

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL held at the VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs D. Watkinson (Chair)  
A. Burgess, G. Fox, M. Green, J. Kershaw, G. Sant, C. Turner, P. Vernon and  
A. Wood

**In Attendance:** E. Beech – Clerk  
8 members of the public  
G. Bebbington – Northwich Guardian

*The formal business of the meeting was preceded by a 15 minute session during which members of the public had the opportunity to raise questions and seek clarification in relation to village and community matters.*

*Also, prior to the meeting the 2007 Best Kept Garden Competition awards were presented by John Gittins, Cheshire Landscape Trust and two representatives from the Mid-Cheshire Masons presented a cheque towards the playing field development project.*

**07.09.01 Apologies for Absence**

None submitted by the Parish Council. Noted apologies from Cllr. Mashlan (VRBC).

**07.09.02 Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2007, including the confidential minutes, be agreed and signed as a correct record

*Proposed: Cllr. Green                      Seconded: Cllr. Vernon*

**07.09.03 Clerk's Report**

**Resolved:** that

- a) the Clerk's report relating to progress on a number of current matters be received;
- b) arising from the report it was noted that:
  - no applications had been received for co-option to the Council
  - no further communication regarding the safe route to school had been received from the County Council's Chief Engineer as promised but County Cllr. Harris is to attend the joint Councils' meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September
  - the Community Spirit Award winner will not be notified prior to the Awards Ceremony on 4<sup>th</sup> October as in previous years; the Chair and Vice Chair confirmed they will attend this event.
- c) as the County High School Band is unable to play at the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony, Cllr. Fox establish the availability of a group of which he is aware and advise the Clerk, as soon as possible
- d) the matter of the Adventure Group lease be considered at the end of the meeting and members of the public and the press be required to withdraw for that item due to the confidential nature of the lease detail.

**07.09.04 Reports**

**(a) Finance**

**Resolved:** that

- a) receipt of a 'clean' report from the External Auditor for the financial year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 be noted;
- b) the Finance Committee be authorised to take action on the renewal notice due for the Guaranteed Investment Bond and report back to the Council;
- c) a revised bank mandate be submitted which includes new members as authorised signatories and continues to require two signatories for payment

**(b) Planning**

10 Weaver Grange – single storey extension to rear, erection of porch to front and extension of pitched roof over garage – *no objections* (subsequently permitted 4/9/07)

47 Meadow Lane – two storey side extension, conversion of existing detached garage and link to form additional living accommodation – *concerns regarding creation of terraced effect, no access to rear of property, garage of adequate construction for conversion and reduction of off-road parking*

Land at Jack Lane – construction of new outfall and lay-by (United Utilities) - *no objections but request to keep size of lay-by to minimum to prevent overnight lorry parking*

**Resolved:** that the above comments submitted by the Planning Committee be confirmed.

**(c) Garages**

**Resolved:** that

- a) Cllr. Fox and the Clerk make recommendations to the next meeting regarding rent increases for 2008
- b) Ash Skip Hire be advised that they have sited skips on private land at the rear of Regent Street and should in future seek permission and Regent Street residents be advised that permission must be sought.

**(d) Publicity / Website**

**Resolved:** that Cllr. Turner review the website content and make recommendations regarding any changes

**(e) Community**

Considered arrangements for the next edition of the Newsletter, including format, preparation and possible items for inclusion; these to include traffic issues update, Community Action Meeting report, Vision Design Statement, recent events report and playground development.

**Resolved:** that a draft format for the newsletter be considered at the next meeting; Cllrs. Turner and Sant to prepare

**07.09.05 Village Design Statement and Parish Landscape Assessment**

Group met in July and is now finalising the draft document

**07.09.06 Anti-Social Behaviour**

Cllr. Vernon reported from two seminars she had attended relating to the work and role of PCSOs and enabled representatives from a range of organisations and agencies involved in community safety to share and discuss issues and solutions.

Noted that although incidents have reduced in some areas of anti-social behaviour other aspects are now being highlighted, such as the amount of dog waste left in areas around the village. Need to establish what can be done to take action on this.

**Resolved:** that

- a) the Clerk contact Vale Royal BC to establish what the role of its dog warden service is and how that service can support action in this area
- b) the issue and concerns be raised at the next MADSAG meeting.

**07.09.07 Correspondence**

**Resolved:** that

- a) correspondence received as detailed below be noted and the action list be agreed;
- b) Cllrs. Burgess, Kershaw and Sant consider the draft Licensing Policy of Vale Royal Borough Council and submit recommended comments to the next meeting
- c) the County Council's Countryside Unit be requested to consider surface improvements to the path down to the River Weaver from Eaton Hall Farm

1	Vale Royal BC	1 Aug	April – June 2007 report re Vale Royal Community Safety Warden Scheme	Noted
		6 Aug	Reporting the award of status of an Excellent Council & Local Government Reorganisation – reporting the Secretary of State's announcement that she is minded to implement a 2 unitary structure and the Borough Council's response	Noted
		6 Aug	Copies of the Vale Royal Reporter	Distributed
		14 Aug	Sports and Arts Directory 2007	Noted
		15 Aug	Consultation on the Frodsham Parish Landscape Assessment and Town Design Statement SPD	Noted
		31 Aug	Review of Licensing Policy – invitation to comment on draft	See above
2	Cheshire CC	20 Jul	Consultation on option to close some Older People's community support centres	Noted
		31 July	Local Government Reorganisation – reporting the Secretary of State's announcement that she is minded to implement a 2 unitary structure and the County Council's response	Noted
		3 Aug	Notice of the adoption of the Cheshire Replacement Waste	Noted

		15 Aug	Local Plan Parish Small Grants Scheme to improve access to the local countryside	Noted
		24 Aug	'Cheshire Matters' – August edition	See above
		31 Aug	Copy of the Council's Annual Corporate Performance Report	Noted
3	Crewe & Nantwich and Congleton BCs	17 Aug	Joint letter regarding their position on Local Government Reorganisation	Noted
4	Cheshire Police Authority	10 Aug 17 Aug	Questionnaire on deployment, etc of PCSOs Police Forum – August newsletter Next meeting of Vale Royal Police Forum – 17 <sup>th</sup> October – 7pm Tarporley	Completed Noted  Noted
5	Cheshire Assoc. of Local Councils	24 Aug  27 Aug	Training - Code of Conduct and its implications – 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept or 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct. – 6.30pm Winsford  September newsletter Notice of Annual Meeting – 18 <sup>th</sup> October – 6.30pm – Middlewich Civic Hall and opportunity to submit motion/s Vale Royal Area Meeting – 20 <sup>th</sup> September – Wyvern House – 7pm	Let Clerk know if wish to attend Distributed Clerk to attend  Noted
6	Cheshire Community Council	12 Jul	'Cheshire Rural View' July newsletter	Noted
7	Clerks and Councils Direct	20 Jul 8 Sep	July newsletter August newsletter	Noted Noted
8	MADCA	24 Aug	Notice of increase in charges for use of hall – to £17.50 for small hall Notice of use of hall by Drama Group necessitating alternative venue for March and June 2008 meetings	Noted  Noted

#### 07.09.08 Accounts – net payments

##### August:

	Staff expenditure	£ 466.67
G. J. Steele	contract - litter pick up/playground insp. Jul - 5 occasions	£ 175.00
Northwich Town Council	contract grass cutting – Jul - 4 sites – 2 cuts plus remove tree	£ 482.00
Northwich Town Council	contract grass cutting – July - pl/ field – 2 cuts	£ 357.50
Vale Royal BC	contract - empty bins/car park sweep-playing field- 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter	£ 215.00
Post Office Ltd (Scot. Power)	electricity supply to Village Hall	£ 219.54
Post Office Ltd (Scot. Power)	electricity supply at War Memorial	£ 37.96

##### September:

	Staff expenditure	£ 478.82
E. Beech	reimbursement for Best Kept Garden awards vouchers	£ 95.00
G. J. Steele	contract - litter pick up/playground insp. Aug - 4 occasions	£ 140.00
MADCA	use of halls for playscheme w/b 6 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> August	£ 408.00
Northwich Town Council	contract grass cutting – Aug - 4 sites – 2 cuts	£ 462.00
Northwich Town Council	contract grass cutting – Aug - pl/ field – 2 cuts	£ 368.00
Northwich Town Council	removal of graffiti from teen shelters	£ 100.00
Northwich Town Council	removal and replacement of swing seat	£ 85.00
Northwich Town Council	cutting shrubs back at War Memorial	£ 200.00
Post Office Ltd (Scot. Power)	electricity supply to MUGA lights	£ 47.94
UHY Hacker Young	audit of Annual Return 2006/07	£ 285.00
Vale Royal Borough Council	planning application fee for revised playgrounds project	£ 132.50

##### Resolved: that

- payments made for the above accounts in August be confirmed; and
- the above accounts for September be passed for payment

Proposed: Cllr. Vernon

Seconded: Cllr. Turner

### **07.09.09 Councillors' Reports**

#### Summer Playscheme

Cllr. Vernon reported the Playscheme had been well attended mainly by young children and the Hall had been used on both days. Noted the Clerk is pursuing a contribution from the Playscheme organisers towards the cost of hall use.

#### Villages in Cheshire Event

Noted Cllr. Kershaw is to attend this event on 12<sup>th</sup> September.

#### Sustrans

Cllr. Kershaw drew attention to the current campaign to secure a grant from the Lottery Fund's Living Landmarks to support NW projects, including the reinstatement of the Riversdale swing bridge to provide a safe route for pedestrians and cyclists over the River Weaver.

**Resolved:** that the Parish Council's support for the campaign be logged.

#### Moulton Youth Club

Noted Youth Club reopening.

### **07.09.10 Next Meeting**

Noted the next meeting will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at 7.30pm in the Back Room at the Village Hall, preceded by a public participation session starting at 7.15pm

Also, noted:

- a) the next joint meeting with Davenham Parish Council is arranged for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at Davenham, at which County Cllr. Shirley Harris, Richard Flood, Area Highways Engineer and PCSO Richard Forster will be present.
- b) a meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2007 in the Committee Room at 7.30pm; the agenda to include consideration of grant applications received.

There being no further business this part of the meeting closed at 8.40pm