

Monkland and Stretford Parish Council

*Minutes of Monkland & Stretford Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 16th January 2018 from 7.30pm
in
Monkland Village Hall, Monkland.*

MINUTES

PRESENT: Cllr. Alan Turner (Chairman); Cllr M. Weatherhead (Vice Chairman);
Cllr K Hindle; Cllr R Allen.

Present: Parish Clerk: Mrs Lesley Hay; Ward Cllr Trish Marsh and
three members of the public. Mr Andrew Last – Agent re Old Road Development

Chairman welcomed those present.

1. **Acceptance of apologies for absence** - Chris Blaydon Footpath's Officer
2. **Declarations of interests**, Disclosable Pecuniary, Non-Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary interests. Cllr R Allen – re Annual Show Funding
3. **Co-operation of New Parish Councillor**

The Chairman explained that due to the resignation of Cllr J Barnes - the Parish Council were in a position to co-opt a new Parish Councillor. The Chairman introduced Dr Lesley Brook who had previously shown interest in becoming a Parish Councillor.

The Chairman asked those present if anyone else wished to stand for election at this time. As no one came forward to be considered at this time, it was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to co-opt Dr Brook to the Parish Council. Dr Brook accepted the invitation to become a Councillor representing Monkland and Stretford Parish Council and, having signed the appropriate documentation, joined the table as full voting Councillor.

4. PCSO Dean Wall attended the meeting and explained that he had taken over from PCSO Jo Ellis who has moved to take up the position of School Liaison Officer and he also explained that PCSO Dick Alford will be retiring in April after 42 years on the force.

PCSO Wall confirmed that he is about to undertake specialist training with regard to the use of a speed gun and promised, once trained, to regularly include Monkland in his patrols.

5. Ward Councillor Marsh reported– reported that the next full Council meeting is on 26th January when the main topic would be the budgets for the next financial year.

Ward Cllr March explained that there were several initiatives taking place including encouraging folk to take unwanted items to Charity Shops rather than to the tip.

A feasibility study is planned with regard to a Leominster Link Road and there may be some funding available for resurfacing of the A44 again this is in its early stages of discussion but they are liaising with Balfour Beatty.

Ward Cllr Marsh asked about the 30mph speed restrictions recommended for Tagwell Lane and Pleck Lane and promised to follow these up with Balfour Beatty.

Ward Cllr Marsh also confirmed that she had managed to agree a date with George Thompson for Monday 5th February at 2,00 p.m. when he will come and meet Councillors to discuss Common Rights and other common related rules/restrictions etc.

6. Footpaths Officer's report – apologies received from the Footpath's Officer but a written report had been forwarded and circulated.

It was discussed and agreed to ask the Footpath's Officer to meet with the lengthsman and to walk the footpaths and agree on any necessary repairs/replacements – this walkabout to be as soon as possible due to the P3 funding for 2017/28 finishing at the end of March.

Resolved : Clerk to liaise

7. **Open session - Matters raised by local residents.**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Andrew Last – Agent for Mr J G Price – Developer Old Road, Monkland. Mr Last confirmed there had been various changes made to the original plans including each dwelling would now have a garage and parking for at least two vehicles – paper copies were made available.

Mr Last was asked to request that all lorries transporting to and from the site use the top entrance by the bus shelter – they have been using Old Road and mud is already beginning to accumulate plus the middle of Old Road is very narrow. Mr Last promised to bring this to the attention of the developer.

The question of sewage was raised and Mr Last confirmed that it was hoped each house would have their own biodisc treatment plant – however, if this was not possible a large biodisc treatment plant would be installed at the back of the development.

It is planned to have a Management Committee who would manage the site and that each resident would be responsible for maintenance of own hedges etc.

The Chairman thanked Mr Last for his presentation and for attending the meeting. Mr Last replied that he was happy to come again should the Parish Council have any queries as the development progressed.

Cllr Allen referred to an item discussed at the last meeting with regard to funding for the Autumn Show. This was briefly discussed again – and it was voted that £200 from funds

left over from the Millennium fund raising events would be allocated to the Show as a float – this to be used towards printing costs; replacing trophies etc.

Cllr Weatherhead reminded Councillors that approximately £80 was also included in that fund which was left over from the Youth Club – and this could be used should another Youth Club or similar be started up the village.

The Chairman introduced and welcomed the new owner of The Monkland Arms – Mr Jed Dunn. Mr Dunn explained that he and his partner Allie had moved to Monkland to make this their home and to re-open the pub as a ‘village pub’ to be known as The Monkland Arms.

There was discussion with regard to the defibrillator and Mr Dunn was happy to have it installed on the pub wall and very generously offered to pay for any instalment costs. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact an electrician as soon as possible - he and Mr Dunn could then liaise on the best siting of the equipment etc.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dunn for coming to the meeting and for his co-operation in the siting of the defibrillator.

Resolved: Clerk to liaise with electrician and to advertise in the newsletter for volunteers to take part in a course of training.

The Chairman closed the open session

8. **The minutes** of the meeting held on the from 21st November 2017 were agreed at a true record and it was unanimously voted they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Parish Clerk's Update:

7.1 Defibrillator – discussed as above

7.2 Newsletter – being prepared and will be ready for distribution by the end of the month. Articles and editorial requested.

7.3 Website –

The Clerk gave a brief update on the new website and explained that she had taken advantage of the two-hour training session included in the web set up programme. The website is now live and she encouraged Councillors and residents to sign up to the website which would enable them to obtain update Parish Council News/Planning etc.

Posters advertising this new facility had been displayed on Notice Boards and will be included in the next Newsletter.

7.4 Monkland Arms – discussed as above

7.5 Ignite – following the presentation at the last meeting, the Clerk to ask for a suggested list of activities that might be included in a taster day. If this list available to include it in the Newsletter and ask folk to come forward if they are interested in attending.

7.6 Update Data Protection – Clerk reported that she had attended a HALC Training Course. The EU regulation known as General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will be introduced before or on the 25th May 2018. Although a EU regulation - this regulation is not affected by Brexit. There will be an information leaflet circulated in the near future and future training dates will be available. Item to be deferred as on going.

8. Finance.

8.1 It was confirmed that an up to date accounts sheet had been circulated.

8.2 A Schedule of Payments had been circulated – there had been two cheques issued since the last meeting. It was unanimously agreed that the outstanding invoices should be paid and cheques were raised and signed.

Highways and Environmental Matters.

9.1 Signage Monkland bend – the 1st phase of the work has now taken place but as there are outstanding items still to be undertaken– it was agreed to delay completing the final closing statement for the Police Commissioner until the works were completed. These delays are attributed to winter weather conditions and will be delayed until the Spring.

9.2 Speed limit data – Tarmac have confirmed that they are monitoring their vehicles using the A44 by passing Monkland and with new satellite data hope to be able to record the speed of each vehicle using this stretch of road. This matter remains on going.

9.3 Lengthsman Scheme –Jan/Feb work sheet – it was agreed to ask the lengthsman to do a litter pick along the A44. To meet with the footpath’s officer for a walk about.

Resolved: Clerk to prepare worksheet.

There was discussion with regard to purchasing a dog/litter waste bin to be positioned on the common – however, Councillor Hindle reminded those present that this had been discussed in the past and it had been agreed, at that time, not to purchase or erect such a bin. Matter to be deferred until next meeting when it may be possible to reconsider purchasing a bin with P3 funding if there is any left in the current year’s budget.

9.4 Monkland Common – a meeting with George Thompson is planned for Monday 5th February – 2.00p.m. Councillors asked to let him have a list of questions prior to the meeting.

10. Planning issues –

10.1 Update - Old Road development- see minute 7 – open session

10.2 Sewage – Cllr Hindle asked about the possibilities of Monkland being considered for linkage to the main sewage system. Discussion took place and it was agreed that Cllr Hindle would contact Welsh Water in the first instance to ascertain if there are any future plans and/or the feasibility of Monkland being linked into the main sewage system.

- 11. Correspondence:** The Clerk read correspondence with regard to a Tree Warden Network supported nationally by the Tree Council. It was agreed to invite Mr Lewis Goldwater to the next meeting in order to give a short presentation and for Councillors to vote whether to join the volunteer-led initiative with a subscription of £25 per annum.

Cllr Weatherhead confirmed his intention to stand down as a Councillor at the next meeting in March – Clerk to the opportunity to advertise this fact in the newsletter and invite parishioners to come forward if they are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor.

Date of next full council meeting – Tuesday 20th March 2017 – start 7.00p.m.

Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25p.m.

Signed:

Date: