

**MINUTES OF TARPORLEY PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL OF FIRST MEETING  
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021**

**Present**

Chairman – Cllr Gordon Pearson

Cllr Gill Clough

Cllr Andy Hallows

Cllr Catherine Helm

Cllr Lisa Miller

Cllr John Millington

Cllr Mark Ravenscroft

Cllr Peter Tavernor

Cllr Nigel Taylor

Clerk Ann Wright

Deputy Clerk Abbie Webb

**Other**

CW&C Cllr Eveleigh Moore Dutton

Public 0

**1. Chairman**

**Resolved 21/001** – That Cllr Gordon Pearson be elected Chairman for 2021-22, Cllr Pearson agreed to sign the acceptance of office.

**2. Vice Chairman**

**Resolved 21/002** – That Cllr Gill Clough be elected Vice Chairman for 2021-22, Cllr Clough agreed to sign the acceptance of office.

**3. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Toni Burke - work commitment.

**4. Declaration of Interests**

Dispensations granted to Cllrs Millington, Pearson and Tavernor regarding the development of Brook Road Playing Fields were noted.

**5. Public Participation**

No matters raised.

**6. Minutes**

**Resolved 21/003** – That the Council approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> April as a true and proper record.

**7. Minutes of Working Groups and Other Meetings**

The Council noted the notes of working groups and other meetings, from page 7 of the minutes book.

**8. Actions List**

The Council noted the action list as circulated.

**9. Council Dates & Rota 2021-2022**

**Resolved 21/004** – That the Council agreed the rota and meeting dates as circulated, noting the future meeting arrangements will be discussed later in the agenda. It was agreed that the inspections of the play area and Brook Road Playing Fields need to be coordinated and training on play equipment inspections organised.

**10. Annual Report**

It was agreed to produce an Annual Report for 2020-2021 based on the format of the 'Stay...Tarporeley' fliers which will include a Chairman's report, summary of finances and planning applications received, future meeting dates, Brook Road update, list of councillors. The report will also include a consultation on the redevelopment of the play area at the rear of

the Community Centre.

It was agreed to approve the final draft by email and to distribute the Report to all homes in the Council area in late July.

#### 11. Committees & Working Groups inc. Outside Bodies

**Resolved 21/005** – That the Council approve the following working groups and committees:

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Membership</b>
<b>Branding Working Group inc. Village Website &amp; S106 Arts</b>	Catherine Helm, Gordon Pearson, Mark Ravenscroft, Nigel Taylor.
<b>Brook Road Working Group</b>	Andy Hallows, John Millington, Gordon Pearson, Mark Ravenscroft, Andrew Wallace.
<b>Christmas Festival Working Group</b>	All Councillors & 2 Business Representatives
<b>Neighbourhood Plan (Review) Working Group</b>	Toni Burke, Catherine Helm, Nigel Taylor, Gordon Pearson, Peter Tavernor, Michael George.
<b>Play Area Working Group</b>	Andy Hallows, Lisa Miller, Gordon Pearson.
<b>Play Area Development Group</b>	Tarporley Parish Council – Lisa Miller, Andy Hallows, Gordon Pearson, Mark Ravenscroft. Tarporley Community Centre - Linda Martin, Tony Yeates. Members of the Public – Mike Atkin, Neil Roberts. Administration – Clerk & Deputy Clerk.
<b>Poppy Lane Working Group (Former RBL)</b>	Gill Clough, Gordon Pearson, Peter Tavernor.
<b>Public Rights of Way Working Group</b>	Catherine Helm, Mark Ravenscroft, Peter Tavernor, Andrew Wallace, David Press.
<b>Staffing Working Group</b>	Toni Burke, Gill Clough, Andy Hallows, Peter Tavernor.
<b>Strategy Working Group</b>	Toni Burke, John Millington, Gordon Pearson, Peter Tavernor, Nigel Taylor.
<b>Traffic &amp; Parking Working Group</b>	Gill Clough, Andy Hallows, Gordon Pearson, Mark Ravenscroft, Nigel Taylor.
<b>Website &amp; LCAS Working Group</b>	Gordon Pearson & Nigel Taylor.

It was noted that the Brook Road Working Group will need to be reviewed once the works are completed and it was agreed to review the terms of Referenced for the Branding Working Group.

#### 12. Standing Orders & Policies

**Resolved 21/006** – That the Council approve the standing orders and policies including the revised Grant Policy and Planning Standing Orders with some minor amendments.

It was agreed to review Council working methods to incorporate the use of virtual meetings where it is lawful to do so and consider some form of policy to recognise this.

It was agreed to review the Health and Safety Policy to incorporate Covid-19 guidance.

It was noted that Risk Assessments and the Brook Road Playing Field Policies, Maintenance and Management and Community Use need to be included in the policies list and posted on the Council website. Cllr Tavernor agreed to work with the Clerks to develop a management system for the policies.

### **13. Planning**

#### **1) Planning Register**

The planning register was approved as circulated noting the following comments had been submitted since the agenda had been circulated, application 21/01057/FUL – No Objection.

**Resolved 21/007** – That the following comments are submitted:

**21/01211/FUL** – First floor rear extension – 27 Birch Heath Road, Tarporley, CW6 9UR.

No objection.

**21/01248/FUL** – Erection of storage building, extension to existing stable roof canopy, construction of lunge area & associated external works – Rode Street Stables, Rode Street, Tarporley, CW6 0EF.

No objection

**21/01585/CAT** – Tree works – Bowling Club, Rear 44 Torr Rise, Tarporley.

No objection.

#### **2) Applications received since publication of agenda**

**21/01424/S73** – Conversion of agricultural building to dwelling & provision of garage/store/workshop – variation of condition 2 (plans) of permission 16/03340/FUL – Ash Hill Farm, Rode Street, Tarporley, CW6 0EF.

**Resolved 21/008** – That the submit a comment of ‘No Objection’.

### **14. Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2020-2021**

#### **1) To note the Audit information including Explanation of Variances**

**Resolved 21/009** – That Council agreed the audit information including the explanation of variances and reconciliation as recorded in the cash book pages 105 to 111.

#### **2) To note the report of the internal auditor**

**Resolved 21/010** – That Council accept the internal auditors report.

#### **3) To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2019-2020**

**Resolved 21/011** – That Council agreed to statements 1 to 8 of the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1), noting statement 9 is not applicable, as on page 112 of the Cashbook.

#### **4) To approve the Accounting Statements 2019-2020**

**Resolved 21/012** – That Council agreed to Accounting Statements (Section 2) as on page 113 of the Cashbook.

### **15. Brook Road Playing Fields**

#### **1) Update**

It was noted the playing field has now been open for 1 month and 2 days and to date there have been no issues. A site meeting had taken place today with John Seiler (CW&C) to inspect the pitch and verti-draining works are planned, it is hoped the pitch will be up to standard for the start of the football season.

Work will be scheduled to improve the surface of the paths at the entrance.

The delivery of the gym equipment has been delayed with the first batch of equipment due this week, some damage has been done to the car park by the delivery of a container, this will need to be repaired by the contractor. It was noted that it would be helpful if someone is on site when deliveries are taking place to prevent further damage.

The play equipment is expected in June or July.

## 2) Brook Road Defibrillator.

The Council agreed the defibrillator cabinet should be unlocked.

**Resolved 21/013** – That Council agreed to proceed with the service agreement, £165 per year.

## **16. Community Event**

It was confirmed the Community Event will take place the weekend of the 10 -12<sup>th</sup> September with different organisations organising a range of events in different locates in the village, brief page 16 of minutes. The Parish Council will be responsible for activities on the Brook Road Playing Fields on the Sunday starting with a mini football tournament in the morning and sporting activities and picnics in the afternoon. It may also be possible to have activities as part of the S106 Arts Project.

Other events will include a concert or acts on a stage on the field behind the Community Centre and performances in the schools and other locations.

