

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL held at the VILLAGE HALL on MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2008 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs D. Watkinson (Chair)  
A. Burgess, J. Kershaw, C. Turner and A. Wood

**In Attendance:** E. Beech – Clerk  
F. Cushing, D. Hough, L. Williams – residents  
Cllr. J. Mashlan (Vale Royal BC)  
G. Bebbington (Northwich Guardian)

**08.02.01 Apologies for Absence**

**Resolved:** that the apologies for absence received from Cllrs. Green (meeting) and Vernon (holiday) be accepted.

**08.02.02 Public Open Session**

The meeting commenced with 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. Matters raised were:

- a) Membership position regarding Cllr. Felix-Browne
- b) Latest position regarding location issues for advertising banners for community events
- c) Notice of IMPPS AGM to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> May and invitation to Parish Council to include items in the next newsletter due to be completed by end of April, noting Parish Newsletter also due at this time

**Resolved:** that

- a) Cllr. Felix-Browne's position as a current Councillor and her absence for a number of months was confirmed
- b) the Clerk contact Vale Royal BC to establish current policy and report back to Mrs. Williams
- c) distribution arrangements for the IMPPS and the Parish Newsletters be coordinated, if possible.

**08.02.03 Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008, including the confidential minutes, be agreed and signed as a correct record.

*Proposed: Cllr. Wood*

*Seconded: Cllr. Burgess*

**08.02.04 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:
  - a response to comments on the proposed bus shelter improvements is awaited;
  - the Borough Council's Planning Committee report on the proposed gas storage facilities at King Street is available on its website;
  - progress on the new lease for Moulton Adventure Group is being made;
  - Arriva is to make some changes to enhance bus services which serve Moulton
  - Shirley Harris has resigned as a County Councillor for personal reasons
- c) the County Council be informed that it's response to the request for road markings to highlight the dropped kerb at the entrance to the Church is unhelpful and it should fund as well as provide the markings rather than charge the applicant.

**08.02.05 Application for Co-option to the Council**

Noted receipt of an application for co-option from Mr. David Hough

**Resolved:** that Mr Hough be invited to attend a meeting with Councillors on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall to discuss his application and a recommendation concerning his co-option be made to the next meeting.

**08.02.06 Reports**

**(a) Finance**

**Resolved:** that

- a) the Internal Auditor's 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report for 2007/08 be received and that no anomalies or areas of concern were identified, be noted

- b) the Audit Commission's appointment of a new External Auditor for 5 years commencing with the accounts for 2007/08 be noted
- c) the Council purchase a shield to be competed for annually and 4 small shields for the winning team of the inaugural Moulton Crow Darts Competition, subject to any team from the community being able to enter.

**(b) Planning**

Considered the following application:

15 Lodge Drive – single storey extension to rear and pitched roof over dormers

**Resolved:** that the following comments be submitted,

- the proposal appears to conflict with the 45 degree rule concerning loss of light for a neighbouring property therefore being detrimental to their amenity; and
- there is no first floor plan so there is inadequate information on the proposed pitch roof over the dormers

**(c) Garages**

Noted the collection of annual rents was almost complete with only a small number of outstanding ones. Cllr. Burgess reported back on a site review he and Cllr. Fox had held.

**Resolved:** that the Clerk provide a scaled map of the area, if possible for further work to be undertaken.

**(d) Publicity / Website**

Considered the next Parish Newsletter and Annual Report and website content.

**Resolved:** that

- a) the new format and layout be continued and items for content be considered at the next meeting
- b) local businesses be invited to advertise on the website; and item to be included in the newsletter.

**(e) Community**

Noted 3 nominations received for the Individual Citizenship Award, one of which by precedent was deemed not eligible and 1 received for the Group Citizenship Award. A ballot process was held for the Individual Award

**Resolved:** that

- a) the late Mrs Kath Randles be awarded the Individual Citizenship Award
- b) Moulton Old Friends Group be awarded the Group Citizenship Award
- c) arrangements be made for the Awards to be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting

**08.02.07 Council Contracts**

Considered the extension of 3 contracts for 2008/09 as per current contract wording.

**Resolved:** that in view of the confidential nature of further discussions regarding the Village Hall lease this be considered at the end of the meeting and members of the public and the press be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw for that item.

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

Cllr. Kershaw reported that the draft document will be available to the Council soon.

