

Acton Bridge Parish Council Meeting notes

Date & time	3 rd October 2022 at 19:30	Location	Parish Rooms, Acton Bridge
Attendees	T Brocklebank (Chairperson), D Charlton (from 19:50), R Holt, D Hall, R Forbes, L Wakefield, Cllr P Williams CW&C, Mrs C Robinson (Clerk to the Parish Council)		
Apologies	G Hayward, Cllr G Edwards CW&C, Cllr C Fifield CW&C, Michelle Gillett (PCSO)		
Absent			
Minutes written by	Mrs C Robinson (Clerk)		

The discussion commenced at 19:30

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Notes & Actions</u>
1. Apologies	Apologies for Absence – as noted above
2. Declarations of interest	No pecuniary interests were expressed.
3. PCSO Update	The PCSO's September report was circulated by email 30/09/22. There weren't reports of any incidents in Acton Bridge. Next PCSO surgery in Acton Bridge Thursday 20 th October 19:00 – 20:00.
4. Public Open Forum	<p>There were six members of the public present. There were 3 items they had comments for the Parish Council to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">22/00174/EMCOU – Clyden, 17 Hill Top Road – use of Shepherds Hut for holiday accommodation. The attendees highlighted the impact of holidaymakers' activities at the Shepherd's Hut, on local residents.Concerns on speeding on the A49 Warrington Road – concerns were raised about the issues with the speeding and what could potentially be done to slow traffic down.Cadent's HyNet North West Hydrogen Pipeline – concerns were raised over the impact on a local business and wildlife due to the installation and the restrictions that would be imposed afterwards. <p>The Parish Council thanked the attendees for sharing their comments.</p>
5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th September 2022	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 th September 2022 were accepted as a true and correct record.
6. Planning & Enforcement	<p>a. Planning Applications – two applications had been received for consultation by the Parish Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">22/03139/FUL - Land Adjacent to The Mobile, Warrington Road - Erection of building for the building of narrow boats/boats (Retrospective). The Parish Council's only concern was the impact of increased traffic exiting onto the A49. Consultee comments are required by 17/10/22.22/02173/FUL – 2 Warrington Road - Erection of waterfront decking and rear balcony on flat roof extension. Erection of brick pillars, gates and wall to front boundary - (Retrospective). The Parish Council's only area of concern was the height of one wall being potentially over the allowed 1m. Consultee comments are required by 18/10/22.Additional Applications – none received since the agenda was posted. However, there are revised plans on the CW&C Planning Portal for the former Nursery on Station Road.

- b. **Planning Decisions** - No decisions had been received.
- c. **Planning Enforcement** – Appeal letter received for review and decision:
22/00174/EMCOU - Clyden 17 Hill Top Road - use of Shepherd's hut for holiday accommodation. Appeal reference: **22/00096/ENF**. Appeals casework portal ref.: 3306621. The Parish Council agreed to submit comments based on the original comments they submitted previously, objecting to the use of the Shepherds Hut as holiday accommodation. **Action Cllr Holt**

7. Update on actions to be taken over residents' concerns - Orchard Avenue Hedges & Playground

The Clerk & Cllr Brocklebank are still investigating maintenance costs. The Clerk attended a SSLC branch meeting on 29th September and potential issues on managing playgrounds were raised. The Parish Council agreed to defer the agenda item until the November Parish Council meeting for any decisions.

Action Cllrs Brocklebank, Edwards & Mrs Robinson

The previous discussions on the hedge at 5 Chapel Lane needs to be added as a separate agenda item. Cllr Fifield had previously taken an action to talk to the resident responsible for maintenance of the hedge. **Action Cllr Fifield & Mrs Robinson**

8. Review of actions to be taken on Speeding Issues in the Parish (A49 – Warrington Rd)

Following the meeting with Highways they have completed the speeding assessment/monitoring, the outcome of which is still awaited. There was some discussion on possible solutions, but the Parish Council agreed that they would need to see proposals from Highways before discussing further.

9. Update on Acton Bridge Average Speed Camera Proposals

Following his meeting with Jenoptic, Cllr Forbes had circulated a survey report and reduced costings. The revised costings were for:

Option 1 (3 live cameras): £69,341.14 - installation and £8,180.90 – maintenance, and Option 2 (2 live cameras and 1 dummy): £58,397.10 - installation and £7,900.00 - maintenance.

The latest totals are still prohibitive as all costs (including installation) would need to be funded by the Parish Council. The original proposals that the costs to Parish Councils would be approx. £5k for the installation and the Police Crime Commissioners Office would fund the maintenance using fees from Speed Awareness Courses seem to have been reneged on, but challenges to this change have been lodged, and the outcome awaited.

