

MINUTES OF WINCLE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 30th JUNE 2003
AT WINCLE SCHOOL

Present: Mr P Woodcock (Chairman) Mrs L Moir
 Mr J Weston (Clerk) Mr T Clapham
 Cllr Mrs H Gaddum Mrs A Weston
 Mr J Cooke (CCC Parishes Officer)
 Mr & Mrs B Clarkson Mr D Chadwick
 Mr & Mrs B Porter Mr S Goodwin
 Mr & Mrs A Forrester Mrs T Stubbs
 Mrs C Woodcock Mrs J Millington
 Mr W Blythe

Apologies: Mr & Mrs J Marsh

Introduction

The Chairman (PW) welcomed Cllr Mrs Hilda Gaddum and the Cheshire Community Council Parishes Officer, John Cooke, to the meeting and extended the Chairman's and Clerk's thanks to Cllr Gaddum for her help and prompt responses to various parish matters over the past 6 months.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 January 2003 were read and approved. (Proposed Mr W Blythe, seconded Mr S Goodwin). No matters arising

Highways and Traffic

a) Speeding and Accidents on A54

The Chairman (PW) reported that due to the continued level of reckless driving and recent motorcycling fatality, three action areas were being pursued:

- a) Operation Magpie had been implemented by Cheshire Police to target speeding in the area including the A54. PW confirmed that he had seen an increase in police presence along the A54 in recent weeks;
- b) The Cheshire Highways Committee is reviewing the signing along the A54;
- c) The County Speed Review Committee is reviewing speed limitations for the A54.

PW gave the following police statistics for reported accidents along this stretch of A54 during the period January - June as follows:

2001	-	10 accidents (5 involving motorcycles)
2002	-	5 accidents (4 involving motorcycles)
2003	-	4 accidents (3 involving motorcycles).

However, PW stated that for an accident to be included in these statistics it had to be reported and involve personal injury; therefore the majority of incidents can never be part of these figures and do not highlight the high level of accidents that occur.

Action: PW to continue to liaise with Cheshire Council and the Police to monitor progress and press for reform.

b) State of the Roads in the Parish

The Clerk (JW) reported that the latest status on the Parish's request for white lining on Barlow Hill was that it had been included in the Cheshire Highways current schedule for white lining which was 90% complete and therefore should be done soon.

c) Parking

At the last meeting the problem of parking opposite Chapmans Row Cottages and the increased danger from traffic on the section of road from The Ship to Tolls Farm was raised. The Clerk (JW) stated that he had reported this to the Cheshire County Traffic Department, who had reviewed the problem and suggested the implementation of double yellow line along this section of road, or part of it. After considering several alternatives it was agreed that as double yellow lining would impact the residents of Chapmans Row more than solving the problem of visitor parking, the following recommendations should be forwarded to the Traffic Department:

- 1) Appropriate signage warning of narrow road, sharp bends and to reduce speed above and below the section of road by Chapmans Row cottages;
- 2) Double yellow lines to be put on a short section of the road immediately opposite Tolls Farm entrance (including the gate to the field opposite).

Action: JW to contact CC Highways Customer Care with recommendations and monitor.

Countryside Agency - Vital Villages Scheme - Parish Plans

John Cooke, the Cheshire Community Council Parishes Officer, gave a presentation to the meeting on the Government sponsored Vital Villages scheme. In summary, it is the preparation of a document to reflect the main views and wishes of the village community for circulation to all levels of local and central government, which must then be taken into consideration when formulating their future plans and strategies. JC stated that there was up to £5000 available from Government to help fund to help produce this document, to which up to approximately £300 cash would have to be provided by the Parish along with £1200 of "effort in kind" (input from the parish costed on an hourly basis). JC commented that given the high level of attendance for the Meeting this part would not be problem to achieve.

Initial reaction was to question whether the scheme would take over from the Parish Meeting, and if not, was it duplicating the purpose of the Parish Meeting. After discussion there was agreement that the VV Scheme was a way of looking forward pro-actively to achieve the future aims and ambitions of the village community, whereas the Parish Meeting could only react to concerns and issues on a day-to-day basis. Concern was also expressed that the Scheme should not impact the spontaneity between the members of the Parish, as this is an essential element in the ongoing development of the village community. On that basis it was unanimously agreed with one abstention that the Parish should proceed to the next stage and apply for the Government grant and if successful continue on and formulate the questionnaire for circulation to all households in the community. However, the view was

expressed that if there was a very small response to the questionnaire, the Parish should withdraw from the Scheme and return any monies received.

Action: PW/JW to liaise with JC to apply for funding and if successful circulate to community and request volunteers for the Steering Committee.

4) Parish Internet presence, cost, purpose and structure

The Chairman (PW) reported that after numerous attempts to arrange a meeting with the IT contact at Macclesfield BC, he and JW had abandoned that route and visited Tim Boddington who produces the Bollington website. TB was extremely helpful and gave very useful information on who to contact for hosting the website, software, technical tips, as well as offering to help in the future if we needed further technical assistance. Following this advice, PW was able to get a quote of £87.00 for the one-off cost of the URL registration (www.wincle.org.uk) and the annual charge for hosting the service. It is estimated that the ongoing annual charge will be approximately £75.00 (plus any inflationary charge)

JW then gave an overview of the possible layout of the website and the possible pages it could include beyond the initial 'Home Page'. They were:

About Wincle - leading to History, School (link to Wincle School site), Location (link to Multi-Map), Photo-Gallery (PW to supply views of Wincle - all contributions gratefully accepted);
Leisure/Tourism - leading to Pubs, Accommodation, Walks, Other Businesses;
Parish News - leading to Parish Meeting (Agendas/Minutes of meetings), Planning Applications (Notice of new applications and status of previous applications), WI, Events Diary (calendar of future events in Wincle), Swap Shop (for anyone wishing to request/display goods wanted or for sale).

JW also suggested that although all commercial businesses e.g. B&B's, holiday lets, pubs etc would be listed with brief details, if they already had existing websites that they wanted links to, a nominal charge of £5.00 pa should be made. For those without a webpage, but who wanted one, JW would set up a basic webpage with narrative and pictures for a £20.00 one-off fee and £5.00 pa thereafter. All such monies received would go to offset the Parish annual website costs.

It was agreed that PW/JW should proceed with setting up the website on this basis.

Action: PW/JW to setup URL with hosting service and start developing website for publication asap.

NB: Subsequent to the meeting JC commented that if PW/JW delayed action for a short while and included the Web costs in the VVScheme application then the initial web costs might be included in any grant given.

Parish Finances

a) Acceptance of Accounts

The Clerk(JW) stated that the current bank balance was £382.43.

Payment made since the last meeting were:

- a) Cheshire CC £14 (hire of school for Parish Meeting 28.01.03)
- b) B.Mitchell £170 (restoration of main notice board - now in situ by school wall)
- c) B.Mitchell £185 (new notice board to be placed by phone box at Tolls Farm)
- d) Derby Signs £50 (2 new detachable sign written labels for top of Notice Boards)

Income received since last meeting:

- a) Macclesfield BC £250 (50% 2003/4 precept).

JW thanked Albert Forrester for his work in doing the Internal Audit of the 2002/3 accounts and they were approved by the Meeting (Proposed Mr W Blythe, seconded Mrs A Weston).

Action: JW to submit 2002/3 annual accounts for external audit to Hacker Young, Chartered Accountants, Chester.

b) Level of Officer's Empowerment

Following a comment made at the previous meeting JW requested that a level of financial empowerment should be set for the elected Parish Officers without the need for referral to the Meeting. It was agreed that this should be set at £100, but any payment made directly to the elected Officers must be approved by the Meeting.

Election of Officers

No other candidates were put forward for either position, therefore it was agreed that Paul Woodcock and John Weston would remain as Chairman and Clerk/Financial Officer respectively.

Any Other Business

Recycling

A proposal was put forward that a recycling point for glass bottles etc might be requested for the Wincle area. It was agreed that it would be difficult to find a suitable site and that the existing sites in Macclesfield are adequate.

Neighbourhood Watch

Doug Chadwick reported that he was continuing his efforts to raise the profile of Neighbourhood Response within the area, but emphasised that any emergency services had difficulty in identifying any property within the parish when responding to a call out and that each individual property could only be located properly by a 6-figure grid reference.

Action: All residents to find out their property's grid reference and keep it by their telephone.

Planning Applications

Following comments made subsequent to the last Meeting the Chairman (PW) clarified the current planning application process wherein specific individual Planning Applications will not

normally be brought to general Parish Meetings. All new applications are posted on the main Notice Board (outside the school) and on the website when it becomes available. Anyone who the Chairman or Clerk believe will be affected by a specific application will be contacted by phone or email by the Chairman or Clerk. If it is subsequently thought serious enough by those contacted or the parish officers it will be brought to a full Parish Meeting convened for the purpose within planning deadlines. All comments received will be passed onto the relevant planning authorities.

Highways

The point was raised as to whether the area opposite Pooks Hill could be improved to increase parking availability to help clear the area in front of the school.

A request was made for a road name sign at the top of Barlow Hill

Action: JW to contact CC Highways Customer Care for comment on the suggestions

The meeting ended at 21:20.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for December 2003.