**Resolved 21/014**– that Council budget up to £1000 for the Council event/activities and planting around the village.

## **17. Large Grant Awards**

**Resolved 21/015**– that the Council award the following Grants:

Baptist & Methodist Church	Maintain churchyard	£750
St Helens PCC	Maintain churchyard	£1,000
Tarporley Community Centre	Grounds maintenance	£2,000
War Memorial Hospital	Promotional Video	£2000
	Total	£5750

It was agreed when providing the funding to request that waste from St. Helen's graveyard is not disposed off in the woodland area or cemetery.

## **18. S106 Arts Project**

**Resolved 21/016** – That the Council suspend the financial standing orders to allow the Council to consider appointing a curator having received only one quote, based on the expertise of the proposed curator who was introduced by CW&C officers.

**Resolved 21/017** – That the Council appoint Cathy Newbury to act as curator to help appoint a lead artist for the S106 Arts Project at a cost of up to £2700 with the cost being claimed against the S106 funding.

## **19. Village Website**

**Resolved 21/018** – That the Council appoint Then Media to develop the Village website as recommended by the working group.

Cllrs Pearson, Ravenscroft and Taylor will meet with Then Media to go through the detail of the website specification, once created and approved the Council will be responsible for adding the content.

It was agreed information about the website should be included in the Annual Report as it is for the community and businesses to take advantage of.

It was agreed to contact the new business network in addition to other businesses and community groups to make them aware of the project.

## 20. Rural Living Guide

Councillors noted the notes of meetings held with Alan Batty from CW&C, and representatives of neighbouring Parish Councils. It was noted that as of the beginning of April people with a connection with the rural areas no longer had priority when apply for social housing in those areas unless there was a condition specifying this in the planning conditions for the property. As a result of this the group have been working on creating a template for a Rural Living Guide to be completed by Parish Councils identifying what services and resources are available in their area so that people can make informed decision when applying for properties. The Guide will take the form of a simple tick box list with additional narrative and will be linked to properties on the West Cheshire Homes website.

## 21. Accounts & Payments

### 1) Accounts & Payments

**Resolved 21/019** – That the Council approve the accounts and payments as listed on page 001 of the cash book including the below payments and additional invoices received since publication of the agenda:

C. Helm	Reim. Sunflowers	10.40
The Accounts Centre	Payroll - April	24.00
Gaskells	Brook Road & Cemetery Bin	149.16
Grants Gardening Services	Grounds Maintenance	1440.00
Jack Millington	Gritting x1	35.00
A. Wright	Salary	753.94
A. Webb	Salary	800.55
HMRC	Paye/NI	229.92
Nest	Pension Contribution	150.27
Cheshire Woodlands	Tree survey – Chestnut Tree & Brook Road	453.60
St Helen's PCC	Hearse House Rental – 2 month extension	170.00
UHY Hacker Young	Interna; Audit 2020-2021	216.00
Talkabout Publishing	Tarporley Talk	144.00
A. Wright	Reimbursement: Land registry search x5	27.00

It was noted that the Council is entering the third year of the Ellis Whittam agreement, it was agreed the Clerk should clarify what notice period is required to cancel the agreement if required.

*Cllr Miller declared a pecuniary interest in the next item and left the meeting taking no part in the discussion.*

**Resolved 21/020**– That the Council approve additional works to the former WC building – remove walls and wash station. Reinstate finish to ceiling and walls and isolate power and water to wash station. Removal of all waste from site including skip hire £1400.

*Cllr Miller re-joined the meeting.*

### 3) Online Payments

**Resolved 21/021** – That the Council approve payments by bank transfer and delegated authority to the Clerk to make payments between meetings following approval of invoices by a minimum of two cheque signatories.

**22. Future Meetings**

It was reported that the High Court has ruled that Parish Councils cannot lawfully meet virtually without changes to existing legislation. The Government is currently calling for evidence regarding virtual meetings with a deadline of the 17<sup>th</sup> June.

**RESOLVED 21/022** – that the Council respond to this call for evidence in support of future meeting being held virtually.

Councillors voiced their disappointment that legislation has not been put in place to allow the continuation of virtual meetings. The Council agreed to cancel its June Parish Council meeting but to meet informally virtually to discuss any matters arising, it was expected the Council would resume face to face meetings in July if covid restrictions have been lifted in accordance with government plans.

