



ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2015

Present: Cllr G Hall (Chairman), Cllrs C Browne, M Dudley-Jones, M Garbett, R Grantham, I Higham, C Munro, R Norbury and M Taylorson.
Clerk: A Ross
Hall Manager, PCSO
25 members of the public

Meeting

Commenced: 7.38pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

None

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a Member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary interest (DPI).

None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2015.

Approval proposed by Councillor M Taylorson, seconded by Councillor M Garbett and carried.

4. To Agree the new cheque signatories.

The new cheque signatories for the Parish Council were agreed as being Councillor G Hall, Councillor M Dudley-Jones and Councillor M Garbett; a vote was taken and carried.

5. Reports from Councillors.

Councillor R Norbury gave an update on the medical centre and Festival Hall refurbishment

- 1) Festival Hall refurbishment – Councillor R Norbury has spoken to Paul Goodwin at Cheshire East Council to confirm that the new Parish Council is committed, in principle, to the refurbishment project as the existing plans stand. Also Councillor R Norbury confirmed that all the funding streams for the project are acceptable to the new Council. The Festival Hall was transferred to the Parish Council in 2009 and came with a surveyors report requiring £400,000 worth of repairs; the previous Parish Council had negotiated a £300,000 capital projects sum and a £15,000 per year over 10 years dowry towards to upkeep of the Festival Hall. Councillor R Norbury also reported to the Council that she had been fully briefed by the clerk, Hall manager and the Parish Council employer's agent from Arcus. The one outstanding item which had not yet been confirmed was the re-capitalisation of the remaining £45,000 dowry, for the remaining three years to be put towards the project sum.
- 2) Medical Centre – Councillor R Norbury reported that she and fellow Councillors had been doing a great deal of research around the medical centre project, she had spoken to the Parish Councils solicitors on the matter, however the contract documents or the lease with the doctors couldn't be signed. Councillor R Norbury went to Jones Contracts to familiarise herself with the building contract and the lease, both of which are ready to sign. However there is currently no full evidence of funding from the PWLB, as the £2,000,000 loan is not yet in place. Therefore the Parish council is not in a position to sign the contract documents or the lease agreement until the funding streams are in place. The current Councillors are working with previous parish councillors to achieve this.

Councillor C Browne reported that he had been approached by the owner of a well known business in Alderley Edge to adopt one of the flower beds in the park. Councillor C Browne went on to say that he

had had a preliminary conversation with Caroline Simpson from Cheshire East Council, who indicated that the business required a licence to carry out any works to adopt the flower bed. Councillor C Browne suggested three options – The business in question was to organise a licence from CEC, CEC devolves powers of maintenance to the Parish Council or the business should just get on with the adoption and see what happens.

Councillor C Browne also reported that he had been approached by a resident of Hazelcroft Gardens regarding the speed of vehicles travelling along Congleton Road; he suggested contacting Mr Hall, who was a volunteer for the local speed watch group. Mr Hall had previously spoken at the Parish meeting indicating his desire for more volunteers for the speed watch group. The PCSO who was in attendance at the meeting was invited to explain the role of the speed watch group. Councillor C Brown also reported that the residents of Woodbrook Road were unhappy about a development taking place at the junction with Trafford Road as it was causing traffic congestion along this stretch of road.

The clerk asked the council to clarify their position on the Festival Hall refurbishment for the record; the council responded that they were agreed in principle to ask CEC for the release of the dowry funds and that it was a unanimous decision to proceed with the original scope of works.

Meeting Closed: 7.51pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For

Councillor G Hall
CHAIRMAN