

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF BUNBURY PARISH COUNCIL
13 JANUARY 2021**

This was a remote meeting. *Councillors and the Parish Clerk participated from their homes by joining a virtual zoom call. Members of the public were able to observe the meeting and participate in the Local Forum*

PRESENT: Councillor M Ireland-Jones Acting Chairman
Councillors, N Parker, M Thomas, P Brookfield, G Griffith, L Davies, G Melia and L Gregory

IN ATTENDANCE: Marilyn Houston, Clerk to the Parish Council, one member of the public, a member of the press and CE Cllr S Pochin.

Everyone present spoke of their sadness and deep regret at the passing away of Councillor Ron Pulford, Chair of the Parish Council and shared their thoughts on the respect and esteem in which he was held.

EULOGY

Cllr Ireland-Jones paid tribute to Ron.

“On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to pass on our commiserations to Elizabeth, Debby and Simon on the recent passing of Ron Pulford. As Tony Greco, a former Parish Councillor, said at the funeral service last week the word Eulogy is from the Latin 'to praise' and this is entirely appropriate in the case of Ron.

Ron and Elizabeth moved to Bunbury in 2011 and Ron joined the Parish Council in 2013 quickly becoming our Chair, he guided us through a turbulent period of numerous planning applications and was instrumental in ensuring that the Neighbourhood Plan was one of the first to be adopted in Cheshire East and this has served the village very well since its approval. From championing the Fireworks, keeping our popular bonfire going and the Christmas tree carols, many of the events people associate with Bunbury are in due in large part to Ron's efforts.

On a personal level Ron was very fair and measured in his dealings with Parish Councillors and the public, his leadership is well respected across Cheshire East and we have frequently been praised for the professional way in which we operate. He handled local politics very well, accommodating councillors with a wide range of political opinions and ensuring that we all pulled together as a team. I hope that we will be able to continue this legacy.

Nick Parker who spoke at Ron's funeral said that although Ron only moved here in 2011 it was a testament to him that he made people feel they had known him for years. I know that as the new Chair I will miss our conversations and his sage advice on so many issues.

Ron had a life of public service, from the forces to 30 years in the police and then as Head of Security at Bentley where he retired at the age of 63. He then threw himself in to working within his local community. One thing I learnt at his funeral was that he met Elizabeth whilst playing for a band covering Rolling Stones songs as they wanted to be more edgy than other local bands covering the Beatles! It should be remembered that both Debby, on the Village Day committee, and Elizabeth follow in Ron's footsteps in helping out at village events and we look forward to seeing them involved again as we exit from the pandemic.

His family has asked for donations to Macmillan and Hope House Children's Hospices and we will discuss this later this evening. In the coming months I would like us to look into ways, in conjunction with his family, of a more permanent memorial to Ron, but that is for another time.

As Michael Thomas said not only, he has lost a friend but so too has the whole village.

Finally, I hope that we will be able to meet in person again soon and I look forward to retiring to the Nags Head for a drink where will be able to toast Ron and share our stories of him.”

OPEN FORUM

Speakers paid tribute to Ron. Isobel Noonan, a resident said she is very sad, Ron was a very dedicated Chair who played a big part in protecting against development. The Neighbourhood

Plan will be a lasting legacy Sue Briggs-Harris spoke of how Ron had helped launch The Paper and was always very fair and helpful, she was really sorry.

Regarding the Q&A for the pavilion project Sue said she would welcome any suggested changes and stressed the importance of people helping.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair to serve until the next Annual General Meeting

The Clerk asked for nominations for the office of Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Ireland-Jones was nominated. There were no other nominations, so Cllr Ireland-Jones was elected and signed the acceptance of office form.

The Chair asked for nominations for the office of Vice Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Brookfield was nominated. There were no other nominations. Cllr Brookfield signed the acceptance of office form.

The Chair welcomed new Councilor, Laura Warburton to her first meeting.

13.01.01 APOLOGIES

Cllr, L Potter.

13.01.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION

Members were invited to declare any personal interest (non-pecuniary) or disclosable pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

Cllr Parker declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in planning application 20/5843N Bank House, Bunbury Lane.

13.01.03 MINUTES

(PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING ON 09 DECEMBER)

The Chairman asked all Members if they accepted the minutes.

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on 09 December. A hard copy will be signed by the Chairman at a future date when safe to do so.