Cllr Forbes

The discussion at the last Parish Council meeting on the change of speed limit on the Crowton to Kingsley road to 30mph is only worth following up on if the Average Speed Camera project doesn't go ahead.

Action Cllr Williams

10. Review of CW&Cs S.19 Flood Report

The email from Cllr Fifield with the S.19 report had been circulated to the Parish Council prior to the meeting. During the discussion, some of the concerns raised by the Parish Council were:

- The plan appears to be inferring the Parish Council has powers over emergency services etc - it clearly doesn't
- Canal & Rivers Trust don't seem to be fully engaged
- The report is very Northwich centric
- The sluice gates at Dutton may be the biggest issue for Acton Bridge, they are still not all currently working, but they should be working by the end of October
- FRAG's response to the report hasn't been made clear
- Cllr Williams said he is very dissatisfied with what is happening and he feels the risk is that Acton Bridge could be flooded again.
- Cllr Williams will try and get a representative from CW&C to speak at a Parish Council meeting about the plan.

Action Cllr Williams

11. Review of Acton Bridge Resilience Plan

The revised Acton Bridge Resilience Plan was circulated to the Parish Council by email on 1/10/22. The changes were: Date on Front Cover and Additional Information in the resources section – highlighted for ease in red font. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to approve the amendments.

12. Updates on Actions from previous Parish Council meetings:

Freedom Fibre

The banner has been removed from the front of the Parish Rooms.

Speed camera data

Clerk has been informed by TWM that the two speed cameras have been topped up. Only the signs that download data need the top up vouchers. The Clerk has downloaded speed data for September and sent to Cllr Forbes to analyse.

Operation London Bridge

The Clerk did not put an agenda item for a PC action plan, due to the passing of the Queen on 9th September. All relevant actions were taken in line with guidelines.

CIL income report for 2021/22

The report for 2021/22 sent to CW&C on 23rd September and reports for 2020/21 and 2021/22 added to Parish Council website.

Fence repairs Station Road

Whist Network Rail has repaired the damaged fence, aesthetically it is different to the existing fence. Cllr Forbes will send photos to the Clerk for her to raise with Network Rail.

Action Cllr Forbes & Mrs Robinson

13. Financial Matters

a. Cheques for signature

Four cheques were approved for signature:

1. £60.60 – TWM speed camera renewal (£50.50 + vat)
2. £528.48 – Mrs C Robinson, Clerks salary: July, August & September
3. £131.40 – HMRC - Clerks salary Income Tax & NI: July, August & September
4. £30.00 – SLCC: Clerks attendance at SLCC Branch Conference

b. Balances

Total Balances as at 30th September 2022

	<u>DR -ve</u>	<u>CR +ve</u>
Current A/c		10,236.04
Unpresented chqs as at 30/09/22	20.00	
		10,216.04
<u>Summary</u>		
Total Balance B/Fwd @ 01/07/2022		10,264.04
Plus total receipts		0.00
Less total payments	48.00	
Total Balance C/fwd to 01/09/22		10,216.04

Payments:

Mr R Forbes	£28.00
Cheshire Community Action	£20.00 (unpresented)
Total	£48.00

c. Update on appointment of Internal Auditor

The Clerk is meeting with the potential new Internal Auditor on 5th October to look at the work the previous auditor has done. There are no set rules on qualifications to be an internal auditor, just competency to do the audit.

Action Mrs Robinson

14. CW&C Ward Councillors

Cllr Williams invited the Parish Council to consider items for the Neighbourhood Pride funding projects. Each of the Ward Councillors have £5,400 that the Parish Council can apply for. The previous deadline of the end of September had been suspended due to the passing of the Queen. ABCA should also be made aware.

15. Reports from other meetings

The SLCC Branch Conference held on the 29th September was attended by the Clerk, and included agenda items:

- Data Protection for Clerks (main area of concern for Acton Bridge PC is the personal Cllr email addresses, and forwarding residents emails without permission)
- Getting ready for Parish Council Elections (4th May 2023), included information on Notices to be published and timelines, standing for election/re-election, Purdah
- Recruiting & retaining a more diverse pool of Councillors.

Cllr Wakefield attended the Connections event 'Warm Spaces' on 27th September. One of the main points was the suggestion of opening facilities such as libraries and community centres for residents who may have challenges keeping their own homes warm. As there is a disproportionately elderly population in Acton Bridge the Parish Council felt it should be raised with ABCA (by Cllr Holt) and should be an agenda item for discussion at the November PC meeting. **Action Cllr Holt & Mrs Robinson**

16. Correspondence

The Clerk had summarised correspondence in her Clerk's report. No items were raised for discussion.

17. AOB

None raised.

18. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is planned for **Monday 7th November 2022 at 19:30.**

The discussion closed at 21:30

Signed (Chairperson)

Date.....