

ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 10th September 2012

Present: Cllr MH Williamson (Chairman), Cllrs JD Bergin, F Keegan, DG Herald, S Joseph, MJ Connor, MW Maczkowiak and N Schofield.

In attendance: 2 representatives from the press
16 members of the public

Meeting

Commenced: 8:03pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr MD Lloyd

2. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.

None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th June 2012.

Approval was proposed by Councillor MW Maczkowiak, seconded by Councillor MJ Connor and carried

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 9th July 2012

Approval was proposed by Councillor DG Herald, seconded by Councillor F Keegan and carried

5. Matters Arising.

None

6. Allotments – A report on progress so far.

The Parish Council have contacted Cheshire East to ask for copies of leases and agreements between Cheshire East and the Allotment Society. These will be circulated to all councillors as soon as they are received.

Cllr Keegan suggested that the Parish Council arrange a meeting with the Allotment Society and Cllr Williamson agreed to facilitate this.

There are outstanding issues on which the Parish Council are still awaiting answers from Cheshire East.

7. New Medical Centre – A report on progress so far.

Cllr Williamson read from a statement he had prepared (see attached), which confirms that planning approval has been granted for the construction of the new Medical Centre and it is hoped that work will start by the end of this year to create a new entrance to the Festival Hall. The Parish Council are delighted by the proposed eventual outcome and Cllr Connor reported that she has received a lot of positive feedback from the villagers.

8. The Civic Fund – Account management issues.

The fund incurred bank charges when a payment was made because Barclays said that there was no automatic sweep set up between the Current and Saver account. This is being disputed and Cllr Williamson will follow up and report back on the outcome.

9. Discussion on employing an apprentice.

The Hall Management Committee feel there is a need for more hours and hiring an apprentice would be a good way of addressing that. A discussion followed and some councillors disputed that there was a real need for more hours and were wary of the extra financial burden. It was agreed that the Hall Management Committee would meet with the Hall Manager and draft a business plan which could then be brought back to the next Parish Council meeting.

10. CEC Hedge Cutting

When CEC cut the hedge on Chorley Hall Lane they were seen blowing all the hedge cuttings down the drains instead of collecting them, there is also an issue with weeds not being sprayed. Cllr Williamson agreed to report this and a list of other issues to Cheshire East. Cllr Herald reported that the contractor who tidied up the embankment also tidied up the railings on Heyes Lane.

11. Rubbish in the park, the state of the flower beds and Heather Wienholts suggestion for them.

Cllr Connor reported on the problem of rubbish in the park. After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Maczkowiak will liaise with the PCSO and ask him to monitor the situation and increase his presence in the park.

The Parish Council agreed that the flower beds in the park are in a disgraceful state as Cheshire East is not looking after them properly. Cllr Keegan wants to look at the 'deficit of spending' in the village with the view that the Parish Council demands the money they are entitled to and manages it themselves. Cllr Keegan will follow this up and report back to the next Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Connor agreed to follow up sponsorship of the flowerbeds with H. Wienholt.

12. Reports from Councillors

Cllr Keegan reported that he is meeting with Mary Slinn who is in charge of cemeteries to discuss the problems with the cemetery in Alderley Edge. He will liaise with the other councillors who have been working on this to date.

Cllr Bergin reported on the bad smell in the village, it is thought it may have been Matthews Nursery. He also reported on parking problems on Davey Lane caused by visitors to the Farmer's Market. Cllr Williamson asked him to report it to the police and highlight it to the PCSO.

Cllr Maczkowiak reported on a problem with Cheshire East. She was asked by an elderly resident for assistance with regard to their assisted bin collection but when she contacted Cheshire East they refused to discuss the matter with her due to 'Data Protection Rules'. Cllr Keegan was asked to follow this up and get clarification of the rules.

Cllr Connor reported on problems with the Festival Hall. There was a major leak in the bar area due to backed up grids and poor drainage. The grids have since been cleaned and the carpet replaced.

Cllr Herald asked the other councillors to take a look at the tidied up embankment, he has had positive feedback from the village.

Cllr Schofield asked about parking outside the De Trafford Arms. As no order has yet been made for double yellow lines Cllr Williamson asked Cllr Keegan to instigate proceedings by making a complaint as ward Councillor. Cllr Keegan agreed to do this.

Cllr Williamson reported that none of the proposals agreed in the report published in May have been implemented. The Parish Council will continue to request that the work is done.

Meeting Closed: 8.55pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For
Cllr Williamson	Arrange meeting with allotment society	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Follow up Civic Fund issues	As soon as practicle
HMC	Draft business plan for hiring an apprentice	As soon as practicle
Cllr Williamson	Report issues of hedge cutting, weeds,etc to CEC	As soon as practicle
Cllr Keegan	Follow up on 'deficit of spending' and report back	As soon as practicle
Cllr Connor	Follow up sponsorship of flower beds	As soon as practicle
Cllr Keegan	Raise complaint on parking outside the De Trafford Arms	As soon as practicle

Councillor MH Williamson
CHAIRMAN