

**MINUTES OF TARPORLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE CRAVEN ROOM, TARPORLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2017**

Parish Councillors

Chairman - Ken Parker

Elaine Chapman Gill Clough Julie Hall Bill Mather John Millington

Jeremy Mills Gordon Pearson Richard Statham Peter Tavernor Nigel Taylor

Andrew Wallace

Clerk - Ann Wright.

Projects Coordinator – Abigail Webb

CW&C Ward Councillor Eveleigh Moore Dutton

Public – 10

Apologies

None.

Declaration of Interests

Cllr Clough declared an interest in Item 12 Grants as a Trustee to the Opal Club and Tarporley War Memorial Hospital and as such stated she would not speak or vote on the item.

Cllr. Mather stated that he is a member of U3A and would therefore abstain on Item 12.

Cllr. Parker recorded in relation to Item 12 that his wife is leader of the 2nd Tarporley Guides.

Cllr. Pearson recorded in relation to Item 12 his daughter is a member of the 2nd Tarporley Guides.

Cllr. Mills recorded in relation to Items 8 & 12 that he had grandchildren at Tarporley Primary School.

Public Participation

The Council was asked if it would be entering the Community Pride/Best Kept Village Competition. It was confirmed the competition was not being run this year.

A resident noted that the Brook Farm School should not have been knocked down as now there was a need for more school places.

Faults Reported

The state of Coronation Terrace Hedge was highlighted as dangerous due to lack of visibility.

Concerns were raised about the condition of the public footpath from the High Street to Oathills Lea including overgrown hedges and street lights out. It was stated that the path is the worse it has been for 40 years. It was noted the path is the responsibility of CW&C and that the street lights have been reported on several occasions.

Concerns were raised regarding the access from Ash Close onto Park Road, which has been raised with the Clerk previously. It was stated that the access is often blocked by parked cars making it dangerous for pedestrians due to a lack of visibility and is an accident waiting to happen. It was agreed that CW&C enforcement should be asked to monitor this access. The Council was asked to consider some form of physical alterations to the access to improve the situation. It was agreed this would be raised with CW&C highways.

NatWest Closure

Concerns were raised about the closure of the NatWest Bank in Tarporley in June 2017 as this is particularly detrimental to residents who do not use computers and are unable to use chip and pin facilities. It was reported a number of older residents are not able to use chip and pin cards and currently cash a cheque to obtain money each week and that this cannot be done at the Post Office.

Primary School Expansion

A resident stated she had attended the public consultation on the school expansion and had asked how the school would overcome the fact the school does not meet the current standard of space per pupil. She had been told the school will need to think creatively, she also raised concerns regarding the lack of outdoor space for the children as the result of the growth in pupil numbers.

Tarporley Community Centre Update

It was reported that no objections had been made to the introduction of time limited parking on the car park and that it might be introduced as early as the end of January 2017 depending on CW&C.

The Community Centre is now working with Cheshire Community Action to understand the implications of changes contained in the 2011 Charities Act. They would also like to meet with the OS&R group to discuss the implications of these changes on the playing field.

The Community Centre committee wanted to highlight their disappointment that they may not receive a grant in their current financial year (November-October) towards field and tree maintenance. It was noted that the Parish Council's financial year is different (April- March) and the community centre has received a grant already in the Council's current financial year.

Allotments Update

It was reported that CW&C had confirmed they would proceed with a compulsory purchase of the allotments and bowling green if there was evidence that the cost to undertake the process, to compensate the landowner, and cover any costs awarded against CW&C would be covered, the amount required is yet to be confirmed.

CW&C planners had been asked to explain the basis for their recommendation to approve the current proposal, a satisfactory answer had not been received to date.

It was reported that Antoinette Sandbach MP had been copied into much of the correspondence about the RBL site and had highlighted a bill going through Parliament which would strengthen neighbourhood plans and had indicated that she would ask for the application to be called in when submitted for consideration by the minister.

Minutes

17/176 Resolved - That the Chairman signs the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 12th December 2016 as a true and proper record.

Minutes of Working Groups and Other Meetings

No meetings had taken place.

Planning

i) Planning Register and Applications

Councillors noted the planning register, page 25, as circulated, noting No Objection had been submitted for applications 16/05449/FUL, 11 Brook Road and 16/05450/FUL, Cherry Orchard.

17/177 Resolved - That the Council submit the following observations:

16/05537/LBC & 16/05536/FUL, Internal alternations, The Rising Sun, 38 High Street, Tarporley CW6 0DX, No objection subject to the Conservation Officers comments.

16/05584/CAT, Various tree works, 16 Lime Close, Tarporley, CW6 0TW, No objection subject to the Tree Officers comments.

17/178 Resolved - That the Council approve the Beeston, Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall neighbourhood plan area which includes parts of Tarporley Parish.

ii) Update on RBL Site & Agree Future Actions

There was no further update or information since the December meeting.

iii) To consider 'gifting' of part of the allotments, bowling green and car park to the Parish Council
The Council considered without prejudice the proposal to gift the above land for a nominal price to the Parish Council as part of any future planning application relating to the former Royal British Legion site.

The Council agreed in principle to accept the allotments, bowling green and car park in the event of planning approval on the site and that some provision should be made for future maintenance of these areas. It was agreed to write to the owner of the site stating the above and seek clarification about whether compensation will be given in return for the loss of 38% allotments land which is a protected Local Green Space in Tarporley's Neighbourhood Plan.

Community Infrastructure & Development

i) Update on car park extension behind the Rising Sun

It was noted that additional land would be required to obtain vehicular access to the land proposed for the possible extension to the Rising Sun car park. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Jones Homes to see if access could be provided through their site or other neighbouring land.

ii) Draft call for sites letter

The Council considered the draft letter as circulated. It was agreed a meeting was required with CW&C officers to seek further advice on the call for sites process.