13.01.04 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – Cllr Pochin reported:-

The national census will be taking place on 21 March 2021. Cheshire East will be undertaking this locally. The census is important for planning council services. Forms will be sent out in the post.

CE is part of a group of councils boosting Cheshire East as a location for filming with Creative England.

The Brownfield site register updated in Nov 2020 gives information on how sites are being utilized. Details are on the cheshireeast.gov.uk website.

The consultation on the Budget 2021 to 25 has now finished. Residents have given their views on cuts, funding, budgets and Council tax.

CE is supporting badger vaccination across the Borough. Some are of the view this can set up a firewall but also there is some support for a cull.

The Consultation on transport and parking charges is open until 31 January on the website

A Green Infrastructure Assessment was undertaken for CE by the Mersey Forest and a Green Infrastructure Plan will soon be published. This can be used to deliver projects that deliver a net gain in GI and supports CE's aim to be carbon neutral by 2025.

The Planning department is still under pressure. All pre applications are cancelled and planning applications are slow partly due to covid but have been overwhelmed for some time and trying to recruit but have to compete with the commercial sector and larger local authorities. CE is in the top three for the number of applications processed in the country. Anyone with individual issues should let Cllr Pochin know.

Vaccination update- Calvely have asked if the Bunbury surgery will be vaccinating and not sure but currently it is believed that Bunbury residents are all at Christleton. Cllr Brookfield believed that a one way system wouldn't work at Bunbury. Those who are completely housebound will be vaccinated at home.

Cllr Pochin has been sent a photo of a "sophisticated structure in a corner" on the new Hill Close estate. This may come under permitted development, but she can ask if there any guidelines. It is likely to be that each case is individual but will ask.

Cllr Pochin answered questions from Members. Cllr Griffith had asked at the last meeting about the road sweeper. Cllr Ireland-Jones was emailed and will circulate it. Cllr Pochin has also asked about school lane gully and reported back in emails that can be circulated.

Cllr Griffith mentioned road gritting - Bunbury Lane and Vicarage Lane had not being gritted on occasion. The Clerk will circulate the daily Highways report on the schedule that Highways send out.

Cllr Brookfield reported a problem at Bunbury Common in front of a farm where craters in the lane are filling up with water. Cllr Pochin advised that the first thing to do is report online to Highways and upload photos.

CE is putting out a press release about a new minibus on demand service to include Bunbury into Nantwich, that is launching sometime this year.

Cllr Thomas received various reports that the organic waste bin wasn't collected. The schedule changed and was on the website but not all have access to internet so need to make a note to check next year.

13.01.05 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The Chairman invited Members to give a brief report on any matters they were aware of, not covered by the agenda.

Cllr Parker reported that the problem of bins being overfilled was continuing.

Cllr Brookfield reported re policing. On the Cheshire Police website there is an alert about emails that are vaccine scams offering vaccine at home, charging £150. It was stressed this is free on NHS and to never give details via phones or emails or texts. Cllr Brookfield has not heard from local police but is aware they are visiting on a regular basis.

Cllr Thomas reported that someone was exercising their dog on the field and there is a lot of dogs mess around the village There was a police officer on a bike in the village today.

Cllr Ireland-Jones reported the dog signs have been delivered and put up.

Cllr Parker reported about a field flooded at the end of school lane and A49 and the concern that it could extend to properties. He will send details to the Clerk and Chair. The work is continuing on Brantwood

Cllr Griffith asked for information on bins, what is the frequency of emptying? Cllr Parker said they were done on Monday and are weekly in summer, fortnightly in winter but can be flexible. There are problems with car parking places emptying car rubbish and more dog walkers at the moment. The two bins at Playing Fields car park are supposed to be locked but when open tend to be overflowing from Playing Fields users. A meeting is being planned with the Lengthsman

13.01.06 PLANNING MATTERS

13.01.06.1 Planning applications, reserved matters and discharge of conditions applications received from Cheshire East since last meeting.

received at the date the agenda was published

20/5255N Ivy House, Whitchurch Road, Bunbury, CW6 9SX Proposed residential dwelling at land to side of Ivy House. Comments Deadline 13/01/2021

RESOLVED: no comment

20/5843N Bank House, Bunbury Lane, Bunbury, CW6 9QS Erection of a timber single storey granny annexe for ancillary use to the main dwelling. Comment deadline 10 February

RESOLVED: No comment

After the agenda was published the following application was received with comments' deadlines before the next meeting. The Clerk has requested an extension of the deadline from planning.

