



AMENITIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of meeting on 12 July 2018
 at The Academy Suite, Holmes Chapel Community Centre, CW4 8AA



Part I – Public and Press present

1. Attendance	Cllr J Clowes Cllr A Armitt Cllr B Bath Cllr M Blomeley Cllr P Cotton Cllr S Ranger Cllr D Savage Cllr M Street	Mrs S Davies - Clerk to the Council 3 members of the public (2 arrived during the meeting)						
2. Apologies	None							
3. Declarations of Interest	None							
4. Public Speaking	None.							
5. Minutes	RESOLVED (A18/19/13) to approve the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 14 June 2018							
6. Matters Arising	None							
7. Planning Matters	<p>1. Bank Farm House – Middlewich Rd - 18/0925C and 17/4804C - Demolition of existing dwelling and the erection of new dwellings and ancillary infrastructure. The Committee noted the reply from CEC and RESOLVED (A18/19/14)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. To discuss the issue of the misinterpretation of the neighbourhood plan at the next Strategic Planning Task Group meeting. II. To draft a letter to CEC planning relating to the misinterpretation of the neighbourhood plan which will be brought to the next Strategy & Finance committee meeting. <p>2. The committee considered the applications listed below and RESOLVED (A18/19/15) to comment as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="421 1422 1460 2094"> <tr> <td data-bbox="421 1422 762 1659"> 18/3195C Pedlars Way 5 The Drive CW4 7BJ </td> <td data-bbox="762 1422 1460 1659"> Demolition of porch; Remodelling of front of house to create new entrance; single storey front extension; two storey side extension; new rear dormer to existing garage. NO OBJECTION </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="421 1659 762 1827"> 18/3227C 31 Selkirk Drive CW4 7LJ </td> <td data-bbox="762 1659 1460 1827"> Two storey extension and single storey rear extension. NO OBJECTION </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="421 1827 762 2094"> 18/3051T 25 Hawthorn Villas CW4 7AR </td> <td data-bbox="762 1827 1460 2094"> Tree works to fell Tilia Europaea tree. Comment: The PC will only support removal of the tree if it is unsafe. The tree has amenity value and unless there is good reason it shouldn't be removed. We leave the decision in the hands of the CEC tree officer. </td> </tr> </table>		18/3195C Pedlars Way 5 The Drive CW4 7BJ	Demolition of porch; Remodelling of front of house to create new entrance; single storey front extension; two storey side extension; new rear dormer to existing garage. NO OBJECTION	18/3227C 31 Selkirk Drive CW4 7LJ	Two storey extension and single storey rear extension. NO OBJECTION	18/3051T 25 Hawthorn Villas CW4 7AR	Tree works to fell Tilia Europaea tree. Comment: The PC will only support removal of the tree if it is unsafe. The tree has amenity value and unless there is good reason it shouldn't be removed. We leave the decision in the hands of the CEC tree officer.
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<p>8. Footpath Link between Persimmon and Seddon Estates.</p>	<p>Cllr Clowes updated the committee that we have heard from the owners of the equestrian centre, with a meeting arranged on Friday 13 July 2018, to discuss the footpath link.</p>
<p>9. Holmes Chapel Community Centre</p>	<p>The following updates were noted by the committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Clerk reported on various operational matters raised at a meeting with the site manager including the timings of various health and safety surveys. The Clerk informed that the maternity cover manager is now working at the Community Centre. Alan Bethell has been instructed to remove a dead lime tree on the Station Road boundary of the Community Centre 2) Cllr Bath updated on the status of the planning application 18/3005C for the works to the redesign of the entranceway. A decision is expected by mid-August. 3) The inspection of the skatepark by Canvas Spaces Ltd has been arranged for 30 July 2018. 4) There have been issues with branches falling from the trees on the boundary into neighbouring back gardens on Seddon Way. Work has been done this week to clear the mound and lower branches from the trees for prevention of further instances. There has been no further progress with the removal of the poplar trees. 5) A request from the Holmes Chapel Scouts to park a minibus on the site was considered and is on the JMLC agenda for the 17th July. <p>RESOLVED (A18/19/16)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. to accept the report. II. To contact the Scout group to offer the use of parking in the spaces by the Bellway site, at their own risk subject to agreement by ESAR on the 17 July 2018
<p>10. Dane Meadow</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Clerk gave a verbal update on the status of the ecological project which is being progressed by Cheshire East. 2. There has been no further progress on the repair work to the drain. This is to be pursued with Cheshire East/ANSA. 3. The motorbike signage has still not been installed, awaiting Streetscape. 4. The following maintenance report was provided by Cllr Savage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass mowing of the meadow is slowly improving, although the disabled car park is still overgrown. • Some matting is visible and more bark chippings to be applied. • The viewing platform has a broken rail – quotes for the work are being sought. • The picnic areas need weed killer applying and more thorough strimming. • The grass and willow are dominating the bird hide – grass needs replacing with bark chippings. • A footpath by the river is flooding. <p>RESOLVED (A18/19/17)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. To accept the report. II. To arrange a meeting with ANSA to resolve the issues with Dane Meadow maintenance and for the Clerk to arrange for James Baggeley of Cheshire East Council to attend the meeting.
<p>11. Conservation Area Project</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The notes of the meeting held on the 19 June 2018 were received. 2. The supplied report on Church Walk was noted, which is also being distributed to the tenants of Church Walk.

	<p>RESOLVED (A18/19/18)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. to accept the report. II. To arrange a meeting with the tenants of Church Walk, to progress planned improvements to the appearance of the walk.
12. Play Areas	<p>1. Elm Drive – The Clerk updated the Committee. The need for strimming and the two replacement swings have been reported with no response to date.</p> <p>2. Middlewich Road – The Clerk reported that she has been in discussion with ANSA regarding responsibility of the equipment and maintenance issues. Cheshire East safety inspection information has been received but not the external ROSPA reports.</p> <p>A meeting is being arranged to discuss the areas in more detail. In addition, a separate meeting is being arranged to consider S106 expenditure for new play equipment at both sites.</p> <p>RESOLVED (A18/19/19)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. to obtain copies of the ROSPA report for each play area. II. For the Clerk to send a letter to CEC/ANSA to establish ownership and responsibility in writing. III. For the Clerk to send a letter to CEC/ANSA to complain about the very slow response to repair the play equipment.
13. Precinct	<p>The Clerk provided a summary of the meeting with CBRE, precinct management on 5 July 2018. (See appendix 1)</p> <p>RESOLVED (A18/19/20) to accept the report.</p>
14. Project List	<p>The list of projects was debated by the Committee.</p> <p>RESOLVED (A18/19/21) to include the following projects on the September agenda for the Amenities Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strathmore Close Play area 2. Skatepark 3. Conservatory Roof
15. Village Tree Survey	<p>Cllr Blomeley reported that the local volunteer has completed a comprehensive survey of all the trees in the village, including dangerous and potentially protected trees.</p> <p>RESOLVED (A18/19/22)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. To send a letter of thanks to the local volunteer II. To submit the dangerous tree report to CEC III. To prepare a report to Council with a strategic plan for increasing the number of trees in the village. IV. To recommend to Council a program of tree planting, including memorial trees.
16. Reports from Outside Bodies	<p>The committee heard the following reports from the representatives of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected Communities: Cllr Cotton will attend the next meeting on 19 July 2018. The Clerk updated on the Conference held on the 11 July 2018 at Holmes Chapel Community Centre which had been well attended by representatives of many bodies who are involved in Connected Communities throughout Cheshire East. • Sandbach Alms-houses: Cllr Cotton is attending the next afternoon tea event on 23 August 2018, which is also to be attended by the CEC

	<p>mayor. A trustee network meeting invitation has also been received by Cllr Cotton.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holmes Chapel Partnership: The Partnership plans for the “Celebrating Holmes Chapel Show” and the next Christmas market are underway. The Partnership have stated a willingness to progress the funding and management of some of the Parish Council projects from the list. A volunteer has been established to act as a project manager. • Education Services: No further update. • Health and Social Services: Cllr Cotton attended the recent meeting of the patient panel and updated the committee The Clerk informed that the manager of the health centre has agreed to attend the next meeting of the Amenities committee to provide a Health Centre update. Cllr Ranger expressed concerns of a number of residents re the dental practice ceasing to provide NHS services. This will particularly impact children in the village. A letter of concern will be drafted by Cllr Ranger comprising the points raised. (See appendix 2.) <p>RESOLVED (A18/19/23) to accept the report.</p>
17. Public Speaking	<p>A member of the Public objected strongly to the decision by CEC to approve the building of 6 houses at Bank Farm on Middlewich Road, Holmes Chapel (18/0925C). He expressed concern at the lack of provision for appeal against planning decisions and noted the letter of complaint sent by the parish Council.</p>
18. Chairman and Clerks reports	<p>The clerk reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the attendance of Cllr Cotton at the recent funeral of former Cllr John Norton in addition to Cllr Parry. <p>The Chairman reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints have been received on the poor state of maintenance of the Croco Path, with nettles preventing use of the path. • On the hard work put in by the few councillors who attended the Village fair on Saturday 8 July. <p>Cllr Street provided an update on the status of the railway Station, with local volunteers requesting support from the Parish Council to highlight the poor condition of the station building to Northern Rail.</p>
19. Future Agenda Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dane Meadow – footpath renovation where flooding occurs. 2. Strathmore Close play area 3. Skatepark 4. Conservatory Roof
<p>The meeting closed at 8.54p.m.</p>	

These minutes will be submitted for approval at the next Committee meeting scheduled for 13 September 2018

Signed as Chairman of the Committee as a true and accurate record:

.....Date.....

