

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE SCHOOLROOM  
HANKELOW METHODIST CHAPEL, ON 1 MAY 2018**

Presiding: Councillor G Foster (Chairman of the Parish Council)

Parish Councillors present: Councillors C Ainley, G Cope, I Jones and A Lee

Registered electors: Nineteen members of the public

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**1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Parish Councillors were invited to make any declarations of interest. No declarations were made.

**2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 2 May 2017 be approved as a correct record.

**3 ACCOUNTS – 2017-2018**

Copies of the unaudited accounts were tabled at the meeting.

**4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Councillor Gin Foster's report made specific reference to the following:

- Thanks to all those residents who helped the community of Hankelow whether by supporting neighbours, organising, or helping with community events.
- Thanks to residents whose efforts in weeding, mowing and litter-picking helped to keep the village an attractive place to live and contributed to the success in recent years when it won awards under the Community Pride awards scheme.
- The defibrillator which had been donated to the Parish Council had now been fitted to the outside wall of the Chapel.
- Problems had been experienced with the vehicle-speed display unit, but it was now operational again.
- The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was thanked for its work over the previous three years.

**5 REPORT OF LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS**

**Amenities Group**

In the absence of Val Morrey, Chairman of the Amenities Group, the Parish Council Chairman read her report to the meeting:

- 18 June 2017. The Summer Fayre was a success and out of takings of £2,648.00, the following donations were made –
  - £200 to Crewe Concert Band
  - £225 to the Royal Vale Falconry Display
  - £1,500 to the British Heart Foundation
  - £150 to Hankelow Methodist Church
  - £50 to the Mallory Explora Unit
  - £50 to the Fire-fighter's Charity
  - £30 to Greenbank for use of electricity.

- The following events had been organised during the year:
  - 25 July Visit to Hankelow Hall
  - 30 July Provided refreshments for the Transport Festival
  - 3 September Visit to Ness Gardens
  - 10 December Christmas event for adults and children
  - Saxophonie accompanied the Carols on the Green in December.
- One other donation made during the year was £200 to the Donna Louise Trust in memory of Lewis Crossley.

### **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

John Durrant from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group reported on progress on the Neighbourhood Plan, but also reported on the recent consultation exercise carried out by the Group.

At a 'drop-in' session in January 2018, residents had expressed a wish that it was important that there should be a village hub to replace the loss of both The White Lion and Brookfield Golf Club. The Steering Group had decided that residents' wishes in respect of a village hub, should be sought before proceeding further with the draft Neighbourhood Plan. A questionnaire was delivered to each household.

The return rate was 79% and responses to the following were reported:

- Question 1: Should there be a community building?  
90% responded 'yes'.
- Question 2: Did the Methodist Chapel provide an adequate village hub?  
48% responded 'yes'  
46% responded 'no' – the village needed a new facility.
- Question 3: Gave two options for a new facility –  
39% responded to the effect that the village should explore the feasibility of purchasing the Chapel.  
43% opted for allocation of land in order to secure a site for a new building.

The Steering Group would now produce a draft Neighbourhood Plan for submission to the Parish Council for approval, prior to it being subject to the Regulation 14 Consultation (The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012).

## **6 MATTERS RAISED BY LOCAL ELECTORS**

Issues raised by residents were as follows:

- Councillor A Lee reminded the meeting of the background to the closure of The White Lion and the Parish Council's subsequent interest in purchasing the building for use as a community pub.

The White Lion Action Group had recently met and the minutes of that meeting featured as an item on the agenda for the Annual Council Meeting later in the evening.

It was reported that the owner was now marketing the building for £600,000 and had reduced the proposed number of houses to be built on the site, owing to drainage problems.

- Hall Lane. A resident commented that whilst Hall Lane was an adopted highway, Cheshire East Council failed to maintain it. He undertook to clear it and clean it.

- A resident suggested that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group consider the issue of providing facilities for younger people.
- Mr Kirk Shenton extended an invitation to all to attend a 'picnic in the park' event which he was hosting at Hankelow Hall in the summer. This would be a fund-raising event.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and concluded at 8.05 pm