

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TARVIN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE EDNA ROSE ROOM, TARVIN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2019

PRESENT:

Councillor E Lush (Chairman)
Councillor R Ford (Vice Chairman)
Councillor D H Cotgreave
Councillor B Dean
Councillor S Dutton
Councillor H Flynn
Councillor J Norrie
Councillor M Pochin
Councillor P Ryan
Councillor P Twigg
Councillor S Wiley

IN ATTENDANCE:

1 member of the public
Cheshire West and Chester Council – Councillor H Tonge
Parish Council Clerk – Mr M Hassall

APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE:

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Councillor J Leather

19/159 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, AND DISPENSATIONS

19/159.1 New Written Requests for Dispensations

There were no new requests.

19/159.2 Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or other Interest in any item of business on the agenda and, if necessary, leave the meeting prior to discussion of that item. No such declarations were made.

19/160 OPEN FORUM

RESOLVED: that the Council meeting be adjourned for the Open Forum.

19/161 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Council meeting be reconvened.

19/162 REPORT ON OPEN FORUM (This minute was not reported to Council in the formal meeting. It is a record of the items raised in the Open Forum)

The member of the public had indicated that he was in attendance to learn more about the Traveller Development Plan document as he was considering buying a property in the area.

19/163 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28TH OCTOBER 2019

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2019 be signed by the Chairman of the meeting as a correct record.

19/164 REPORT ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 28TH OCTOBER 2019 NOT COVERED BY THE AGENDA

New Traffic Island on A54 Road (Previous Minute 19/141.1)

The new traffic island had been installed on 19th November 2019.

19/165 PLANNING MATTERS

19/165.1 Planning Applications

RESOLVED: that the following comments be made on the planning applications submitted:

19/03987/FUL - Single storey front extension and replacement windows - 56 High Street, Tarvin

Comment: No Objections

19/04051/FUL - Single storey extensions to front and rear and two storey side extension – 17 Hunters Drive, Tarvin

Comment: No Objections

19/165.2 Notices

19/03329/FUL - Two storey side extension - 28 Tarporley Road, Tarvin – **PERMISSION**

19/02461/S73 – Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) on Planning Permission

16/04928/FUL – Abbeyfield, Holme Street, Tarvin - **PERMISSION**

19/166 PARKING NEAR TARVIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

A letter from a resident living in the vicinity of the school raising concerns about poor parking and suggesting possible solutions was considered by the meeting. It was noted that this was an ongoing problem which had been raised on several occasions.

RESOLVED: (19/166.1) that the Clerk ask the Cheshire West and Chester Council Enforcement Team to visit the area at dropping off and collecting times and enforce the rules.

RESOLVED: (19/166.2) that the Clerk write to the school asking what actions they had already taken and what actions were proposed to help resolve the issues and also whether it might be possible to create a drop off point within the school grounds to the left of the building.

19/167 KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

19/167.1 Annual Inspection of Play Equipment

The report from Morral Play Services was examined in detail. It was noted that whilst there were a number of minor repairs required there were no significant issues.

RESOLVED: that the minor repairs be carried out during the coming months

19/167.2 Defibrillator

The Defibrillator had been in use since 30th October 2019. The Scout Group had decided that they would carry out the weekly checks once NW Ambulance had registered the defibrillator online which would allow the formal records to be made. They had confirmed that their records would be updated by the beginning of December. In the short term the Clerk was checking the equipment on a weekly basis, keeping a written note to that effect, and would complete the online reports to date as soon as they were available.

19/167.3 Tennis Club – Legal Agreement

An invoice had been forwarded to the Tennis Club who had confirmed that they would be paying the requested amount of £1,596.80 during the next few days.

19/167.4 Hedges

The meeting noted that the hedges around the field had been cut on 18th November.

19/168 TRAVELLER DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

Councillors had met with members of the Tarvin Residents Group to discuss the approach that would be taken by Councillor Lush and Mr Michael Stallard at the Cheshire West and Chester Council Cabinet meeting. However, the item had not been included on the agenda for the November 2019 meeting due to purdah and the upcoming General Election. It was expected that it would be an agenda item on 15th January 2020. A further meeting with the Residents Group would take place as soon as the paperwork for the January meeting was published.

A draft of what Councillor Lush would say at the Cabinet Meeting was examined and minor amendments made. A copy of the updated document is attached to the minutes but subject to amendment depending on the paperwork published by Cheshire West and Chester Council a week before the meeting.

19/169 FOOTPATHS

19/169.1 Platts Lane (Previous Minute 19/149.1)

The issues had been reported to Highways, but little progress was being made.

19/169.2 Path to Roman Bridges (Previous Minute 19/149.2)

Councillor Ryan reported that the first meeting had taken place on 4th November and the following actions had been agreed:

- a. The Clerk to contact Adele Mayer (Public Rights of Way Asset Management Officer) to ask her to clarify her recent comment in an email "regarding the recording of Platts Lane it is on an anomaly list to be dealt with. The anomaly list has not been prioritised whilst there are other applications to be determined".
- b. The Clerk and Mr Roger Hones request a Title plan and Title Register for the section of Platts Lane in question.
- c. Mr Hones to approach Cheshire Wildlife Trust to try to obtain a contact at Grosvenor Estates who owned the Hockenhull Platts nature reserve to request land/bridge ownership information.
- d. Councillor Ryan to write up the full list of documentary evidence that was compiled during the meeting.

19/169.3 A51 between Tarvin and Duddon

Complaints had been received from users of the footpath between Duddon and Tarvin. The verges had grown and spread over the tarmacked surface of the pavement, in places requiring pedestrians to step into the carriageway.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk ask Highways to remove the overgrowth

19/170 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020

19/170.1 Council Meetings

RESOLVED – that 2020 Parish Council meetings be held on the following dates

January	27
February	24
March	23
April	27
May	18
June	22

July	27
August	24
September	28
October	26
November	23
December	21

19/170.2 Annual Parish Meeting

Councillor Lush reported that the legal part of the Annual Parish Meeting would take place before the Council meeting on 18th May 2020 and that the main part of the meeting would be held on the morning of Saturday 9th May 2020

19/171 LIST OF OUTSTANDING ITEMS

RESOLVED: that the Clerk ask Highways for an update on item 1.3.

19/172 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

19/172.1 The following e-mail correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors who were provided with an opportunity to comment on them.

- Cheshire Association of Local Councils E Bulletins
- PCSO Sue Keers – Report for October 2019
- Police and Crime Commissioner re Remembrance Day Policing
- Cheshire West and Chester Council – Free Bus Shelters for Local Community Groups

19/172.2 Village Quiz

The following agreed to be team members:

Councillors Ford, Lush, Pochin, Ryan, and Twigg

Councillor Lush confirmed that a team had been entered and the cost of entry had been paid.

19/172.3 Parish Council

The Parish Council would be 125 years old on 4th December 2019.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk try to obtain a copy of the first meeting of the Council held in December 1894.

19/172.4 Christmas Trees

It was noted that the Christmas Trees and lights had been installed over the previous weekend.

19/173 FINANCIAL MATTERS

19/173.1 Payments made between meetings

The following were confirmed:

Payee	Detail	Amount to be Paid
VAT	Net Amount to Charge against budget	Budget available before payment
Mr R Hones	Reimbursement of Expenditure Four transactions with Land Registry Re Rights of Way Project	15.00
0.00	15.00	
Deva Print Ltd	Newsletters	170.00
0.00	170.00	1,635.50

19/173.2 October 2019 Payments

Councillor Ford had confirmed in writing that all the payments made by the Clerk were as approved by Council.

19/173.3 RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised and that payments be made by internet banking:

Payee	Detail	Amount to be Paid
VAT	Net Amount to Charge against budget	Budget available before payment
Groundforce Landscape Ltd	Grass Cutting King George V Playing Field October 2019	337.82
56.30	281.52	649.85
Then Media Ltd	Annual Website Hosting Fee	136.80
22.80	114.00	1,465.50
Tarvin Methodist Church	Hire of Room for 4 meetings – Ridgeway Residents 8th August, Finance Working Party 3rd September, Field Committee 3rd October, Rights of Way 4th November, TDP Meeting 14th November	63.44
0.00	63.44	403.50
Mr M Hassall	Reimbursement of Expenditure. Three additional transactions with Land Registry Re Rights of Way Project 3 x £7.00 = £21.00 Envelopes, 5 Reams Paper, sacks for collecting waste on Playing Field £49.70	70.70
8.28	62.42	298.01
Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership Fee 2020	161.00
0.00	161.00	204.56
Mr R Ford	Reimbursement of Expenditure Christmas light batteries and cable ties	45.25
0.00	45.25	500.00
Mr R Briscoe	32 Christmas Trees at £8.00	256.00
0.00	256.00	454.75
Payroll	November 2019	1,307.51
0.00	1,351.76	7,461.75

19/173.4 Direct Debit

The meeting noted that the following payment had been made by direct debit: British Telecom Plc – 29th October 2019 - Telephone and Internet October 2019 – £197.20. A credit note had been requested to cover the overcharge.

