

GREAT WARFORD PARISH MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD

WEDNESDAY 17TH MAY, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

at GREAT WARFORD BAPTIST CHAPEL, MERRYMANS LANE, GREAT WARFORD

PRESENT - Councillors: C. Sweetman (Chairman), L. Roberts, P. Halman, D. Allman, G. Tuke, B. Thompson, M. Read.
Members of Public (1).
Mrs. C. Johnson - Local Area Co-ordinator, Cheshire East Council.
Dr. E. M. Maddock - Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cheshire East Borough Councillor J. Macrae.

2. **MINUTES** -

i) The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 18th May, 2016 had been previously circulated to all Members.

Decision a) **That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 18th May, 2016 be confirmed as a correct record.**

3. **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL - LOCAL AREA CO-ORDINATORS** -

Mrs. C. Johnson presented information on the role of the Local Area Co-ordinators at Cheshire East Council. The service provides a central collaboration point between a range of organisations including social workers, hospitals, mental health teams, prisons, GPs and charities. The scheme aims to direct individuals to an appropriate organisation which can provide support to meet their needs. Work also includes supporting communities to provide a range of services including friendship groups and social activities to combat loneliness, promote dementia awareness in towns and to improve the links between health and social care. At present the Local Area Co-ordinators are endeavouring to raise awareness of their role and expand the services that are offered to residents. Referrals are received from a variety of organisations including hospitals, community groups and healthcare professionals.

4. **PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2016/17** -

The Chairman, Councillor C. Sweetman, presented the following report to the meeting:

The last year has seen very few changes in the Parish but a number of issues in the area of Planning have seen a lot of activity.

The Council lost a member in August 2016 when Mari Gale decided that time constraints were impacting her ability to be a useful council member. Mari served on the council for a number of years and her contribution was very much appreciated. We were then successful in recruiting a new member in Brian Thompson, who joined the Council in February this year.

Planning

There have been 2 major issues in Planning this year, the appeal from Warford Hall and the Stags Head.

The Warford Hall appeal arrived just before Christmas 2016 after the planning application was refused earlier in the year. This meant another intense period of discussion on what the necessary response to the Inspectorate should be and then submitting it before the deadline in January. The Inspectorate announced their decision in April and it refused the appeal on more or less the grounds that the objections had been made constantly through the whole planning process.

The second major planning activity was for the refurbishment of the Stags Head. This started out in early 2016 with trying to get the property listed as a Community Asset through the Community Right to Bid process. Although the initial decision to list the property was overturned on appeal by the owners, it became apparent that Ribble Valley Inns fully intended to complete the work and reopen the establishment. This consultation started with an open viewing of the new plans at the Baptist Chapel in July, all who attended this were in agreement of the plans and these were submitted through a planning application later in the year. Unfortunately the planning officer rejected the additional rooms required by RBI to make the project financially stable. A subsequent re-submission of the plan and having the decision on the plans referred to the CEC Planning Committee, resulted in the acceptance of the application. We are awaiting confirmation of the date the work will start now that some small alterations required by the Planning Committee have been agreed.

In the end the Council was pleased that the majority view of the residents had been upheld on these 2 occasions. It does show what can be achieved with the right attitude and perseverance.

Throughout the year there have been several other planning applications the council has dealt with through the bi-monthly or extraordinary Council meetings, and either commenting on the individual application or not, as seen fit by the majority view of the Council.

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Picnic

The 2016 Picnic on the Green (Warford Crescent) was another success, although the funds raised were slightly lower due to topping up the donation for funding the hot food from the Parish funds so all burgers and sausages were free on the day. The prize list for the raffle was extensive and well supported from residents and local businesses. The only downside was the rain that set in just as the raffle was to be announced.

Parish Maintenance

The land at Lindow End (the junction of Knutsford Road and Warford Lane) has been maintained through a contract with a local maintenance company and after changes in the methods used it is now under control and thought to be in good condition.

There has been other work carried out by residents, through the painting of railings, benches and flower containers. All this work is very much appreciated by the Council. The street lighting in the Parish has been complemented with the addition of 2 lights and although it took a considerable time to get them powered up after the installation they are now operating.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the Councillors for their work and professionalism in approaching the activities of the running the Parish Council.

5. PUBLIC FORUM -

Mr. Wood (resident of Pott Shrigley) provided information relating to a proposal to develop a new market on land within the Parish of Marthall as a replacement of Chelford Market which had recently closed. Efforts are being made to secure support from local residents and businesses to progress the project which, it is also hoped, will offer additional features that will benefit the local community for example space for healthcare services and sports facilities.

A resident asked whether the Great Warford Village Picnic would be taking place in 2017. The Chairman advised that the picnic would not be taking place this year.

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 8:01p.m.

Signed:

Approval date - 19th July, 2017