

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TARVIN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE EDNA ROSE ROOM, TARVIN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2015

PRESENT:

Councillor E Lush (Chairman)
Councillor S Hardacre (Vice Chairman)
Councillor D H Cotgreave
Councillor L Holmes
Councillor C Jones
Councillor M Lloyd
Councillor M Pochin
Councillor P Twigg
Councillor R Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

5 Members of the Public
Parish Council Clerk – Mr M Hassall
Cheshire West and Chester Councillor H Deynem

APOLOGIES:

Cheshire West and Chester Councillor J Leather

15/154 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR

The Chairman reported that Mr Brian Spruce had tendered his resignation as a Councillor with immediate effect due to ill health.

Comments of appreciation were expressed regarding the work undertaken by Mr Spruce over the previous eight years whilst acting as a Councillor.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to Mr Spruce thanking him for the valuable contribution that he had made to the Council and wishing him a speedy recovery from his illness.

15/155 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, AND DISPENSATIONS

15/155.1 New Written Requests for Dispensations

There were no new requests.

15/155.2 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.

15/156 OPEN FORUM

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

15/157 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED: that the meeting be reconvened.

15/158 REPORT ON OPEN FORUM

15/158.1 Referring to the Open Forum of the previous meeting a local resident had stated that the responses from IGas had not been published on the Parish Council's website or on Tarvinonline.

15/158.2 Another resident had expressed disappointment with the way that the previous Open Forum had been handled. She had objected to being filmed and felt that she had learned nothing from IGas.

15/158.3 Concern had been raised that the streetlight on High Street and close to Forge Way had been out for over a month and still hadn't been repaired by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

15/158.4 Council had been reminded that Christmas Trees were being put up on 28th November and that help was required.

15/158.5 A Crossfields resident had reported that he had removed a tree that could have fallen on anyone passing it from between numbers 50 and 52 Crossfields. He had added that in his opinion there was a further tree that needed to be removed and that the hedge running along Townfield Lane and behind properties 38A to 50 needed cutting.

15/158.6 Borough Councillor Deynem had:

15/158.6.1 reported that the streetlight on High Street was being repaired by Scottish Power and that the lights on By Pass Road and the A51 road close to the junction with Tarporley Road were awaiting for Highways maintenance to carry out the work. The lamp on Hockenhull Lane, and close to High Street had been repaired on 5th November 2015

15/158.6.2 provided details of the Community Infrastructure Levy in the Local Plan which was to be discussed at a cabinet meeting later in the week. One proposal was for a £9,000 levy to be added to the cost of properties in rural areas with the levy being spent across the Borough rather than locally. Should cabinet approve the proposals a consultation would follow.

15/159 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH OCTOBER 2015

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th October 2015 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

15/160 REPORT ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING ON 26TH OCTOBER 2015

15/160.1 Seat for Children's Play Area (Previous Minute 15/136.4)

The seat had been installed on 11th November 2015

15/160.2 Snow Angels (Previous Minute 15/141)

The Health Fair organised by Snow Angels had taken place at the Methodist Church on 11th November 2015. The turnout had been disappointing and a number of the partners hadn't been represented as promised. However informal discussions with some of the local residents present had indicated that there was some support for a good neighbour service.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Hardacre continue to pursue the idea of the project being introduced into the Parish

15/160.3 Christmas Trees (Previous Minute 15/148.4)

The Clerk had placed an order for the trees with Broomheath Plantation on 29th October 2015

15/160.4 IGas (Previous Minute 15/134.1)

Comments raised in the Open Forum were noted. Not publishing the notes of the meeting on Tarvinonline and Council's website had been an oversight and would be corrected. They had been published on the Parish noticeboards. The Open Forum at the previous meeting could not have been run any differently as all members of the public were eligible to attend and speak and legislation allowed meetings to be filmed. However, Council was able to approve a standing order which would provide the Council with an element of control over the filming.

15/160.5 Blocked Path (Previous Minute 136.3)

RESOLVED: that Councillor Williams report the tree and hedge (Minute 15/158.5) to the Public Rights of Way

15/161 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

The meeting noted that there was still one vacancy to be filled by co-option in addition to the one created by the resignation of Mr Spruce. The positions would continue to be publicised.

15/162 PLANNING MATTERS

15/162.1 Planning Applications

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

15/04385/FUL - Two storey rear extension to provide new kitchen and living space together with additional bedrooms – 99 High Street, Tarvin

Comment: No Objections

15/04404/FUL - Replacement of the timber windows to double-glazed UPVC windows - The Vicarage, Church Street, Tarvin

Comment: No Objections

15/04446/FUL - Change of use from single dwelling unit with self-contained annex and residential outbuildings to 5 No. dwelling units – Abbeyfield, Holme Street, Tarvin

Comment: No Objections, subject to the access serving the 5 properties satisfying the Local Highway Authority highway safety standards.

15/04393/FUL - Erection of 4 No semi-detached dwellings and garage block - Land Adjacent 41 Bye Pass Road, Tarvin.