**08.02.09 Anti-Social Behaviour**

Noted feedback from the Community Action Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, in particular the PCSO's report detailing current issues and attendees' agreement to the priorities for the PCSO to respond to, headed by speeding and vandalism.

Noted significant incidents of vandalism, particularly at the playing field e.g. increase in broken glass at the MUGA, irreparable damage to a seat and the litter bin at the teen shelters, turf dug up to create a mound.

**Resolved:** that increased vigilance by residents be encouraged in an article in the newsletter.

**08.02.10 Correspondence**

**Resolved:** that correspondence received as detailed below be noted and the action list be agreed

1	Vale Royal BC	16 Jan	Consultation on proposed Local Validation requirements for planning applications	To include VDS  Noted Noted
		16 Jan	Notice of adoption of the revised Licensing Policy wef 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan – copy on website	
		21 Jan	Council's Annual Report for 2006/07	
		25 Jan	Next round of Area meetings, inc. Winsford 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	

		25 Jan	& Northwich 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar – agenda New national concessionary bus pass scheme – posters for display	Noted On n-boards
		7 Feb	Plastic bottle recycling scheme to be extended	Noted
		8 Feb	CSW Scheme report – Jan to Dec. 2007	Noted
		11 Feb	Invitation to Mayor's Charity Ball – Fri. 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Send £25 donation
2	Cheshire CC	19 Jan	Consultation on the proposed Local Validation requirements for planning applications – by 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	To include VDS
3	Cheshire West & Chester Joint Implementation Team	1 Feb	Update on new Unitary Council progress, reference to working with parish & town councils and possible devolution of service delivery - invitation to a conference at Wyvern House - 20 <sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm	PC will be represented
4	Cheshire Police Authority	16 Jan	Agenda for Police Forum - Wed. 30 <sup>th</sup> January, inc. summary of a review of the work of PCSOs	Noted
5	Dept. for Communities and Local Govt.	17 Jan	Consultation re relating to the roles of Standards Committees and the Standards Board	Noted
6	Cheshire Community Council	4 Feb	Invitation to enter the Community Pride Competition for 2008 and other awards	Not enter as not priority for Council time
7	Resident	7 Feb	Request that ongoing strong odours be looked into	Referred to VRBC
8	Resident	8 Feb	Complaint re dog fouling – Whitlow Lane Criticism of PCSO effectiveness	Noted

#### 08.02.11 Accounts – net payments / income

##### Payments:

	Staff expenditure	£ 466.66
G. J. Steele	contract - litter pick up/playground insp. Jan - 4 occasions	£ 140.00
G. J. Steele	contract – additional visits to pick up glass	£ 35.00
Northwich Town Council	playing field - fence repairs, removal- graffiti & damaged bin	£ 351.00
Scottish Power	electricity supply to Village Hall (21/11/07-28/1/08)	£ 247.50
Scottish Power	electricity supply to MUGA (5/11/07 to 7/2/08)	£ 57.28
Scottish Power	electricity supply to War Memorial (9/11/07 to 7/2/08)	£ 41.56
British Gas	gas supply to Village Hall (22/9/07 to 13/12/07)	£ 258.49
Vale Royal BC	contract for playing field – empty bins & sweep car park	£ 215.00
P. Sanders	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter internal audit for 2007/08	£ 30.00

**Resolved:** that the above accounts be passed for payment

*Proposed: Cllr. Turner      Seconded: Cllr. Wood*

##### Income:

Noted receipt of the following income since the last meeting:

Garage plots rents - £1720; interest on current account - £6.22; instalment for compensation payment - £10.00.

#### 08.02.12 Councillors' Reports

##### Regent Street

Noted complaint received from resident that due to satellite navigation directions, large lorries delivering to the Co-op and elsewhere are using Regent Street and damaging wing mirrors on parked cars.

**Resolved:** that the Co-op be requested to inform their drivers not to use Regent Street

#### 08.02.13 Village Hall Lease

**Resolved:** that in view of the confidential nature of further discussions regarding the Village Hall lease this be considered at the end of the meeting and members of the public and the press be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw for that item.

#### 08.02.14 Next Meeting

Noted the next meeting will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at 7 at Moulton School, commencing with a 15 minute public participation session. Also, the next Joint Parishes Meeting will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at 7.30pm in the Back Room at the Village Hall.

There being no further business this part of the meeting closed at 9.00pm