

MERE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2024, at 7:45PM

VENUE: THE MERE AND TABLEY COMMUNITY CLUB

1 **PRESENT**

*Cllr V Bennett, Cllr N Ineson, Cllr R Nassab, Cllr A Newnes, Cllr A Richards and Cllr J Wright
(In The Chair)*

In Attendance: KJ Whitlow (Clerk) and six parishioners

2 **APOLOGIES**

None

3 **MINUTES**

- i. *The minutes of the Mere Parish Council Meeting held on the 16th September were **proposed by** Cllr Newnes and **seconded by** Cllr Wright to be a true record. **All Agreed.***

4 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

*Cllr Wright declared a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** regarding **Dobb Lane.***

*Cllr Wright declared a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** regarding **HS2.***

*Cllr Bennett declared a **Personal Interest** regarding **HS2***

*Cllr Richards declared a **Personal Interest** regarding **HS2***

*Cllr Ineson declared a **Personal Interest** regarding **HS2***

5 **CASUAL VACANCIES**

Two casual vacancies exist but no names were put forward to be considered for co-opting onto Mere Parish Council.

6 **POLICE REPORT**

PC Milman had been invited to attend but no response received.

7 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

This item was taken out of sequence on the agenda.

*There have been **four new** planning applications, **two Decision Notices** and **one notice** that a planning application has been **withdrawn** received since the last meeting. Details are recorded in the Planning Book.*

- i. **Planning Application No:** 24/2950M

Proposal: *Development of new sustainable eco park to provide 61 No eco lodges, erection of farm shop, installation of solar panelling, associated landscaping, parking and ancillary structures to support the uses and associated works to facilitate the development.*

Location: *The Kilton Inn, Warrington Road, Mere*

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8pm and re-opened the meeting at 8:40pm. During which time local residents comments were heard.

Cllr Wright **proposed** that Mere Parish Council **strongly objects** to the above application on grounds it is a gross development in green belt and the land is good agricultural land which also is currently still locked under the HS2 safe guarding policy. Members of the public have also voiced concern (if the plans are granted) about light pollution and congestion on the local road network. Especially at the A50/Hoo Green cross roads. **Seconded by Cllr Newnes. All agreed.**

8 **MANCHESTER AIRPORT**

Cllr Newnes gave a report from the meetings he had attended at Manchester Airport on the 2nd August and the 13th September:

- Noise Action Plan for 2024-2029. This will have to work with the 'Future Airspace' project which is hoped will be completed by 2028.
- New and quieter aircraft will hopefully improve over the coming years alongside improvements in take offs, taxing and landings.
- Better control of noisier aircraft between the hours of 11pm until 7am. Fines related to the size of aircraft and those airlines who repeatedly exceed the noise limits were put forward.
- The airport is aware of the new reports of a new rail project involving a link rail between Manchester to Birmingham. Hopefully using the same route as HS2.
- In a report they had received recently on expansion at the airport, it stated that hopefully 60 million passengers will be using the airport by 2050. This was discussed by members, particularly the size of the airport. Would another runway be needed and was there enough land etc?

9 **HS2**

An e-mail has been received from Jayne Willetts (Engagement Manager, Phase 2b/HS2 Ltd) regarding the latest update on High Speed Rail (Crewe-Manchester) Bill. It states that on the 25th July the Secretary of State for Transport reintroduced the High Speed Rail (Crewe-Manchester) Bill (the 'Bill'), which has been carried over from the last Parliament. The Bill grants the powers necessary to develop, construct and operate new rail infrastructure. It provides opportunities to improve both local and inter-regional connectivity in the north, including two new stations at Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Airport.

10 **B5569**

A response has been received from a Cheshire East Council Highways Correspondence Officer regarding the Mere mitigation works. Apologies are offered for the delay in providing us with a response. The letter goes on to say that works identified by the parish council for consideration has been reviewed and a report provided with recommendations on which of the issues may be progressed and rational as to why some of them should not be progressed at this time. Items on the previous list of works that are to be implemented are as follows:

- Location 2 Bucklow Hill Village gateway feature.
- Location 4 new sign assembly at Cicely Mill Lane.
- Location 5 Speed restrictions at Cicely Mill Lane.
- Location 6 Speed limit repeater sign on Chapel Lane.
- Location 9 Mere Village Gateway Sign
- Location 12 A50 westbound parking sign removal

11 **MERE CRICKET GROUND REPAIR**

The repair has been completed and Lightech Sound and Light Ltd have paid direct to the person who carried out the repair.