Notes of a Meeting with CBRE Ltd Parish Council Office – 5th July 2018, 14:00pm

Attendees: Lorraine Jennings (CBRE Ltd, managers of the precinct), Cllr B Bath, Cllr J Clowes, Cllr M Blomeley and the Clerk.

1. Raised Bed fronting the Precinct

L Jennings informed that CBRE plan to turf this area (the largest bed) in the following financial year. They feel this will open the area up which would help monitor the area for problems. They also feel that indiscriminate planting by other parties has caused problems with the borders at present which turving would alleviate.

The Parish Council representatives present expressed disappointment at this decision and questioned whether turf would be appropriate whilst appreciating the need for increased visibility in the area. Cllr Clowes informed that to the best of his knowledge, there had been no planting since the area had ceased to be in the care of the Village Volunteers.

A compromise of a border along the front was discussed and the possibility of using gravel rather than turf, perhaps with bench seats. It was agreed that there could be further talks on this issue but the final decision would rest with CBRE.

It was agreed by both parties that a frontage border should be possible and further discussion can follow on other aspects.

2. Litter Issues/Larger Waste Bins

L Jennings explained that larger bins are approximately £700 compared to £500 for the smaller size. To replace all bins at that cost would impact on the rents of the tenant businesses.

After discussion it was agreed that one larger bin could be provided to be located in the proximity of the pizza business. The Parish Council agreed to continue to try and identify some funding opportunities to help with costs.

3. Lights

L. Jennings informed that she was under the impression that both lights were the property of the Parish Council, including maintenance and electricity (in accordance with the Parish Council's understanding).

The Parish Council agreed to contact Cheshire East Council to discuss maintenance issues including conversion to LED. L Jennings also offered to convert the lights to LED if the Parish Council could establish how the power is isolated.

4. Update on Social Problems

L Jennings informed of issues relating to anti-social behaviour about which she is in communication with the PCSO and PC Need.

5. Car Park issues

The Parish Council expressed their concern regarding large vehicles and HGVs using the car-park, but L Jennings explained that using a barrier had been shown to be too problematic with frequent repairs required.

L Jennings informed of a problem with all day parking by users of the nearby train station which was making it increasingly difficult for people to park to use the local shops. This may result in a change to the current parking restrictions with the possibility of an ANPR being installed with traders given exemptions if required.

After discussion, L Jennings agreed to consider three hours free parking rather than two with Sundays possibly being exempt, but she explained that this would depend on the software used.

It was agreed that the alterations should help to ease parking problems for shoppers who would still have more than adequate free parking time.

6. Memorial Bench

The Parish Council thanked L Jennings/CBRE for accommodating the Memorial Bench from the Parkway and for undertaking the work to move it.

L Jennings kindly offered to maintain the bench although it would remain the property of the Parish Council.

7. Any other Matters

Cllr Clowes gave L Jennings an update on the Sensory Garden project.

Cllr Bath informed of the Parish Council's tentative idea of considering entering the Best Kept Village next year.

Appendix 2

NHS England
PO Box 16738
Redditch
B97 9PT
Email: england.contactus@nhs.net

Dear Sir,

Holmes Chapel Parish Council is concerned that the only local NHS dental practice, Holmes Chapel Dentists, is to cease treating NHS patients from January 2019. The Council has been led to understand that the practice has taken this decision because the terms of the NHS contract it has been offered mean that it has been unable to attract dentists to undertake NHS work. The two dentists currently undertaking this work are both leaving. The practice has an excellent reputation with NHS patients.

The Council has been told that Holmes Chapel is treated by NHS England as a non-priority area and that the NHS contract available is of less value than that in many other localities. Whilst it is true that Holmes Chapel is a relatively prosperous area, it also has a higher than average elderly population, many of whom will find it difficult to afford private dentistry fees. Elderly people may also find it difficult to travel to alternative practices offering NHS treatment. The nearest such practices are in Middlewich and Sandbach, which have limited or non-existent public transport links with Holmes Chapel.

The village also has a substantial under-18 population whose dental health will be compromised if free NHS dental treatment ceases to be available and financial pressures lead to fewer children and young people attending for regular dental checks.

I would be grateful if you would explain why Holmes Chapel is not funded adequately and inform us as to the steps you are taking to ensure that the residents of Holmes Chapel can continue to have access to an excellent NHS dentistry service.

A copy of this letter has been sent to our local MP.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs S Davies
Clerk of the Council