**Meeting closed: 9.05pm.**

Signed:

Dated:

Ann Wright 06-05-2021

**Next Scheduled Parish Council Meeting:**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July - 7pm

Tarporley Community Centre (TBC)

Tarporley Parish Council Minute Book  
Committees, Working Groups and Other Meetings  
Presented at the May 2021 Meeting

Notes Included:

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**Tattenhall & District Parish Council**  
**Informal meeting to CW&C Housing Allocations Policy**  
**11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 via Teams.**

**PRESENT**

CW&C Senior Housing Policy Officer – Allan Batty  
 Malpas Parish Council & Threapwood Parish Council – Chris Whitehurst\*  
 No Mans Heath & District Parish Council – Trevor Parker\*, Stephen Roberts\*  
 & Mike Voisey  
 Tattenhall & District Parish Council – Ian Keeping, Ann Wright (Clerk)  
 Tattenhall Community Land Trust – Carol Spencer  
 Tarporley Parish Council - Gill Clough, Lisa Miller  
 West Cheshire Housing Manager – Terry Upton  
 \* Members of Malpas & District Community Land Trust

**Purpose of Meeting: Presentation on changes to CW&C Housing allocation Policy**

Mr Batty gave a presentation on the changes to the CW&C housing allocations policy, he stated the policy had taken a long time to produce and would be live from the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

He confirmed all local authorities must have housing allocations policy which sets the criteria on which houses are allocated, priorities and operation. Housing allocation policies can give 'reasonable preference' or a 'head start' to people for the following reasons, homelessness, overcrowding, medical or welfare need, due to the unsatisfactory condition of their current property or to be moved from a locality for hardship reasons.

One of the biggest changes to the policy is the reduction of priority banding from 5 to 3 bands, this had resulted from responses to the consultation and the view that 5 bands had been too complicated.

Bands A, urgent need, and B, high need, are unchanged.

A new 'Housing Options' band has been introduced for everyone who does not fall into Bands A and B and do not have a statutory need for housing.

'Right to Move' – people will still be able to apply for housing under the right to move which allows people in social housing in other parts of the country to apply for social housing in Cheshire if they are having to move to the area for work.

The West Cheshire Homes website has been updated and will include a section on what other types of properties are available in addition to social rented to support those in the new Housing Options Band e.g., shared ownership, private rented.

Other changes to the policy include:

To apply for a property, you will need to have a minimum 2-year connection to the Borough.

People can only bid for 3 properties during a bid period, previously people might bid on as many properties as possible in the belief this would increase the likelihood of them getting a property. This will help to speed up the bidding process.

The definition for overcrowding has been updated.



There will no longer be a rural preference unless this is identified in the planning conditions for the property.

Clear rules are in place for direct lettings, where properties are let without being advertised, and the number of properties that can be let in this way is limited each year to 10% of the properties that become available.

People can only bid once they have resolved any rental arrears of up to £1k.

People will not be allowed to bid if their savings or investments are above set levels:

Aged up to 55 = £25k

Aged over 55 = £125k

Individuals with an income of £45k+ or couples with an income of £60k+ are excluded from bidding, which is common across the Country.

It is recognised that these are big changes and as such fact sheets will be available when the new policy goes live in the help section of the website.

A number of new procedures sit below the policy which will assist staff and also housing associations.

When the policy goes live on the 5<sup>th</sup> April a new online customer application form will be available and an advice line is in place during March to assist those on the existing register whose banding has changed. If their circumstances have changed they will be able to complete the application form and be reassessed.

It was reported that there are 9k people on the housing register of which 4.5k are in the new Options Band.

It was agreed that additional information including the presentation would be circulate to those in attendance.

## **Question & Answer Session**

### **Bid Period**

It was noted the weekly bidding cycle will no longer exist instead properties will be advertised when they become available for a minimum of 4 days, people on the housing register will be encouraged to set up alerts to be notified if a property they are eligible for becomes available.

The online bidding system will calculate the number of bids people have made and prevent more than 3 bids being placed.

There will no longer be a weekly list of properties circulated.

### **Rural Allocations**

It was reported that since 2010 in Malpas there have been approximately 400 new dwellings built of which around 133 are affordable properties, 41 of which are managed by Plus Dane. However very few local people have been able to obtain these properties. As such concern was raised regarding local people being able to find homes who need to stay in the area. It was suggested that this question would not be answered until the new system had been put in place, it was therefore asked if the policy would be reviewed in 12 months to judge its effectiveness.

It was stated that a 12-month review was unlikely but the policy would be continuously monitored.

It was stated that people do tend to apply for homes in the place they are familiar with.

How properties would be dealt with that are not taken up when advertised will vary according to the attached planning conditions etc.

It was noted the housing register had been closed during March to allow the migration to the new register but those already on the register had been able to bid for properties.

The website, [www.westcheshirehomes.co.uk](http://www.westcheshirehomes.co.uk) has a new help section which includes a range of guides which can be accessed by anyone regardless of if they are on the housing register, these include guides on local connections, housing related debt, as well as change to the allocation policy.

A useful links section which includes links for those in private rented accommodation which is in disrepair is available on the website along with FAQs which address among other things how likely someone is to be allocated a property.

It was noted that approximately 1200 social rented properties become available each year and tend to attract 30/40 bids or applications each.

#### Non-Digital Support

It was noted that the website is very good and useful but that there is still large number of people who do not access information online and who just don't have the ability to access the system.

It was noted that staff will deal with bids etc by phone where there is no other alternative and that friends, family or support workers can access the system on others behalf and now a secondary email can be added to make sure people do received notifications.

It was noted Age UK and Citizens Advice had been made aware of changes to the housing allocation policy and procedures.

#### Rural Guide

It was agreed to create a rural guide to be added to the website to allow those bidding on rural properties to understand the difference between rural and urban areas e.g., reduced facilities and infrastructure and reduced access to public transport.

It was agreed to set a date mid-April to work on this guide.

#### Supply and Demand

It was discussed that there is a large disparity between the properties available and those which are needed and whether this can be addressed through planning.

It was reported that currently there are 180 households in hotels or temporary accommodation the vast majority of which are single people aged under 55 and that there is a shortage of 1-bed properties particularly in the Chester area.

All were thanked for attending the meeting which had been extremely useful.

**Notes of Easter Trail / Brook Road Opening Working group (via zoom)**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Present (TPC)

Cllr Gordon Pearson, Cllr Catherine Helm, Cllr Peter Tavernor, Cllr Mark Ravenscroft, Cllr Lisa Miller, Cllr Nigel Taylor, Cllr John Millington,  
Abigail Webb – Deputy Clerk

Apologies - Cllr Andrew Wallace, Cllr Gill Clough

**Update**

The Easter Trail and Brook Road Opening has been very well received by the village.

Everything will be taken down on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> by PT and LM (10am start).

3 prizes of £20 vouchers to spend at Chocolate shop, 1x for weight of Daffodil, 2x as a general draw from all entries.

**Communications**

FB message to be drafted regarding the closing of the trail and the prize draw by PT and GP will share.

**Future/ongoing work**

Dock weed issue in wildlife area to be tackled at the beginning of May by a work gang of Councillors.

Brook Road – A meeting will be convened to discuss the rota for Brook Road (JM)

Village event (10-12 Sept) a sporting event will likely take place on Brook Road, possibly on the Saturday or Sunday.

Sunflowers to be grown by LM, CH and MR which will be located along the High Street over the summer.

CH to purchase suitable seeds.



**Tattenhall & District Parish Council**  
**Informal Meeting Discuss Rural Housing Guide**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 via Teams.**

**PRESENT**

CW&C Senior Housing Policy Officer – Allan Batty

Malpas Parish Council, Threapwood Parish Council & Malpas Community Land Trust – Chris Whitehurst

Tattenhall & District Parish Council & Tattenhall Community Land Trust – Sheila Chapman

Tarporley Parish Council - Gill Clough.

