ASHLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Wednesday 22nd May 2024

1	**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN** Jeff Warburton was elected Chairman for the next twelve months and there was no requirement to sign the Acceptance of Office Form as there were no changes.
2	**ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN** John Atherton was elected Vice-Chairman for the next twelve months and there was no requirement to sign the Acceptance of Office Form as there were no changes.
3	**ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE - COUNCILLORS** There was no requirement to sign the Acceptance of Office Form as there were no changes.
4	**APOLOGIES** There were no apologies for absence as everyone expected was present.
5	**DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS** There were no changes to any previously recorded declaration of interests and dispensations.
6	**MINUTES** The minutes of the previous meeting were not available and it was decided that these would be approved at a later meeting when available.
7	**POLICE REPORT** There was no report from a Police representative, however there were no crime issues reported.
8	**TATTON ESTATE** No representative of Tatton Estate attended to provide a report.
8.1	**The Brit Fest Cheshire** • There was no from a representative of Tatton Estate update on The Brit Fest Cheshire taking place on 5-7th July 2024, however there were considerable concerns cited stemming from the number of attendees as this is likely to be similar to those attending the RHS Flower Show at Tatton and therefore there were concerns regarding anti-social behaviour, impact on crime and parking (considering train is being recommended as a mode of travel but there are scheduled train works on Sunday meaning no trains will run to the nearest station) and it was requested that the local policing unit be contacted to provide extra support to the village at this time. ○ Clerk to chase.
9	**PLANNING MATTERS** There were no planning applications to be considered.
10	**M56 SMART MOTORWAY** • Richard Jackson commented that speed cameras located on this are deemed to be far enough away from residents to not require any extra shielding; it was also noted that the number of complaints from residents had also diminished. • Richard Jackson stated that he would be witing again to ascertain who has the responsibility to clear the ragwort as neither the original contract Galliford Try nor the Highways Agency are accepting responsibility for this despite there being legislation to dela with its removal. ○ Richard Jackson to send letter

11	**NETWORK RAIL** With the general election being announced it is unlikely that any progress will be made in the House of Commons with the potential changes to the rail system in Ashley, this will continue to be monitored before Ashley s being asked to give evidence on the matter, before which a meeting will have to be called to discuss the approach with Trevor Parkin.

12	**VILLAGE MATTERS**
	• It was noted that Guy Davies is now using non-plastic cups which has been advantageous.
	• Peter Harrop commented that after the hale 10K race in February there was a good litter pick, £250 is being donated to the parish council by the organisers and they will continue to offer 10 free places for the 2025 race.
	• Peter Harrop commented that he would look into matched funding for a defibrator in the village.
	  ○ Peter Harrop to look into this.
	• Fingerposts are to be registered with Historic England -Phil Smith to look into this.
	• It was noted that there are a number of sites in the village which may benefit from registration.
	  ○ Clerk to co-ordinate a list with view to registration.
	• Jeff Warburton will organise an annual inspection of the playground
	  ○ Jeff Warburton to organise this.

13	**COUNCILLOR HANNAH MOSS** • She will continue to log issues with roads and drains. • She stated that Cheshire East have started the annual review of road e.g. inspections, marking up for repairs. • Questions were asked about gulley clearance and she stated she had access to a gulley tracker which she would forward to the clerk. ○ Clerk to invite Councillor Hannah Moss to next meeting.
14	**FINANCIAL MATTERS** • No payroll statement has been submitted of 3 months and John Atherton will explain to HMRC the extenuating circumstances surrounding this in the hope to reduce any penalties. • All bank statements are to be sent to John Atherton.
14.1	**Risk Assessment Statement** Risk assessment statement for 2023-2024 was not available and will be circulated to members.
14.2	**Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023-2024** Governance and accountability Return 2023-2024 was not available and will be circulated to members.
14.2.1	**Certificate of Exemption** Certificate of Exemption for 2023-2024 was not available and will be circulated to members.
14.2.2	**Governance Statement** Annual Governance Statement for 2023-2024 was not available and will be circulated to members.

14.2.3	**Accounting Statement** Accounting Statement for 2023-2024 was not available and will be circulated to members.
14.3	**Authorisation of Payments** CHALC membership payment is to be made.
14.4	**Other Financial Matters** Zurich insurance is to run out on 31.05.24.
15	**HIGHWAYS MATTERS** It was identified that some pot holes were being maintained.
16	**MANCHESTER AIRPORT** There is to be a litter pick in Ashley.

17	**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (10 MINUTES)**
	• It was requested the meetings in future be more publicised.
	  ○ Clerk to ensure they are announced on Anything Ashley facebook site.
	• It was requested that the Ashley Parish Council noticeboard be updated.
	  ○ Peter Harrop to look into this.

18	**ANY OTHER BUSINESS** None
19	**CORRESPONDENCE** • This will all be sent to the church, aside from bank statements as outlined above. • Filing cabinet storage will be kept in the church. • The Ashley Parish Council website needs to be accessed so it be can be maintained. ○ Peter Harrop to look into this.
20	**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING** Monday 15th July 2024 at 8.00pm in St Elizabeth's Church.