21/0099N Inyanga, WYCHE LANE, BUNBURY, CW6 9PS

UNCLASSIFIED

Proposed Detached single Garage with room above

RESOLVED: no comment at this time. The application can be reviewed at the February meeting if an extension of the deadline is granted.

13.01.06.2 Decisions made by Cheshire East Council – For information only.
None reported.

13.01.06.3 New Housing Development- Update

Cllr Ireland-Jones reported work has started at the end of Bunbury Lane. He will speak to them about lorries using the lane.

13.01.07. PLAYING FIELDS

13.01.07.01 General update from Cllr Parker

Cllr Parker had covered this in Councillor reports.

Cllr Ireland-Jones reported on the repairs needed to the fence by the bowling green and some other areas. He has got quotes from Tarporley Landscapes and from Reeves, for £1,695 and £1,700. He has spoken to the Treasurer of the Playing Fields Committee re paying this back out of the covid grants.

Resolved to authorize the Chair to arrange for the work to be done,

13.01.07.02 Any other matters – Since the last meeting the Clerk has reimbursed Cllr Ireland-Jones £112.79 by BACS for the dogs signs.

13.01.08. Consultations Cheshire East -To consider responding to any consultations on the CE website.

Transport Consultation – The deadline is 21 January. Anyone can respond as individuals. Members were asked to look at sections 28,30, and 31 regarding buses and school transport after the last meeting Cllr Ireland-Jones read out the response drafted and asked if approved.

RESOLVED to agree the response.

Cllr Griffith left the meeting.

13.01.09. Local Policing Issues – To receive an update from local police if available.

None were present.

13.01.10. Village Maintenance team – update

Cllr Ireland -Jones reported that the PC has been approached by a Duke of Edinburgh gold award student at Tarporley school who is willing to volunteer on the playing fields with such duties as checking on the defibrillator and weekly litter pick on the playground reporting any issues and checking all signs. This was welcomed.

13.01.11. Seasonal Events – to receive information on events.

Christmas - final report

Cllr Parker confirmed the tree was taken down last Sunday and he will send the receipts for volunteers' refreshments to the Clerk.

Cllr Brookfield confirmed that Father Christmas's visit to the primary and preschool to give out sweets on 18 December went well with all observing Covid security. The School are grateful. Thanks were given to Cllr Brookfield who reported that Father Christmas had funded it. The Chair will send thanks to the North Pole.

13.01.12. Correspondence – **To respond to correspondence received.**

The Clerk confirmed that all items had been covered, apart from an email received yesterday from the Church Fabric committee requesting financial help with the annual service of the Clock. This will be put on the agenda for next month. Cllr Brookfield is looking online for grants that could be available.

The Speeding questionnaire from Chalc will be completed and returned having noted Members' opinions.

13.01.13 The Future of the Pavilion Project – to receive an update

The PC will be asking for volunteers preferably people who have experience to establish a committee with a Chair from the community and address it from a needs perspective. Also suggested need to look at available funding at an early stage. Sue Harris has drafted some questions. All to reply to Sue with comments. Sue had spoken to Eaton and Cotebrook and did an article in the paper about the process so will send a copy to the Chair and Clerk. Representatives to be sought from the various clubs including tennis. Cllr Ireland-Jones reported back from a meeting with Cheshire East regarding possible Transfer of Assets to a more local level.

13.01.14. Casual vacancy – To confirm the arrangement for recruiting to a vacancy.

A notice will be prepared and posted on the website. Subject to the notice period having completed without a call for an election, to receive applications from candidates seeking co-option.

13.01.15. Finance Matters:

13.01.15.1 Approval of payments: -

13.01.15.1.1 To approve payment of invoices received.

None received.

The Clerk reported that £200 Installation and removal of Christmas tree to Nick Haslam that was approved at the December meeting had been paid in cash by Cllr Parker and a receipt provided. The Clerk has reimbursed Cllr Parker in a BACS payment.

13.01.15.2 Setting the Budget and Precept for 2021/22

The Parish Council set the budget for 2021/22. Anticipated payments were offset by anticipated receipts to give an estimated budget balance which the PC used to decide the precept request.

The Parish Council RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to request a precept of £29326 from Cheshire East Council.

13.01.15.3 Review of Maintenance Contract. - to agree the specification

Cllr Ireland-Jones had produced a draft and circulated it.

RESOLVED: To approve the specification for the maintenance of Playground, community space and carpark and to go out for quotes

..... Chairman