Tarporley Primary School Extension

17/179 Resolved - That the Council submit the following comment: that the Council supports the increase in pupil numbers but asks what actions will be put in place to accommodate the increased pupil numbers and density to meet statutory guidance on pupil numbers for both indoor and outdoor space.

CW&C Parking Strategy

It was noted that the strategy includes proposals to introduce time limited parking and parking charges in some car parks in the Borough including in Tarporley. It was agreed a working group would draft a response to the consultation. It was agreed to produce fliers to circulate to Tarporley businesses and residents and encourage people to attend the drop-in session in Tarporley on Tuesday 24th January and to respond to the consultation.

Community Land Trust

John Heselwood, Cheshire Community Action to attend a meeting on Thursday 2nd February to discuss Community Land Trusts. It was agreed that neighbouring parishes are invited to the meeting.

Natwest Closure

It was noted that the Tarporley NatWest branch is scheduled to close on the 6th June 2017 and that this will disproportionately affect on older residents who are not able to use online facilities or chip and pin cards. It was agreed the Council should write to the CEO of the NatWest and request a meeting as a matter of urgency to discuss the proposed closure and its impact. It was agreed that the MP should also receive a copy of the letter.

It was agreed to have a table at the next Farmers Market on Saturday 4th Feb with a petition against the closure for the public to sign.

It was agreed the Council should request a meeting with the MP to discuss this and other issues.

Grants

17/180 Resolved - That the Council agree the following grants for the 2016-2017 financial year: -

Bowling Club	£250
Chapel Youth Club	£250
Decibellas	£250
Done Room Pre-School	£250
Tarporley Opal Club	£250
Tarporley War Memorial Hosp	£2000
Tarporley & District U3A	£250

Tarporley PTA	£250
2 nd Tarporley Guides	£250
Mid Cheshire NCT (Tarp Group)	£150
Tarporley Twinning Association	£250
Total	£4400

2017-2018 Grants

The Council agreed that grants for the 2017-2018 financial year would be considered in two phases, grants for Tarporley Community Centre, Tarporley War Memorial Hospital and the 2 churches' grave yards will be considered in April. All other grants will be considered in October and will be limited to £250, with £500 awarded in exceptional circumstances. It was agreed the budget for grants on 2017-2018 will be £8,500.

Accounts

17/181 Resolved - That the Council approve the accounts and payments as listed on page 30 of the Cash Book noting that the Groundworks invoice is still outstanding.

17/182 Resolved - That the Council approve the following payments: -

Handy Man service for November £115.00

HMRC paye/NI £369.84

Frodsham Town Council, Assets Training £50.00

Groundworks CLM £8435.80 (part payment reflecting outstanding work to be completed).

It was agreed that the lengths man be given additional hours to carryout works on the public footpath to Oathills Lea if required.

Christmas Lights Review

It was agreed that the Christmas working group would meet to review the event. The Clerk reported that she and the projects coordinator were scheduled to meet with CW&C Christmas lights officer to discuss obtaining a power supply for the chestnut tree.

17/183 Resolved - That the Council instruct CW&C to cease the Christmas Lights special expense and to raise the funds directly from the precept.

Earmarking and Precept

i) To approve the Budget/Earmarking for the 2017-2018 Financial Year

17/184 Resolved - That the Council agree the following budget: -

Fixed or Running Costs

Admin		
Salaries	Clerk & Project Coordinator	£17,000.00
	Admin Expenses & Printing	£ 4,000.00
Insurance		£ 1,300.00
Audit	Internal & External	£500.00
Room Hire	Meeting Rooms	£ 1,600.00
	Hearse House Rental	£1,050.00
Newsletter	Tarporley Talk	£ 1,440.00
Inspections	Play area Inspections (prof)	£200.00
ICO	Data Protection Registration	£35.00
Subscription		£1,230.00
Election		£2,000.00
Bus Hire	Shuttle Bus	£2,600.00

Maintenance		
	Cemetery	£2,700.00
	Lengths man & Handy Man	£6,000.00
	Garden Areas	£6,000.00
	Brook Road inc. Hedge Cutting	£9,000.00
Events		
Carnival	Stall, Guide & Road Closure	£340.00
Christmas	Power, Sound, Trees	£1,000.00
	Chestnut Tree Lights	£2,400.00
Grants	TCC, Graveyards & Misc.	£8,200.00
	TOTAL	£68,895.00

Discretionary Spending

	Suggested 2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Total
Cemetery	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000	£9,000
Parking Improvements	£15,000.00	£15,000	£10,000	£40,000
OS&R Brook Road	£10,000	£15,000	£15,000	£40,000
Other Projects	£6,000	£5,000		£11,000
	£34,000	£38,000	£28,000	£100,000

ii) To set precept for the 2017-2018 Financial Year

17/184 Resolved - That the Council set a precept of £71,997.00 for the 2017-2018 financial year, a 12% increase on the current year. The increase equates to a 2% increase plus an addition 10% increase, £6,408.00, to replace the special expense charged by CW&C for Christmas lights. This money will be used to pay towards the costs of installing the Tarporley Christmas lights which will be paid directly by Tarporley Parish Council, instead of by CWaC.

Scare Crow Trail

It was agreed that the Council would not proceed with a scare crow trail. It was agreed that the Council would not have a stall at the carnival unless an important issue for consultation emerges.

Meeting closed 9.25pm.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Monday 13th February 2017, 7pm, Tarporley Community Centre Craven Room.

Signed

Dated

Tarporley Parish Council

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