



ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 9th September 2013

Present: Cllr MD Lloyd (Chairman), Cllrs MJ Connor, DG Herald and S Joseph

In attendance: 2 representatives from the press
4 members of the public
Hall Manager
Clerk: A Ross

Meeting

Commenced: 7:45pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr MW Maczkowiak, N Schofield, MH Williamson and F Keegan.

2. To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.

None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2013.

Approval was proposed by Councillor DG Herald, seconded by Councillor MJ Connor and carried.

4. Matters Arising.

None.

5. To discuss the 'Draft Statement of Licensing policy v5 July 2013' circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Cllr Connor gave a brief statement about the new policy. She stated that it is similar to the previous one and is concerned there is no avenue for anyone to complain about a licence application.

6. To discuss the Medical Centre and the need for a business plan.

Cllr Lloyd believes the Parish Council needs professional help to write the business plan. After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Lloyd would arrange a meeting with all councillors as soon as possible to discuss further. He will also arrange a meeting with NHSEngland and the Medical Practice.

7. Update from Cllr Maczkowiak regarding damages to Nurse Hatton's bench.

Cllr Connor reported that two people came forward and admitted the offence. They have since carried out a number of community jobs as punishment and the matter is now considered to be dealt with.

8. Update from Cllr Maczkowiak regarding meeting with the Handforth clerk and proposal that the Parish Council pay for him to mentor the current clerk through the CiLCA qualification (approximately 9 hours). Costs will be discussed in Part II of the meeting.

RESOLVED that:

In accordance with the requirement of the Data Protection Act, the public be excluded from the meeting for part two of the meeting on the grounds that the discussion will include personal details.

9. Proposal that the Parish Council replace the bench on Chorley Hall Lane at an approximate cost of £300.

RESOLVED that:

Approval was proposed by Councillor DG Herald, seconded by Councillor MJ Connor and carried. Cllr Connor will liaise with the Hall Manager on the replacement.

Cllr Connor also requested that the Parish Council carry out an audit of all the benches in the village to ascertain which ones need to be replaced and whether any additional benches are required. When the audit has been done the Parish Council can then apply to the Institute Trust for help with funding.

10. To discuss an email from the Town Centre Manager regarding an invitation to attend a meeting of the Rotary Club of Alderley Edge & Bollin Valley.

After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should not be paying for the Town Centre Manager to attend a charity fundraiser. Cllr Lloyd will respond.

11. To discuss an email from the Town Centre Manager regarding an invitation to a meeting of the AGM for the Alderley Edge May Fair.

After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council should not be paying for the Town Centre Manager to attend. Cllr Lloyd will respond.

12. Proposal to amend the current Standing Orders and a new clause added which reads:

‘Meetings: Any meetings attended by the Parish Council/Councillor/s, where the Councillor/s represent the Parish Council officially, must be notified to all councillors at least two clear working days in advance, to include place, time and where applicable, agenda. No councillor may claim to represent the Parish Council at any meeting unless the Parish Council has so mandated’.

Cllr Herald agreed to withdraw this motion and Cllr Lloyd agreed to email all councillors regarding this issue.

13. Proposal to amend the current Standing Orders and a new clause added which reads:

‘Decisions/votes taken at any meeting, other than a meeting of the Parish Council, will not be binding upon the council, unless the council has so mandated in advance’.

Cllr Herald agreed to withdraw this motion. Cllr Lloyd believes this is already covered in the current Finance Regulations/ Standing Orders and will respond to Cllr Herald regarding this. The possibility of monthly Finance meetings was raised and it was decided that this needs further discussion.

14. To discuss the appointment of an apprentice and agree that the Parish Council believes all procedures taken before the previous vote to employ an apprentice were correct and that no procedures extant at that time were omitted. The Parish Council therefore endorses that vote and instructs the Festival Hall Working Party to proceed with hiring an apprentice. The FHWP, (which includes the Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council), together with the Chairman of the Parish Council are to have complete control over the working conditions, salary, advertising, selection and appointment of the apprentice and any of the costs incurred in these.

After discussion it was agreed that the word ‘complete’ be removed and a vote was taken.

RESOLVED that:

The motion was carried with one vote against from Cllr Lloyd.

15. Reports from Councillors.

Cllr Herald reported that the new benches in the park have been well received. He also discussed an idea to arrange informal meetings with Chairmen and Vice Chairmen from other neighbouring Parish Councils. The idea is that they may have more authority as a group when dealing with Cheshire East. He will try and arrange a meeting with 5 or 6 other Parish Councils.

Cllr Joseph gave a summary of the LAP meeting she attended about the SK9 project to identify young people's projects. Both she and Cllr Lloyd are hoping to attend the next LAP meeting on 11th September.

Cllr Connor requested an email is sent to Cheshire East asking why they pay for the upkeep of the Sandbach memorial but not anywhere else. Cllr Lloyd agreed to do this.

Cllr Lloyd reported on a meeting he had with Castle Rock to discuss noise issues from the last concert. It was agreed that they would engage with the Parish Council to discuss ways of mitigating the noise at any future events.

Cllr Lloyd will look at possible dates for the planned Parish Council surgeries and will email all councillors. It has been established that the best place to hold the surgeries is the Festival Hall.

Cllr Lloyd raised the request from Ms Munro to hold the Farmer's Market on London Road. The Parish Council agreed that if there has been approval from both the Cheshire East Highways and Legal department then Ms Munro does not need the Parish Councils permission. It was highlighted that this could mean any market can be given permission to be held on London Road.

Meeting Closed: 8.56pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For
Cllr Lloyd	Arrange meetings with all relevant parties to discuss the Medical Centre.	As soon as possible
Cllr Connor	To liaise with the Hall Manager on the replacement bench for CHL.	As soon as practical
Cllr Lloyd	Write to the Town Centre Manager in response to her emails	As soon as possible
Cllr Herald	To arrange meetings with other Parish Councils	As soon as practical
Cllr Lloyd	Write to CE about the war memorial	As soon as practical

Councillor MD Lloyd
CHAIRMAN