

MINUTES OF HUNTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 21st February 2011 7.30 p.m.
at Huntington Village Hall

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. M. Williams

Cllr. C. Buckler

Cllr. N. Dodd

Cllr. D. McQuay

Cllr. J. Scargill

Cllr. P. Sheen

Cllr. A. Wilcox

Cllr. C. Walker

None Councillors

Public – 6

Clerk – Mrs. A. Wright

APOLOGIES

Cllr. J. Moore – Illness.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

PRESENTATION

Chris Hulse & Andy White (Active Leisure Events) spoke about the MBNA Chester Marathon which is being held on the 9th October 2011, raising the following points:-

- They had organised a very successful mini marathon last year which had 800 runners, it had therefore been decided that a larger event should be organised.
- Hoped over the next three years the marathon will attract up to 10,000 runners and will become the biggest sporting event in Chester after the races.
- Aim to keep disruption to the minimum.
- The marathon passes through Huntington at the 23 mile point when runners will be quite widely spread, as a result the roads will not be completely closed, runners will use the left hand lane (travelling out of Chester) and a one way traffic system will use the right hand lane.
- Runners will be travelling through Huntington during a three and half, four hour window.
- The organisers rely on the support of local groups and volunteers to encourage runners and also to support the race e.g. to act as Marshalls.
- The Marathon will support two main charities, Claire House Hospice and the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. Other charities will also benefit including Nightingale House Hospice and Cancer Research.
- All properties effected will be leafleted before the event and diversions signed, information will also be available on the website www.chestermarathon.co.uk
- The first runner is expected through Huntington at approximately 11.02am , reaching a peak around mid-day and the last runners coming through around 4.20pm, after which point remaining runners will be directed onto pavements to complete the marathon.
- The Bus routes for the day are still to be negotiated.
- Toilets will be provided along the course every two to three miles at drink stations, these will be well signed and there locations will also be included in the competitors race details packs.
- The organisers will be contacting local businesses about the event.
- It was agreed information about the event and possibly a flyer can be included in the council's future newsletters.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Hulse and Mr. White for attending the meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Cresswick spoke on behalf of Mrs. Cresswick the Parish Council's Tree Warden. He confirmed that she had collected 25 free trees (whips) from the Cheshire Landscape Trust. She had planted almost half on the Jubilee Field however she had not planted the remainder due to concerns about how water logged the field is and also the brambles which could smother the new whips. It was agreed that Cllr. Buckler would meet with Mrs. Cresswick on the field and find places for these to be planted.

A resident asked whether the council had received any response to queries regarding the drains from Welsh Water the chairman read the following information received:-

- 1) Have the blockages on Chester Road now been resolved?

The blockage on Chester Road has been resolved and the lines were fully desilted on the 29th July 2010

- 2) You said Chester Road would be inspected on as routine, is it possible to say when these inspections will take place and for that information and the findings to be put on the Parish Council's website?

A 6 monthly visual inspection of the manholes on Chester Road has been scheduled with the next inspection scheduled for early February 2011, this inspection will then determine if any follow on works are required.

- 3) Finally it was stated by a resident that a large amount of fat had been found in the pipes, is this normal?

Fat was observed in the system and was subsequently removed during the desilting operations. The main point at which fat collected was at the head of the inverted syphon crossing the Caldry Brook this quantity of fat had built up over a significant time however we will monitor the amount of fat in the system during routine inspections to determine if there is a significant fat issue in the catchment which requires further investigation.

It was agreed the clerk would ask for the results of the February inspections to be considered at the next meeting.

A resident asked what impact the boundary changes would have on Huntington Parish Council. It was explained that Huntington Parish Council, itself, was unaffected by the boundary changes but would be part of a single member Huntington Ward with Pulford and Dodleston for the Cheshire West and Chester Council.

A resident asked whether the Parish Council had considered obtaining a war memorial for the area due to the long military history of Huntington and the Saughton Camp. The Chairman confirmed it was one of the Council's projects but would be a long term goal due to funding.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Walker raised the problem of dog fouling on Chester Road. The Chairman reported there had also been complaints over the same issue on Butterbache Road. The road had been cleared and the community safety wardens had also delivered leaflets on the road warning against dog fouling. It was agreed the clerk would report the matter to the community safety wardens. Cllr. Walker also requested a litter bin on Chester Road between the Red House and The Green. The clerk will request a bin.

MINUTES

11/117 RESOLVED - That the Chairman signs the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 17th January 2011 as a true and proper record.

PAYMENTS

11/118 RESOLVED – The council agreed the following payments:-

- Lengths man's duties for January & February 2011.
- Clerk's reimbursements.
- Travel costs for collection of free trees.

PLANNING

The council noted the contents of page 22 of the planning register. The clerk also reported a decision (permission) had been received for The Grange, Aldford Road for an agricultural workers dwelling. She had contacted CW&C and highlighted the fact the application had not been received by the Parish Council for comment.

The clerk reported the council had received notice that application 10/12046/COU, Oakfield Nurseries had gone to appeal.

Cllr. Walker declared a prejudicial interest at this point of the meeting due to the applicant being close family members, and took no further part in the discussion.

Clarification was sought over what the appeal was regarding.

106 CONSULTATION

The clerk reported that she had not received a positive response from CW&C Highways regarding the erection of a barrier/fence around Gorse Way and asked if the council wished her to proceed with this matter. It was agreed the clerk should continue to pursue this matter and that the barrier would provide a safer area on which children could play and would also prohibit unauthorised vehicles accessing the area.

The clerk reported she had met with John Seiler, CW&C Landscape Officer, and provided him with the results from the survey, meetings and schools involvement. He had recommended drawing up a master plan as the first step.

He agreed to look into the 106 funding to confirm whether design costs are included in the funding. He will also contact planning to see what facilities are included in the former Saughton Camp development so that we are not duplicating their work.

Mr. Seiler suggested a number of funding options to be pursued. The clerk reported that Amanda Doyle, CW&C External Funding Officer, will be attending the March meeting of the Council to talk about obtaining funding in more detail.

11/119 RESOLVED – The council agreed that John Seiler should produce a master plan for the improvements on the Jubilee Field.

DOG EXERCISE AREA

Concerns were raised about the inclusion of a dog area on the Jubilee Field. The Council therefore agreed it would consider other areas. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact CEG (Former Saughton Camp Developers) to ask if they have any land which could be designated as a dog exercise area.

TRAINING

11/120 RESOLVED – That the council accept the training intention (page 117 of the minutes book).

PROPOSED CHESTER RD CYCLE WAY

Plans were circulated of the proposed cycle ways from the former Saughton Camp development into Chester along Caldby Valley Road and also Chester Road. Councillors expressed concern about the combined foot and cycle ways particularly the loss of the grass verges.

11/121 RESOLVED – That the Council strongly objects to the proposed cycle ways for the following reasons:-

- Loss of verges will result in an unacceptable loss of public amenity.

- Including the cycle ways on the road rather than the pavement would have a traffic calming effect on the roads and would support the introduction of the proposed 30mph on Chester Road.

QUALITY PORTFOLIO

11/122 RESOLVED – That the Chairman signs the portfolio for submission.

11/123 RESOLVED – Payment of £60 (inc. vat) to Nalc¹ for submission of the portfolio.

ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

All matters raised already dealt with.

The meeting closed ay 8.50pm

**The NEXT meeting of the Parish Council is on
Monday 21st March 2011 from 7:30pm**

Signed

Dated

Ann Wright 22nd February 2011

¹ National Association of Local Councils.