Clerk – Ann Wright

**Purpose of Meeting: To discuss creation of Rural Housing Guide.**

The meeting had been called as a result of the new housing allocations policy which no longer includes a rural connection/p[priority criteria for people applying for homes in the rural area, unless this connection was specified as a planning condition (S106) for the properties.

As such there was a concern some people applying for homes would have an idyllic view of living in a rural area where there can be very few services and limited public transport. As such it was important that people make an informed decision when apply for homes in a rural area.

It was explained when people log on to the West Cheshire Homes listings, they will only be able to see properties that they are eligible to bid for e.g., a single person will only see one bed properties.

When looking at a property there is a tab with a map which shows you where the property is and can identify schools, libraries etc.

The group viewed a property which was stated as being in Tarporley but was in fact in Kelsall. It was noted this was a concern as the facilities and community in Kelsall are very different from that in Tarporley, it was noted that properties in Edge and Tilston are advertised as being in Malpas.

Chris Whitehurst agreed to develop and circulate a template for Parishes to capture their local facilities which could be added to the website for people applying for the properties to review. It was agreed an extra box could be included for parishes to add narrative about their Parish including links to other websites and Facebook pages.

A discussion took place as to where best this guide should be made available to encourage those applying for properties to look at it.

It was agreed to see if it could be added to the Parish Council Information page on the CW&C website and a link included on the West Cheshire Homes website in the help section.

It was agreed the information should be called the Rural Living Guide.

**Actions**

Alan Batty to contact CW&C regarding placing information on Parish Council pages on CW&C website.

Chris Whitehurst to develop and circulate Rural Living Guide Template for completion and discussion at next meeting.

### **Rural Connection Criteria**

Chris Whitehurst raised concerns regarding a reserved matters (REM) application currently being considered by Malpas Parish Council which includes 17 affordable properties. He reported that Parish Council has asked if it is possible to include a rural connection condition to any permission however the planning officer had not supported this.

It was noted that it was a concern if planning officers were not willing to include this condition in new planning applications in the rural area. It was agreed the matter should be discussed with Rachel Rens at CW&C.

Sheila Chapman agreed to confirm such a policy will be include in the permission for the affordable development in Tattenhall being brought forward by the Tattenhall Community Land Trust.

**Next Meeting**  
**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021**  
**10am via Teams**

Ann Wright  
25 04 21

**Notes of meeting with Weaver Vale Housing Trust (WVHT) – Local Lettings Policy****Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021****Present (TPC)**

Cllr Toni Burke

Cllr Gill Clough

Cllr Lisa Miller

Cllr Peter Tavernor

Clerk - Ann Wright

WVHT – Sylvia Pascoe – Neighbourhood Experience Manager

**Purpose of meeting: To discuss Local Lettings Policy for Oathills Lea Development**

Sylvia Pascoe confirmed that WVHT will produce a local lettings Policy for a development to create a balanced and sustainable community, the policy should reflect the needs of that locality and in the case of Oathills Lea will need to be approved by CW&C.

Those seeking social housing need to register with West Cheshire Homes who will band them according to their housing need and circumstances. There are currently 3 bands, the third of which is the Housing Options Band where people are not in housing need. If a property is not taken up after being advertised by someone in the first 2 bands, it is then offered to people in the Options or third band.

A recent WVHT development in Warrington of 10 properties has a local lettings policy of 50% properties go to those with priority housing needs and 50% to those in employment, education, or training.

It was asked what the Parish Council would like to see included in the Oathills Local lettings Policy:

- Local connection to the Parish of Tarporley and surrounding Parishes for letting of all the properties in perpetuity.
- Ground floor properties prioritised for those over 55 or with a medical need.
- People in employment, education and training, it was noted that this should be worded to allow those between employment or actively seeking employment due to the impact of the pandemic.

It was agreed the development should be sustainable and balanced and that properties should not sit empty, as such the property would be advertised twice and if no one applies that meets the criteria it would be open up to those with housing need.

The Clerk forwarded a copy of the Neighbourhood Plan allocations policy for consideration.

