community Newsletter, Best Community Website (our website does need improving but the content is relevant). There is a one off fee of £60 for which we can enter as many sections of the competition as we like.

Last year we entered the 'Best Kept Village' competition and although we didn't win we did score quite highly so we thought it worth entering again this year now we know a bit more about it. We did however win a 'Little Gem' award for the Bowling Club. Cllr. Wood suggested we consider re-introducing the 'Best Kept Garden Competition' in the future. This was agreed to be a future consideration once the Neighbourhood Plan is complete.

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Urgent Matters

- The path on Laburnum Road has become 'tacky' again following the latest frost. The clerk will ask the contractors to come out and look at the path again. **AP6**
- The newly installed bus shelter has been hit again by a vehicle (we think a van). The clerk will speak to CWAC to see when they are going to fix this. **AP7**
- More Bovis trucks have been seen travelling down London Road and photograph taken. The clerk will report this to Moulton Parish Council. **AP8**
- Cllr. Carter asked if the clerk could send a thank you letter to the gentlemen who volunteered his time to help install the Jack Lane notice board. **AP9**
- Hilltop Farm Contractors are parking at the top of Hartford Road (it looks like they are waiting to get on site). The clerk to write to the contractor to ask them to keep in touch with us and inform us about what is happening and suggest a meeting. **AP10**
- Cllr. Wood suggested a traffic count on Hartford Road now (before traffic lights are installed) and then after the new junction has been installed. An official survey would cost £250 and would be more accurate than if councillors volunteers and stood and counted the traffic themselves. **AP 11. Proposed by Cllr. Wood. Seconded by Cllr. Mattinson. The clerk will go ahead and organise this with CWAC.**

10) Date of Next Meeting

10a) The date of the next meeting is set for Monday 21st March to be held at Davenham Methodist Church at 7.15pm.

11) Closure of the Public Meeting

Part A of the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed/ Dated

Chairman