

CHURCH MINSHULL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHURCH MINSHULL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2007

Present:

Cllrs P Harper, B Charlesworth, R Goodwin, O Kelly, W Macpherson and D Wallis.

1. Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Borough Cllr Goff.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of 15th August 2007 be approved as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.

(Cllr Macpherson joined the meeting at this point)

3. Matters Arising

United Utilities Traffic. The Clerk reported that he had contacted United Utilities regarding the use of larger vehicles through the village. Such vehicles were now in use, but as the total tonnage was unchanged this change should lead to a reduction in number of vehicle movements.

UU had also indicated that some traffic normally sent to Ellesmere Port had been diverted to Worleston in recent weeks, but this would be ending shortly.

HGV Survey. Monitoring of HGV traffic had taken place, and Cllr Harper reported the following findings.

Over 8.5 hours of monitoring at various times between noon and 6.45pm, on dates between 20 August and 5 September 54 HGVs had been recorded, an average of 6-7 per hour. Of these 17 had been vehicles of United Utilities or their contractors, an average of 2 per hour. This figure was in line with the level of traffic described by the UU representative when he attended the Parish Council.

Litterpicking. The Clerk had been in contact with the contractor, who planned to carry out litterpicking in September.

Council vacancy. Although some interest in being co-opted to the Council had been expressed, no formal request had been received.

Scaffolding at Church. The Clerk apologised for having failed to follow up the request to make enquiries regarding the continued presence of scaffolding at the Church Tower. He would ensure that the necessary letter was now sent.

Church Minshull sign. The Clerk reported that an order had now been placed for the replacement village sign requested at the previous meeting.

4. Future of Badger Inn

The Clerk tabled a letter recently received from the owners.
RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the owners thanking them for their very helpful letter, and asking for further information regarding the likely timescale for the submission of a planning application.

5. Community Speed Watch Scheme

The Chairman reported that further monitoring had taken place since the last meeting.

Over a total of 8.5 hours the outcome was:

- * 59 speeding vehicles were identified (representing about half of the total number of speeding vehicles);
- * 25-35% of speeding vehicles were “white vans”;
- * of the 59, 2 were exceeding 50mph – both on Cross Lane – with 29 exceeding 40mph, and 28 between 38 and 40mph.

A number of residents had expressed interest in joining the panel of volunteers to operate the Scheme, and it was hoped to arrange a further training session in due course.

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from a local resident relating to speeding through the village by a commercial vehicle. The resident had written a letter of complaint to the company concerned.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the resident commending his initiative, and thanking him for notifying the Parish Council.

6. Accounts for payment and Audit Trail

RESOLVED

That the following accounts be authorised for payment:

Church Minshull Village		
Hall Committee	hall hire	£ 32.20

Relevant bank statements were presented, checked and signed by the Chairman.

7. Correspondence

The Clerk presented details of correspondence received since the last meeting.

The Clerk submitted a letter from agents acting on behalf of Bloor Homes, expressing interest in submitting an application for housing on the Mill Field.

The Chairman reported on a planning application received in respect of Sunnybank, Church Minshull.

The Chairman submitted for members' consideration a planning application (07/1185) for a marina at the Outlanes, Church Minshull.

(Cllr Harper indicated a personal, but non-prejudicial, interest in planning application 07/1185 as he had assisted the applicant in some technical details of the application)

RESOLVED

- a) that the Clerk contact the agents acting for Bloor Homes to indicate that a similar application in the past had been vigorously opposed by local residents, with the support of the Parish Council, and that a similar response could be anticipated;
- b) that the Chairman's action, in raising no objection to the proposed development at Sunnybank, be endorsed;
- c) that, in respect of planning application 07/1185, the Parish Council indicates that it supports the proposal in principle, but asks the Borough Council to ensure that parking arrangements are adequate.

8. Any other business

Members raised a number of issues regarding local highway problems. The Clerk to pass these on as appropriate.

The Clerk reported on the explanation given by the Borough Council for being unable to install the requested dog excrement bins on Eachus Lane. It was agreed to request a site visit for Cllr Macpherson to discuss siting with the relevant officer.

9. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 14th November – if available. The Chairman and Clerk to arrange an alternative date if necessary.