Comment: No Objections in principle to housing - however the garaging, if provided, should be incorporated into the design of the houses rather than there being a standalone garage block fronting directly onto the A54. Aesthetically this is visually prominent on the streetscape and not appropriate at this location. The scheme should be redesigned or the garaging conditioned to be excluded from the permission.

15/04327/FUL - Construction of one dwelling - Land Adjacent To 21 Andrews Close, Tarvin

Comment: No Objections in principle. Concern regarding the feasibility of the access arrangements, in order to serve the existing and proposed properties.

15/04661/FUL – Extension to agricultural shed – Oscroft Hall Farm, Cross Lanes, Oscroft

Comment: No Objections

15/162.2 NOTICES

15/03711/FUL - Proposed change of use of field from agriculture to use for grazing and exercising horses, retention of existing field shelter, construction of new stable block,

improvement to existing access and provision of hard-standing/turning area – Land at Tarporley Road, Tarvin - **PERMISSION**

15/163 KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

15/163.1 Field Management Committee

Draft minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2015 were examined and noted. A copy is attached to the minutes

RESOLVED: that Council purchase additional seating to be situated at the top of the Playing Field

15/164 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

15/164.1 Draft Central Gowy South Neighbourhood Plan (which included Bruen Stapleford).

RESOLVED: not to comment on the Plan

15/164.2 Tarvin Neighbourhood Area Application.

The meeting noted the decision taken by Cheshire West and Chester Council. The area for the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan would be the area of the Parish less Bruen Stapleford (in Central Gowy South Plan) and Commons Farm, Oscroft (in Kelsall and Willington Plan)

15/165 PARISH PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

A copy of the report presented by Councillor Lush is attached to the minutes

RESOLVED: (15/165.1) that the Parish Plan be signed off as completed.

RESOLVED: (15/165.2) that the Clerk ask PCSO Ryan Reid to measure the speed of traffic along Tarporley Road.

15/166 LOCAL PLAN PART 2

RESOLVED: that as part of the preparation of the Part 2 of the Local Plan Council the Clerk ask for the eastern settlement boundary of Tarvin village be fixed. The line would follow the public footpath from Tarvin churchyard south to the white lane immediately to the north of Brownheath Farm.

15/167 CHESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS JOINT AREA MEETING

A report from Councillor Lush on the joint Chester and Vale Royal Area Meeting held on 2nd November 2015 is attached to the minutes.

15/168 RESPONSE TO CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON CULTURAL SERVICES

A copy of the report presented by Councillor Lush is attached to the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the report be approved and forwarded to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

15/169 LETS TALK CONSULTATION

A copy of the report presented by Councillor Lush is attached to the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the report be approved and forwarded to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

15/170 NEW HOMES BONUS

A copy of a letter and blank questionnaire from Cheshire West and Chester Council is attached to the minutes.

RESOLVED: that the following response to the questionnaire be sent:

Question 1 Tarvin

Question 2 Disagree

Question 3

a) the scheme has only been operating for a few years and worthwhile receipts are only now beginning to be paid;

b) the Parish Council has already formulated plans for spending its expected NHB;

c) Tarvin was designated a Key Service Centre in the Local Plan (without consultation with the Parish Council). 200 new homes will be built over the Plan period, 179 of which are already either complete or in progress, but there has been no CWaC investment in community infrastructure. The NHB allocated to the Parish Council allows it to redress, in very small part, this failure

(NB the Parish Council does not consider the sale of the Community Woodland to the Trust as investment – rather it was a disinvestment as it removed a possible future maintenance liability from CWaC)

Question 4

- from April 2016 consider the basic allowance paid to CWaC Councillors. The total cost of these allowances in 2014/15 was £1.146m.

- save (approx. £200,000) by further reducing the combined lower budget for joined-up street cleaning, grounds maintenance and highways maintenance i.e. to £18.8m rather than £19m However, all the additional savings should come from wards where the electoral turn-out at the May 2015 election was below the average. The logic for this is that if people cannot be bothered to vote they presumably cannot be bothered about service levels

- alternatively, increase the Council Tax.

Question 5

The Parish Council believes that CWaC, because of reduced resources, constant reorganisation and the loss of experienced staff, is incapable of meeting its own service standards. The Parish Council is therefore constantly frustrated about the time it takes for CWaC to resolve issues. If CWaC cannot meet its own service standards then the Parish Council sees little prospect of working together to improve communities. It would much prefer CWaC to be honest about its inability to maintain current service levels

Question 6

The Parish Council wonders why the total withdrawal of NHB money from parish and town councils is being proposed from day one of 2016/17, rather than being phased in over four years to make the transition easier to manage and avoid the “cliff edge”.

15/171 CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL – PROPOSED PLANNING FORUM – FEEDBACK

The meeting noted the e-mail from Cheshire West and Chester Council which had been received via Cheshire Association of Local Councils

RESOLVED: not to respond regarding comments on a proposed Planning Forum

15/172 NEWSLETTER

RESOLVED: that Councillors Hardacre and Twigg, along with the Clerk, meet in the new year to consider whether, and if how, the newsletter could be produced differently to make it more effective and at the same time consider communication via social media.

