

# MOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 March 2020 in St Oswald's Primary School, Grove Road, Mollington

**PRESENT:** Councillors Roger Jones (in the Chair), Sally Atkin, Brian Crowe, John Fielding, Christine Jones, Mike Jones and Angus MacSween

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs Pauline English (Parish Clerk) and two members of the public

## 20.16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

## 20.17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Fielding declared an interest in issues relating to the Village Hall as he was a member of the Committee.

Councillor Mike Jones declared an interest in issues relating to the Village Hall as he was the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.

## 20.18 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

The Parish Council was updated on progress with the roll-out of B4RN into Mollington and the surrounding areas. It was explained that Six Villages Hyperfast was a project set up by local residents, in partnership with B4RN and with the help of government funding to bring true Gigabit broadband (1000 Megabits per second) to homes and businesses in the local area. The project would expand B4RN's network to Backford, Lea-by-Backford, Mollington, Saughall, Little Stanney and Croughton. B4RN would offer guaranteed 1,000Mbps broadband to residential households at a cost of £150 for installation followed by £30 per month. St Oswald's Primary School will get completely free Gigabit broadband, saving them £3k per year. St Oswald's Church in Backford would also get connection free. In order for the project to begin construction approximately half of the community had to register their interest and registrations were currently being sought in all of the areas to be covered. It was anticipated that the network would be available within six months.

## 20.19 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 7 and 16 January 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

## 20.20 PLANNING

(1) **Applications Received:** The following applications were considered:

20/00655/FUL	Replace existing flat roof with pitched roof at 43 Mollington Court, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6LA This property had previously been extended by the addition of a conservatory and it was queried whether the conservatory was now becoming part of the house by the addition of the pitched roof.
20/00332/FUL	Two storey side extension, demolition of existing single storey extension and erection of front porch at Lyndale, Grove Road, Lea by Backford, Chester CH1 6LG The address of this property was given as Lea by Backford but it was actually in Mollington. The Parish Council did not object to this proposal but was concerned about the impact this extension would have on the adjacent property as it was close to the boundary, and on the general appearance of the neighbourhood as it was one of a pair of semi-detached houses. There was also some concern about the impact on an old hedge.
20/00342/LDC	Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of two storey extension to rear and single storey extension to side at Willow Brook House, Well Lane, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6LD ( <i>For information only – duly noted</i> )
19/03909/FUL	Two storey rear extensions, replacement and relocation of garage, replacement septic tank and replacement windows at Keepers Cottage, Townfield Lane, Mollington, Chester Cheshire CH1 6LB. This application for an alteration to an existing application was received on the day of the Parish Council meeting so Councillors had not had any time to study it in detail. It was agreed that the Chairman and Councillor Fielding should liaise and submit comments to the Clerk for onward transmission to Cheshire West & Chester Council.

- (2) **Decisions:** The following decisions made by Cheshire West & Chester Council were noted:

19/04429/FUL	Addition of roof lights for loft conversion at Nearby, Well Lane, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6LD - APPROVED
20/00185/FUL	Single storey rear extension; Front porch extension; External alteration to render first floor of the existing house at 12 Willow Lea, Mollington, Chester, Cheshire CH1 6LW - APPROVED
19/03570/ADV	Installation of 4x Flags and 2x board signs for a temporary period of two years (retrospective) at Mollington Grange Business Park, Parkgate Road, Mollington, Chester CH1 6NP – APPROVED ( <i>For information only – Parish Council consultation not required</i> )

- (3) Oakdene, Townfield Lane. Three areas of concern had been raised by the Parish Council and/or other individuals relating to the access and dwelling not being built to plan and the outbuilding. The Planning Officer had confirmed that the outbuilding was permitted development and the owner had advised that it would be used as a garden room/summer house. The extension to the dwelling did benefit from planning permission and a lawful development certificate. There were very minor discrepancies with what was built and what was permitted, but nothing raised any concerns or would have limited impact on others. The access appeared to be correct, but the gates, walls and fence did not form part of the application and due to their height would require planning permission. CWaC could not control the removal of the hedging but did have control over the fence. The owner had been advised to submit a planning application for the fence, wall and gates. The owner had advised that a hedge would be re-planted in front of the fence to help screen the fence and maintain the character of the area.

## 20.21 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY CLEANING

- (1) Speeding on Townfield Lane: Concern was expressed about the speed of vehicles in the village and particularly on Townfield Lane. A 20mph zone had been introduced by the School but the road leading to the 20mph zone was unrestricted and therefore 60mph. CWaC had been asked about the possibility of introducing a 40mph limit on Grove Road and had advised that if this was requested by the Parish Council and subsequently approved the Parish Council would be asked to pay half of the cost of administration/signage. It was RESOLVED that the Chairman should follow this up with Kay Parry and report back.
- (2) Chester 10K – Sunday 8 March 2020: The Parish Council congratulated Councillor Fielding who had completed the course. The event had been well organised and the clean-up had been done very quickly afterwards. The use of paper cups rather than plastic had been noted.
- (3) Chester Half Marathon – Sunday 17 May 2020: The details of this event were noted.
- (4) Fingerpost: This had been damaged by cars doing u-turns around it. It was proposed that the Clerk should ask CWaC for advice on preventing this from continuing.
- (5) Hydrant Signs: It was noted that some signs had been damaged. Councillor Mike Jones would report them to the Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service.

## 20.22 MOLLINGTON SCHOOL AND PLAYING FIELD

- (1) Ofsted 'Good' report: The Parish Council offered congratulations to the School on the retention in 2020 of the 'Good' report achieved in 2016. A note would be put on Parish Council Notice Boards.
- (2) Parking Awareness Signs outside school – request for financial assistance: This would be raised with Mr Wallace, the Headteacher, at a meeting arranged for 27 March.
- (3) Speed Awareness on Coalpit Lane – request to parents to slow down: This would also be raised at the meeting on 27 March.
- (4) Recent flooding at Preschool playground: It was reported that the rear of the Preschool playground had been fully under water during the recent half term holiday.

### 20.23 VILLAGE HALL

The size of the main hall had been reduced by 3m and revised plans had been sent to the builder to be re-costed. The additional £155,000 requested from the National Lottery had been approved.

### 20.24 COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Parish Council's website: It was agreed that the two Parish Clerks and Councillor Christine Jones should discuss further what a new website was required to do.
- (2) Reporting for the Parish magazine: Councillor Roger Jones would continue to produce the report for the Parish magazine. It was noted that Mollington was the only Parish Council to submit a report.

### 20.25 TREE STRATEGY

Councillor Atkin would liaise with Mr Dave Wells, who had offered his services to the Parish Council as a volunteer and would report back to a future meeting.

### 20.26 UPDATE ON ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- (1) Golf Course: Cycling and walking/running groups had expressed an interest in public paths across the site leading into the Countess of Chester Country Park. It was noted that the current planning permission for development of the Clubhouse site had now expired. A new application would be needed for any future development. The chain had now been removed from the pedestrian access off Parkgate Road and an undertaking had been given that the path would be cleared of weeds etc.
- (2) Parish Councils Conference on 3 March 2020: Councillors Atkin, Christine Jones and Roger Jones had attended this very popular conference which provided an opportunity to discuss issues with officers and CWaC Council Members face to face.

### 20.27 FINANCE

- (1) The following payments made since the last meeting were noted and approved

28.01.20	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages January	182.00
28.01.20	SO	Parish Clerk-salary January	139.46
31.01.20	DD	1&1-website hosting monthly fee	7.19
03.02.20	BACS	Village Hall-Room Hire	23.75
25.02.20	BACS	Amenity Cleaner-overtime	57.60
27.02.20	BACS	Lea PC-Interpretive Panel share of grant	240.30
28.02.20	SO	Amenity Cleaner-wages February	182.00
28.02.20	SO	Parish Clerk-salary February	139.46
04.03.20	DD	1&1-website hosting monthly fee	7.19
Total			978.95

- (2) The following receipt since the last meeting was noted

25.02.20	Grant from CWaC Members' Budget	1,680.00
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- (3) The balance in the bank as at 10 March 2020 was noted as £8,783.88

### 20.29 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was RESOLVED that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held on Tuesday 19 May at either the Village Hall or the School, whichever was available. Councillors were asked to put forward suggestions for a theme for the meeting.

### 20.30 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Tuesday 5 May 2020 at 7.30pm in St Oswald's Primary School