

Acton Bridge Parish Council Meeting notes

Date & time	7 th November 2022 at 19:30	Location	Parish Rooms, Acton Bridge
Attendees	D Charlton (Chairperson until 20:40), T Brocklebank (Chairperson from 20:40), R Holt, R Forbes, G Hayward, L Wakefield, Cllr C Fifield CW&C, Mrs C Robinson (Clerk to the Parish Council)		
Apologies	D Hall, Cllr G Edwards CW&C, Cllr P Williams CW&C		
Absent	Michelle Gillett (PCSO)		
Minutes written by	Mrs C Robinson (Clerk)		

The discussion commenced at 19:31

<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	No report has been received from the PCSO for October.
4. Public Open Forum	There was one member of the public present. He was interested to hear the Parish Councils discussion on Cadent's HyNet North West Hydrogen Pipeline (agenda item 10). He also wanted to highlight the problem with broken and missing manhole covers that had CW&C had been notified about – but they (and the utility company) had failed as yet to make permanent repairs, and fly tipping on Station Road was also mentioned.
5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd October 2022	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3 rd October 2022 were accepted as a true and correct record.
6. Planning & Enforcement	<p>a. Planning Applications – one application had been received for consultation by the Parish Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ii) 22/03653/FUL - Car Park Adjacent 19 Warrington Road - Construction of replacement boundary treatment. The Parish Council had no concerns other than to make the observation that the height of 1.8m is over 1m allowed next to a road. Comments to be submitted by 21st November. Action Cllr Holt & Mrs Robinson <p>In addition, the Parish Council were aware that new drawings had been posted on the CW&C Planning Portal for another application, but the Parish Council had not been asked for comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">iii) 22/00747/FUL – Former Nursery, Station Road - single storey extensions and conversion of former retail building to a residential dwelling (revised drawings posted 13th October). The Parish Council has been made aware of a meeting between Planning Dept. and Cllr Edwards. After discussion, the Parish Council still believe that the application is entirely contrary to the existing permissions on the site and further contravenes Green Belt and Cheshire West Local Plans Parts 1 and 2. They would still like to see this application called in by Cllr Edwards and will send a Parish Councillor to the CW&C Planning Committee meeting. Clerk to email Cllr Edwards. Action Mrs Robinson

iv) Additional Applications – none received since the agenda was posted. However, the following had been added to the Planning Portal:

22/03652/FUL – 19 Warrington Road, Acton Bridge - Demolition of existing conservatory, single storey side and rear extension. First floor rear extension to include balcony. The Parish Council has yet to be asked to consult and submit comments, but they did discuss the application and the only area of concern was whether the proposed balcony impacted on the privacy of the neighbours. Comments will be drafted in preparation for the consultation request. **Action Cllr Holt**

b. **Planning Decisions** - No decisions had been received. The following applications appear as approved on the Planning Portal:

- **22/01764/FUL** 35 Milton Rough - Demolition of conservatory, erection of single storey extension
- **22/01527/LDC** Weaver Holt, Cliff Road - Construction of detached single storey outbuilding within curtilage of site
- **22/01280/FUL** Wall Hill Cottage, Acton Lane - Single storey rear extension

c. **Planning Enforcement**

- i) **22/00174/EMCOU** - Clyden 17 Hill Top Road - use of Shepherd's hut for holiday accommodation. Appeal reference: **22/00096/ENF**. The original Enforcement Notice has been withdrawn, following the appeal, but the Clerk has asked Planning Enforcement to keep the Parish Council letter on file. A revised Enforcement Notice had been issued today, 7th November, giving the owner until 12th December to appeal, and then 1 month to comply.
- ii) **21/03254/FUL** – Maypole House, 59 Hill Top Road - The Parish Council have been given a copy of a letter to CW&C Planning, concerning the hedge that has been planted at the front of the property. The Parish Council noted that some part of the hedge had been moved back away from the road and feel there is no action to be taken by the Parish Council, at the moment.

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

The Clerk had circulated a quote for maintenance of the playground area prior to the meeting for an estimated £1,554,75 + VAT per annum. Inspection costs will be on top of this. Cllr Edwards is yet to give an update on the implications of an Asset transfer to the Parish Council from CWAC. Without this information the Parish Council cannot assess the impact on Council tax etc. The Parish Council agreed to defer the agenda item until the December Parish Council meeting for any decisions. **Action Cllr Edwards**

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

An update has been requested from Highways following their speeding assessment/monitoring.

9. Update on Acton Bridge Average Speed Camera Proposals

Cllrs Forbes and Brocklebank had confirmation that the maintenance costs for the Average Speed Cameras would be met by the Police Commissioner's budget, but the installation costs would need to be met by the Parish Council. Installation of 2 working cameras and 1 dummy would be £58k, 3 working cameras £69k. The cheaper option could be met by a low-cost loan (public works) over 13 years at approx. £5k per annum. This would have the impact of doubling the precept required to be paid by residents for the Parish Council in their Council Tax (for band D from £16 - £32 per annum). The Parish Council agreed that the views of residents to this proposal needed to be canvassed but given the short timeframe for requesting the precept it needed to be done quickly. Cllr Forbes agreed to putting information in the upcoming village newsletter, with a link to a generic email address, and the Parish Council agreed to set aside 30 mins before the December PC meeting to have a meeting with residents.

Action Cllrs Forbes & Hayward

10. Review and Parish Councils Response to the Cadent Hydrogen Network Consultation

Cllr Charlton had provided a detailed summary of his observations following his attendance at the Cadent Consultation Event on 12th October. The good news was that there will be nothing visible above ground in Acton Bridge once the installation is finished. After discussion the Parish Council agreed that whilst they were supportive of greener energy solutions, there were some concerns about the planned installation, and they would submit comments to the 2nd Statutory Consultation under 3 main areas for concern:

1. Impact on traffic in the area during the installation of the pipeline, particularly access to Acton Bridge village and the issues with the A49
2. The temporary storage area identified is a field subject to regular standing water flooding
3. Impact on local businesses, particularly a Falconry, during installation.

Action Mrs Robinson

11. Updates on Actions from previous Parish Council meetings:

Fence repairs Station Road

The Clerk submitted concerns and photos provided by Cllr Forbes online. Network Rail have responded that it is an issue for London Northwestern Railway. The Clerk will follow up with Northwestern Railway. Cllr Fifield has also chased for an update on the red and white barriers but had an odd response.

Action Mrs Robinson

Maintenance of the Hedge at 5 Chapel Lane

Cllr Fifield has chased Weavervale Housing Trust for an update.

Warm Spaces

Cllr Holt informed the Parish Council that ABCA are organising opening the Parish Rooms on Wednesday afternoons for drop-ins.

Sandbags

Cllr Hayward raised a concern about the distance from the farm where the sandbags are being 'temporarily' stored, to areas of potential flooding. Until a permanent solution can be confirmed, another storage solution needs to be identified, possibly the common land close to the flood prone area could house at least one pallet of sandbags and this needs to be investigated further.

Action Cllrs Charlton & Holt

Flooding

Cllr Brocklebank has had contact via email from the new Principal Flood Risk Engineer.

12. Financial Matters

a. Cheques for signature

There were no cheques requiring approval for signature. Cllr Fifield informed the Parish Council he had purchased a wreath for £25 for the Remembrance Service.

b. Balances

Total Balances as at 31st October 2022

	<u>DR -ve</u>	<u>CR +ve</u>
Current A/c		9,495.56
Unpresented chqs as at 31/10/22	30.00	
		9,465.56
 <u>Summary</u>		
Total Balance B/Fwd @ 01/11/2022		10,216.04
Plus total receipts		0.00
Less total payments	750.48	
Total Balance C/fwd to 01/12/22		9,465.56

Payments:

TWM speed camera renewal	£60.60
Mrs C Robinson, Clerks salary	£528.48
HMRC	£131.40
SLCC	£30.00 (Unpresented as at 31/10)
Total	£750.48

c. Update on appointment of Internal Auditor The Clerk meet with the potential new Internal Auditor on 5th and has also sent him the guidelines for internal audits. He seemed competent to be able to do the audit, the Clerk is awaiting confirmation he wants the role.

13. CW&C Ward Councillors Cllr Fifield informed the Parish Council that all Council meetings had been cancelled due to Purdah. The Council budget consultation will take place in January. The Neighbourhood Pride Scheme had also been interrupted by Purdah.

Cllr Fifield had also requested a press release for Acton Bridge about gully emptying and flood prevention following the press release for Northwich town centre on the subject.

14. Reports from other meetings The Joint Cemetery Committee meeting 18th October was attended by Cllr Fifield:

- 6 members of the public attended to challenge the decision of the JCC not to allow a specific memorial. As a result, a JCC Complaint Policy will be drafted and will include the option to raise issues about the JCC by residents to their Parish Council.
- The JCC agendas and minutes should be made available for the public, as per the suggestion made by Cllr Fifield at the JCC meeting, the Parish Council agreed they could be posted on the Acton Bridge Parish Council Website for the other 2 Parish Councils to publish a link to. **Action Mrs Robinson**
- The wildflower meadow going ahead near new car park (the Neighbourhood Pride scheme has been asked to cover the cost of the seed)
- A new Digital system is being implemented to manage the cemetery paperwork

Cllr Hayward informed the Parish Council that Freedom Fibre will book the Acton Bridge Parish Rooms and invite residents along to discuss the installation of broadband in the village.

15. Correspondence The Clerk had summarised correspondence in her Clerk's report. An email had been received from a resident with photos of the poor state of the footpath/kerb on Orchard Close/Orchard Avenue. Cllr Fifield has reported the issue to CW&C.

17. AOB

- The Clerk will attend the May 2023 Elections and the Elections Act 2022 Online Connections Event, which was originally scheduled for 31st October, and will now take place on Tuesday 20th December from 6pm to 7pm.
- Cllr Hayward commented that the WI poppies looked fabulous, and also asked if lamppost poppies had been considered for Acton Bridge to commemorate Remembrance Sunday? The Parish Council agreed it could be considered for next year.

18. Date of Next Meeting The next Parish Council Meeting is planned for **Monday 5th December 2022 at 19:30.**

The discussion closed at 21:55

Signed (Chairperson)

Date.....