

Acton Bridge Parish Council Meeting minutes

Date & time	8 th January 2024 at 19:00	Location	Parish Rooms, Acton Bridge
Attendees	T Brocklebank (Chairperson), R Forbes, L Wakefield, C Fifield, D Charlton, D Hall, Cllr G Edwards CW&C, Cllr L Stocks CW&C, Cllr P Rimmer CW&C, & Mr G Robinson (Acting Clerk to the Parish Council)		
Also in Attendance	Selina Rooney from ABCA and Simon Barber, an associate of the Mid Cheshire Rail Users association		
Apologies	H Broughton, M Gillett (PCSO), Mrs C Robinson (Clerk)		

Absent

Minutes written by Mrs C Robinson

The discussion commenced at 19:03

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Notes & Actions</u>
1. Apologies	Apologies for Absence – as noted above
2. Declarations of interest	No declarations of interest were declared.
3. PCSO Update	The PCSO's December report was circulated by email on 5 th January.
4. Public Open Forum	There were no members of the public present.
5. To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th December 2023	The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 th December 2023 as a true and correct record.
6. Planning & Enforcement	<p>a. <u>Planning Applications:</u></p> <p>i) 23/03844/FUL- Pear Tree Farm, Cliff Road- Riding arena (for personal use). The Parish Council reviewed the planning application and discussed the width of the hedge and the height of the fence. Cllr Edwards was asked to investigate further. Action Cllr Edwards</p> <p>ii) No other requests for consultation had been received.</p> <p>b. <u>Planning Decisions:</u> No notifications had been received.</p> <p>c. <u>Planning Enforcement & Appeals</u> No Enforcement notices had been received.</p>
7. Review and any decisions on co-option to the Parish Council Vacancy	There has been no interest expressed to the Clerk. The Parish Council website was updated with information again – but not in time for January meeting
8. Update on recent activation of the Village Resilience Plan due to flood warning	The Parish Council discussed the response to the recent Flood Warning, that once again activated the Village Resilience plan. The team had met at the Riverside and the residents had been alerted as per the plan, but fortunately there was no flooding and the plan was stood down. Everything had worked well with a couple of minor issues identified, but it was noted there had been a shortage of information. It had also been realised the Clerk is not receiving Member briefings. Action Cllr Stocks
9. Review and decision on proposal(s) from TWM including site	The response from TWM on repairing the signs is unclear, but the Parish Council want to spend a max of £1,700 for the SIDS maintenance and repairs and an estimate on annual servicing has yet to be received. The Parish Council will review the forecast

visit to inspect Station Road speed indicator device, plus potential repairs

budget for next year at the next meeting when there should be a clearer picture of costings from TWM.

10. Review and decisions on possible actions linked to Acton Bridge Station car parking issues

Simon Barber, associate of the Mid Cheshire Rail Users Association spoke to the Parish Council about the Railway Station car parking issues. As the service and number of trains had been improved and was now hourly, more commuters were using the station. They have contacts with the Rail Operating company (London North Western), but as it is Network Rail that is responsible for the infrastructure, it is them they need to contact. Ideally, they would like Network Rail to move the fence in the car back to it's original position and allow parking on the area that had been used as a compound more recently. The Parish Council also discussed the issues with using the Hazl Pear car park as overflow.

The Parish Council proposed and seconded and it was **RESOLVED** for the Parish Council to be a member of the Mid-Cheshire Rail Users Association at a cost of £25 per annum.

Action Mrs Robinson

11. Updates on Actions from previous Parish Council meetings:

Letter re sandbags

The Clerk circulated the email response from the residents of Holly Cottage, Acton Lane re siting of the sandbags. They are very supportive and are happy to meet with Parish Council representatives. Cllr Edwards will chase for the delivery of sandbags.

Action Cllr Edwards

Parish Council meeting dates 2024

The Parish Council discussed the 2 potential dates for the May PC meeting due to the May Bank Holiday. They agreed to hold the meeting on 13th May. **Action Mrs Robinson**

12. Financial Matters

a. Cheques for signature

There were three cheques approved for signature:

- I. C Robinson Salary Oct/Nov/Dec £1,034.08
- II. HMRC (Clerk Income Tax) Oct/Nov/Dec £258.20
- III. CPRE renewal of subscription £36.00

Total Balances as at 31st December 2023

b. Balances

	<u>DR -ve</u>	<u>CR +ve</u>
Current A/c		14,017.12
Unpresented chqs as at 31/12/23	0.00	
		<u>14,017.12</u>
<u>Summary</u>		
Total Balance B/Fwd @ 01/12/2023		14,228.12
Plus total receipts		0.00
Less total payments	211.00	
Total Balance C/fwd to 01/12/23		<u><u>14,017.12</u></u>

Receipts:

£0.00

Payments:

- CWAC Non-Contested election fee £181.00
- ChALC Training (Cllr Broughton) £30.00

Total

£211.00

d. Decision on the precept request for 2024/25

The Parish Council proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** to request a precept of £5,620.00. This amount would cover forecast costs for 2024/25, less the small amount left in the forecast year-end balance and using the pre-requested 6-month loan repayments (for the average speed camera project) for general reserves

13. CW&C Ward Councillors

Cllr Edwards gave updates on various activities, including the issues with speeding on the A49 were on the next Weaverham PC meeting agenda, the Carol Service was a success, issues with road closures due to road works and she is looking into opening a community cafe. In addition, Council Tax will be going up by 4.99% and the charge for green bin collection is going up from £46 to £50.

14. Reports from other meetings

- Cllrs Brocklebank and Fifield had attended the December Joint Cemetery Committee meeting.
- The latest ABCA meeting updates:
 - Unfortunately, the booking secretary has had a stroke – a replacement has been found.
 - The Maintenance Manager had resigned and 3 people have taken on different elements of the role.
 - It was noted ABCA were struggling to fill roles.
 - Insurance of the Parish Rooms needs to be clarified, the Parish Council are liable for insurance, but ABCA source the insurance?
 - The responsibilities for both ABCA and the Parish Council need to be re-aligned for the today’s requirements.
 - The lease is due for renewal in 2025.
 - The issues with the DEFIB were discussed – Cllr Wakefield agreed to take over the guardianship of the DEFIB located at the Parish Rooms for ABCA. As the DEFIB is an ABCA Asset, the liability insurance should be checked. ABCA to check and respond to Cllr Wakefield.
 - Cllr Charlton is the Guardian of the DEFIB located at the Riverside Inn Cllr Edwards agreed to look at funding for the DEFIB. **Action Cllr Edwards**

15. Correspondence

The Clerk had summarised correspondence in her Clerk’s report. There were no items raised for discussion at the meeting.

16. AOB

- The drain is blocked opposite the caravan park on Warrington Road. Cllr Charlton reported it. Cllr Edwards to look into. **Action Cllr Edwards**
- Cllr Fifield asked for submission of articles for the next Village Newsletter before 15th February.
- Cllr Fifield advised he will be resigning from the role of vice Chairperson on the Parish Council as he will be the Parliamentary Candidate for the Conservative Party for Mid Cheshire, timing to be agreed.

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is planned for **Monday 5th February 2024 19:00.**

The discussion closed at 20:40

Signed (Chairperson)

Date