It was agreed a bespoke local lettings policy was required for the development.

It was noted that the policy once approved by CW&C will become a legally binding S106 agreement.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would be kept informed of progress made with the development so that it can make the community aware of the need to register with West Cheshire Homes and to bid for the properties.

It was suggested it was important to get the message out now to people in housing need to register with West Cheshire Homes. WVHT will notify the Council when the development is approximately 4 weeks from completion to start publicity.

It was asked if a billboard could be located on the site which can be seen from Poppy Lane highlighting the properties and the need to register with West Cheshire Homes.

It was noted that WVHT do allow pets where properties have their own front door but that residents do need permission from the Trust.

**Next Steps**

Sylvia Pascoe to draw up draft local lettings policy to be circulated to the Group who will meet up again to review the document.

Rural Living Guide

It was reported that a number of rural Councils including Tattenhall, Tarporley, Tilston and Malpas are working on a template to create a Rural Living Guide. The guide will be available for those bidding on rural properties through West Cheshire Homes to allow them to make an informed decision on whether it would suit them to live in that area.

It was noted there have been examples of individuals and families who have moved into rural areas and struggled with the lack of services and transport resulting in debt, anti-social behaviour, and the desire to move back to urban areas.

It was agreed this was a positive idea and had been needed for some time, Sylvia Pascoe agreed that she would like to attend the next meeting of the Rural Living Group meeting.

All were thanked for attending the meeting.

Ann Wright  
27 04 21

## Tarpoley Village Festival – 10-12<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Now that two Joint Committee meetings have been held it is possible to say some more about how this occasion is starting to shape up, together with the role and contribution we envisage from the Parish Council. With respect to the Covid restrictions, whilst there is the hope of much easing, the intent is not to be over ambitious and to try to have mainly outdoor functions with social distancing possible as a contingency.

In summary the festival would take place over the weekend kicking off with a double-bill film night at the TCC on the Friday. It would seek to combine some elements of Tarpfest with the Carnival and then give us another opportunity to showcase the Brook Road Playing Field and Country Park on the Sunday.

Regarding the Sunday on Brook Road, our early thoughts are along the following lines:

1. **Morning:** Junior football tournament (Andy Hallows with support)
2. **Afternoon:** We would engage Premier Sports, or similar, to organise family-based games and also encourage families to picnic with some refreshments available for purchase or donation. We understand Premier Sports organise sports days for TPS.
3. **Perimeter use:** We could use our display stands for any art or photo displays, or another quiz trail.
4. **Formal Opening:** If there is a felt need to have a formal opening of Brook Road once everything is fully complete (play equipment, shed installed etc), then this would be an opportunity without organising anything extra, hopefully with the benefit of an appreciative crowd.

We should also within the next couple of months have engaged our Lead Artist and be accessing the s106 Public Arts monies (30k). This festival would be an opportunity for community engagement by the artist, or alternatively be the natural focus of any early display of community art produced. We should consider including our preference in any engagement brief/scope of work.

**Budget and Costs.** Overall costs look to be up to 5k for the village, with the main item being hiring of bands/acts for a stage on the community field on the Saturday. There would be some ticketed events (film night, Jazz tea etc) but one idea is to sell festival wristbands for the weekend giving 'entry all areas' and potentially something free on the food or drink front (selling 500 wristbands at £5 would raise 2.5k, for example). Sponsors will be targeted but consensus is that we shouldn't expect too much on this front. In terms of the PC, first thought was we would budget to cover the Brook Rd costs (up to 1k?) from within our funds and that it would be reasonable to consider a £500 community grant to some part of the weekend. We also have experience and resources to contribute on low-cost flyers etc., besides our commitment to quality summer planting and BKV efforts that would be in place to have the village looking at its best.

**Organisation.** We have 3 Councillors on the Joint Committee (GP, AW, PT), but will not be chairing or leading. We're very conscious Councillors and volunteers may have less available time as some 'normality' resumes. However, we believe we can achieve a maximum impact for minimum effort with the outlined scope, using a working group like we did for Easter.