12 **DOBB LANE**

Application to add a Restricted Byway along Dobb Lane running between Warrington Road and Hoo Green Lane to the Definitive Map and statement for Cheshire East Council was received on 3rd November 2021. Mere Parish Council responded on the 19th December 2021 stating it did not agree to the application to add Dobb Lane as a restricted byway.

Cllr Richards proposed this item be removed from the agenda as nothing more has been reported during the last twelve months. The meeting agreed.

13 **MERE PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE**

The Clerk had e-mailed Andy Newbold for an update upon how he is progressing with a new website for Mere Parish Council. However no reply has been received. It was agreed that the councillors will look into finding an alternative source to update the Mere Parish Council web site and report back at the next meeting.

14 **PARISH COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD**

*A new notice board has been delivered to the Chairman's home. However, there are only two keys and not the four as agreed. Neither has the pack of magnets been delivered. The Clerk will chase this up with the company. **ACTION: KJ Whitlow (Clerk).***

The Clerk to check with Mere and Tabley Community Club that we are allowed to place the notice board in the same position as the previous one on their property.

ACTION: KJ Whitlow (Clerk)

15 **PARISH MAINTENANCE**

*There is still a query as to whether Mr Dominic Fenton has sprayed the weeds along the A50 as requested. The Chairman will speak to Mr Fenton. **ACTION: Cllr Wright.***

If he has not sprayed them then it is felt it is too late in the year to spray now but the Clerk to ask him to do so next year.

16 **CIL MONEY**

Cheshire East Council has come back to us with a definition of what we can spend CIL money on, which is as follows:

How can local councils spend CIL? - *The parish council must spend their neighbourhood fund on infrastructure in their local area in consultation with their local community. The neighbourhood portion of the levy can be spent on a broader range of projects than the rest of the levy. Local councils must use CIL money to support the development of the local council's area, by funding:*

- A) The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or*
- B) Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.*

What is infrastructure? - *In order to provide more clarity, the following is the definition of 'infrastructure', according to the Town and Country Planning Act 2008.*

Typically there are three broad categories of infrastructure which may include:

- **Social infrastructure:** art and culture, sports halls, education, health, social care, emergency services, community centres, village halls.*
- **Physical Infrastructure;** pavements, cycle ways, flood defences, highways, transport links.*
- **Green infrastructure:** play areas, public open spaces, woodlands.*

Suggested ideas to spend the CIL money by the councillors are as follows:

- Gateway features at parish boundary*
- Plants and planters*
- Refurbishing the old iron sign posts (Hoo Green/Winterbottom Lane)*

17 RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICERS REPORT

- i. Paid into the account on the 4th September the sum of £4500.00
This is the precept payment.
- ii. The total in the cheque account at the beginning of this meeting is £31306.46

18 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

- i. Invoice from The Parish Notice Board Company for the new notice board £1914.00
Cheque made payable to
“Signs of Cheshire Ltd”. Cheque No: 100929
- ii. GDPR/Data Protection Act 2018 £0040.00
Renewal date being the 2nd October.
Cheque made payable to
“Information Commissioner”. Cheque No: 100930.

Cllr Wright **proposed** that the above invoices be paid. **Seconded** by Cllr Newnes.
All agreed.

19 BUDGET

- i. Once the cheques have all be paid and cleared we will have £29352.46 in the cheque account. Minus the Archive Fund (£170.40) and the CIL (money £19707.38) it will leave £9474.68 to spend on other items.
- ii. Expected payments at the October meeting are as follows:

Clerk for hours worked in July, Aug and Sep	£1000.00
PAYE	£0270.00
Shires Accountants	<u>£0120.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>£1390.00</u>

This means that by the end of October (minus the archive fund and CIL money) we will have £8084.68 in the cheque account to spend. Or including the archive and CIL money £27962.46 in the cheque account.

20 NEW BUSINESS

- i. **Cheshire East Council – Reporting Matters Document** – Information on how to report highways issues. Noted
- ii. **Run Tatton Half Marathon** – 10th November 24 – E-mail from Cat Stobie, Events Operations Executive stating the run will take place on the 10th November starting at 9:30am and finishing at 12:340pm. Noted by the council

21 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Monday 21st October, 2024 starting at 7:45pm. Venue The Mere and Tabley Community Club.
The date for the remainder of 2024 is the 2nd December.
Proposed dates for 2025 are as follows:
13th January, 17th March, 12th May, 14th July, 15th September, 20th October and the 8th December.

22 ITEMS INTRODUCED BY COUNCILLORS

None.

The meeting closed at approximately 9:20pm

Signed: Date: