

# LOWER WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD

MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

at LOWER WITHINGTON PARISH HALL.

PRESENT - Councillors: P. Duffy (Chairman), J. Blackburn, A. Brocklehurst.  
Members of Public (0).  
Cheshire East Borough Councillor L. Smetham.  
Dr. E. M. Maddock - Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Councillor P. Duffy introduced the newly appointed Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, Dr. Elizabeth M. Maddock, to the Parish Council.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Councillors R. Robinson & T. Barlow.**

**Decision a)** To receive the apologies for absence as listed above.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None.**

**3. MINUTES -**

i) The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 had been previously circulated to all Members. Two typographical errors were amended at Item 7(2) - 'this' and 'Davides'.

**051/2015 Resolved a) That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (All in favour)**

**4. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES -**

041/2015 - Clarification of the 'Prior Approval' planning process was still ongoing.

042/2015 - Councillor J. Blackburn reported that information received from Mr. A. Simpson at Cheshire East Council had indicated that there was no current available budget for Cheshire railing repairs and that it was generally considered that the railings were now the responsibility of the landowner.

**052/2015 Resolved a) That Councillor A. Brocklehurst be authorised to investigate the practicability of dismantling and repairing the railings. (All in favour)**

Item 7(3) - A recent meeting had been held by Cheshire East Council which confirmed that the planning conditions set out in the Development Brief for Dingle Bank Quarry are still valid. The Parish Council had been approached by one of the landowners of the Quarry site with a view to presenting preliminary site development proposals to the Parish Council. It was noted that the Parish Council would not be able to offer comment on any proposals prior to submission of any relevant planning applications.

**053/2015 Resolved a) That Councillors R. Robinson and J. Blackburn be authorised to contact the landowner to advise that a short public presentation may be accommodated at the next meeting of the Parish Council. (All in favour)**

Item 8 (2) - Councillor A. Brocklehurst reported that he was in the process of securing confirmation that the required £250 would be provided from a local community group.

**054/2015 Resolved a) That Councillor A. Brocklehurst request that formal confirmation of the donation of £250 towards the carving of the tree at the Village Green be provided by the community group. (All in favour)**

045/2015 - It was suggested that the Village Christmas Fair would provide an opportunity for residents to choose the design of the proposed tree carving.

**055/2015 Resolved a) That Councillor J. Blackburn liaise with Councillor R. Robinson to arrange for provision at the Christmas Fair for residents to select an appropriate tree carving. (All in favour)**

046/2015 - Councillor J. Blackburn reported that the matter of damaged kerbs near to the church had been reported to Cheshire East Council Highways and was still ongoing.

047/2015 - Councillor J. Blackburn reported that she had received information that several areas of the Parish have been provisionally approved for speed limit modifications. A meeting has been arranged to review the extent of the proposals prior to formal notices being issued.

**056/2015 Resolved a) That authorisation be given to those Members attending the meeting with the Highways Officer to review speed modification proposals. (All in favour)**

048/2015 - Councillor J. Blackburn reported that the Highways Officer referred to above may be able to assist in advising the Parish Council how to secure any necessary maintenance to the Speed Indicator Device (SID). No report was available regarding the instruction/warranty documents.

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- 049/2015 - The updating of the Parish Council logo on the website was still ongoing.
- Item 10 (2) - Police Liaison was deferred to a future meeting due to the absence of Councillor T. Barlow who had been dealing with this matter.
- Item 10 (3) - Councillors J. Blackburn and A. Brocklehurst had attended the meeting at which no clear indication of existing quarrying timescales was available due to ongoing geological surveys.
- 050/2015 - This action was no longer required as a new Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer had been appointed.

## 5. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2016 -

- i) The following dates were agreed for Parish Council Meetings during 2016 (subject to availability of the Parish Hall) -

25 <sup>th</sup> January, 2016	23 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2016	26 <sup>th</sup> September, 2016
29 <sup>th</sup> February, 2016	27 <sup>th</sup> June, 2016	31 <sup>st</sup> October, 2016
28 <sup>th</sup> March, 2016	25 <sup>th</sup> July, 2016	28 <sup>th</sup> December, 2016
25 <sup>th</sup> April, 2016	Annual Parish Meeting to take place on 25 <sup>th</sup> April, 2016.	

- 057/2015 Resolved a) **That the Clerk arrange for the Parish Hall to be booked for the above Meetings of the Parish Council.** (All in favour)

## 6. FINANCE -

- i) To confirm payment of £20.50 to Councillor R. Robinson for reimbursement of the Cheshire East fee for extraction of a planning decision notice from the archive.

- 058/2015 Resolved a) **That the above payment be duly approved and authorised.** (All in favour)

- ii) To approve the Clerk's pay scale at NALC Spinal Column Point 23 (£10.836 p.h.) based on the candidate's experience and qualifications.

- 059/2015 Resolved a) **That the Clerk's appointment and pay scale at NALC Spinal Column Point 23 be approved.** (All in favour)

## 7. PLANNING -

- i) **To receive the latest planning schedule and discuss new planning applications -**

It was noted that no new applications had been received since the last meeting.

- 060/2015 Resolved a) **That the Clerk update the planning schedule, as required, for the next meeting.** (All in favour)

- ii) **To receive an update on the ChALC/CCA Planning Seminar attended by Councillors J. Blackburn, P. Duffy and R. Robinson -**

Councillor P. Duffy reported that the event had been very informative and interesting. Discussions regarding Neighbourhood Plans had highlighted that the cost and time implications of the process can be significantly reduced where Parishes choose to prepare a more modest and focussed Plan.

- 061/2015 Resolved a) **That the merits of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan be considered at a future meeting.** (All in favour)

## 8. COMMUNITY -

- i) **Defibrillator Plaque** - It was noted that the plaque had now been ordered.

## 9. HIGHWAYS -

- i) **Highways schedule** - It was noted that there were currently no new items to report.

- ii) **Accident Log** - It was noted that there were currently no new accidents to report.

- iii) **Speed Indicator Device on Village Green** - This had previously been discussed at Item 4 Resolution 048/2015.

## 10. PUBLIC FORUM FOR QUESTIONS -

- i) Access to Village Green - It was reported that a communication from a resident had requested that the Parish Council consider whether an access could be built to allow those unable to confidently negotiate the grassed bank to access the Village Green.

- 062/2015 Resolved a) **That Councillor J. Blackburn be authorised to contact Cheshire East Council to seek their views on the matter so that access to the Village Green can be considered at a future meeting.** (All in favour)

## 11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lower Withington Parish Hall.

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 9:13p.m.

Signed: .....

Approval Date - 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015