19/174 OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE

RESOLVED: (19/174.1) that the arrangements listed in the document presented to the meeting be approved.

RESOLVED: (19/174.2) that up to £500.00 of the special projects budget be used to purchase the necessary items which would be stored at Tarvin Community Centre.

19/175 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

RESOLVED: (19/175.1) to purchase plastic poppies to go on lampposts on High Street at the appropriate time each year.

RESOLVED: (19/175.2) that Councillor Norrie be responsible to putting the poppies on the lampposts and then removing them at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED: (19/175.3) not to consider modernising the children's play area to make it bigger and better at the present time.

RESOLVED: (19/175.4) not to hold a firework display on the King George V Playing Field.

RESOLVED: (19/175.5) that Councillor Norrie look into the costs of holding a firework display and report back to Council.

19/176 TOPICS FOR TARVIN ONLINE

RESOLVED: that articles be written on parking near the school, annual inspection of the Play Equipment, the Parish Council being 125 years old on 4th December 2019 and Traveller Development Plan

19/177 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 16th December 2019 – 7.15pm – Edna Rose Room, Tarvin Community Centre

Minute 19/168 Presentation to CWaC Cabinet January 2020 Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to address the meeting before you consider the matter in detail. I am addressing the issue from a community perspective; Mr Stallard who is also scheduled to speak on this matter will approach it from a professional planning perspective.

When the possibility of a traveller site was first mooted for the Tarvin Parish area no issue had ever caused our community so much concern. Public meetings attracted hundreds of attendees. The Parish Council, taking its steer from public reaction *and mindful that there was a risk to good community relations if the proposal went ahead*, adopted a measured and evidenced approach to explain why a traveller site in Tarvin would neither be in the best interests of the travelling community nor of the local community. *The best interests of the traveling community should, in the opinion of the Parish Council, be given particular weight. There is no evidence that travellers have any tradition or affinity with the Parish area. It would therefore seem to the Council to be both insensitive and inappropriate to establish a site in Tarvin simply because the Borough Council happen to own land there.*

Since the original proposal was withdrawn the PC has produced a Neighbourhood Plan which was "made" in September 2019. The Plan says nothing about identifying a site for travellers in the Tarvin Plan area. This is because the Steering Group, who produced the Plan on behalf of the Parish Council adhered to the national guidance that any land use policy proposed had to be positive. The Plan however does identify a number of community infrastructure shortcomings. One of these is recreation.

Currently in Tarvin Parish there is one large playing field, the King George V playing field. Since that field came into community use in the 1930s the population of Tarvin has grown significantly, with the result that the field is at capacity resulting in some Tarvin children having to play some of their team sport away from the parish. This significant shortage was addressed in the Neighbourhood Plan. Every potential site for a new playing field was evaluated. The Plan concluded that the most sustainable site was land owned by CWaC, but currently farmed under a life-long tenancy.

This particular area of land has been identified, once again, as a site suitable for a traveller site but, quite correctly, is *designated as "not available"* because of the tenancy agreement. However, the nature of a life-long tenancy does mean that at some future date it becomes available. The community view is that its aspiration for another recreation site is crucial and, as such, needs to be recognised by CWaC which is responsible for providing recreation facilities throughout its area.

Finally, it is worth noting that the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan took 4 years to produce. In the early stages the Steering Group spent a lot of their time looking at housing need and how it could be addressed. This was because survey data and community feedback showed that, in the Plan area, there was a shortfall of: affordable properties that young people, brought up in the village and who wanted to stay, could access so that they get on the housing ladder; homes for older people to down-size to and accommodation that would be suitable for those who needed care. The Steering Group did take this up with CWaC as it felt that the land they owned, currently farmed under a life-long tenancy, could potentially provide a sustainable solution to some of these housing shortfalls to be met. The Steering Group also felt that embracing this notion would not only demonstrate a commitment to the rural area it would also have generated considerable positive publicity in a policy area where the community accepts there was and is a problem. It was therefore disappointing to the Steering Group that these ideas were not picked up by CWaC. An opportunity lost then but maybe it is not too late.