15/173 CALENDAR 2016

RESOLVED: that the 2016 Parish Council meetings be held on the following dates

January	25
February	22
March	21
April	25
May	23
June	27
July	25
August	22
September	26
October	24
November	28
December	19

15/174 STREETLIGHTS

The meeting noted that lighting columns outside Nicholaston Lodge on Cross Lanes and Cotton Lodge on Shay Lane, Oscroft had been reported as not working on 27th October and repaired on 2nd November 2015

15/175 VOLUNTEER WARDENS PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

RESOLVED: that Councillor Williams write an article for Tarvinonline asking for volunteers

15/176 LIST OF OUTSTANDING ITEMS

A copy of the report is enclosed

15/177 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The following had been forwarded to Councillors:

- a. Cheshire West and Chester Council – Road Closure Notice – Tarvin Christmas Festival
- b. Cheshire Community Action – Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 18 November 2015 – St Johns Church Centre, School Lane, Hartford
- c. Cheshire West and Chester Council - Local Plan - Supplementary Planning Document Consultation - Draft Houses in Multiple Occupation and Student Accommodation in the Chester Area SPD - Draft Travel Planning Guidance SPD
- d. Cheshire Association of Local Councils – Minutes of October 2015 AGM
- e. Tarvinonline – Superfast Broadband Update
- f. Tree Officer - Cheshire West and Chester Council – regarding the removal of two Mature Beech Trees at Beech Tree Barns, High Street, Tarvin
- g. Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable's newsletter, November 2015
- h. Tarvin Community Woodland Trust – Draft minutes of November 2015 meeting
Councillor Cotgreave expressed concern about a large gate installed on the path between Broomheath Lane and the Taylor Wimpey Estate and also that the new Play Area appeared to be finished but was still fenced off.

RESOLVED: (15/177.8) that the Clerk take these matters up with Taylor Wimpey

- i. Community Centre update. A copy of a report presented by Councillor Hardacre is attached to the minutes

- j. Broomheath Plantation – Smoke Complaint

- k. Cheshire West and Chester Council – School and Community Vehicle Bids

RESOLVED: (15/177.11) that the Clerk forward a copy of the document to Tarvin Primary School

15/178 FINANCIAL MATTERS**15/178.1 Cheque Payments**

RESOLVED: that the following payments be authorised

Payee	Detail	Amount to be Paid
VAT	Net Amount to Charge against budget	Budget available before payment
Fastrack Maintenance Ltd	Grass Cutting November 2015	275.32
45.89	229.43	769.02
Mr R Woollam	Prepare Ground and install new seat in Play Area	142.00
0.00	142.00	1271.06
Hags-SMP Ltd	Parts for Play Area	42.72
7.12	35.60	1256.00
Tarporley High School	Printing Newsletter	90.00
0.00	0.00	550.00
Cheshire Association of Local Councils	Planning Seminar Councillor Lush	25.00
0.00	25.00	245.00
Mr M Hassall	Reimbursement of Expenditure Report files for Neighbourhood Planning £4.78 Norton Antivirus Renewal £49.99	54.77
0.80	53.97	450.00
Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership Subscription 2016	149.00
0.00	149.00	228.32
Payroll Cheques	November 2015	870.28
0.00	870.28	5837.95

15/178.2 Direct Debit

The meeting noted that the following payment had been made by direct debit on 29th October 2015

British Telecom Plc – Telephone and Internet October 2015 – £57.24

15/178.3 Finance Working Party

The meeting noted that the Finance Working Party would be meeting in early January 2016 to consider a draft budget.

RESOLVED: that the working party seek a proposal that will keep the precept unchanged

15/179 TOPICS FOR TARVINONLINE

RESOLVED: that articles be written on the following:

Councillor vacancies, settlement boundaries, new homes bonus, Christmas Trees, volunteer wardens, Snow Angels, library

15/180 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: that the next meeting be held on Monday 21st December 2015 – 7.15pm - Edna Rose Room, Tarvin Community Centre

15/181 RESOLUTION – “That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw” (personal data)

15/182 PENSION AUTO ENROLMENT

The meeting noted that the Clerk had:

15/182.1 reminded Council that he attended a briefing seminar led by Jeff Houston, Head of Pensions for Town and Parish Councils, on 12th October 2015 and that the staging date for Council was 1st March 2016, as reported at the March 2015 Council meeting

15/182.2 assessed the workforce, and workers, as required under the act and that the outcome was that there was one individual within those categories who had been categorised as “Non Eligible Jobholder”. A further individual had been categorised as outside the eligible age range.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk set up an appropriate scheme with NEST.

The meeting noted that a scheme needed to be set up as all Non Eligible Jobholders had the right to opt in at any time and for that reason Council should set up a scheme.