**Backford Parish Council**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**The Five Villages Hall**

**on**

**Tuesday 10th January 2023 - 19.45hrs**

**Part 1**

**In Attendance**

Cllr M Cheers (Chairman)

Deborah Jones (Parish Clerk)

Cllr Ade Deary

Cllr Anita Dodd

Cllr C Morgan

Cllr D Ruscoe

Cllr A Harkness

PCSO Wendy Leason

Borough Cllr Simon Eardey

**Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Mark Littler

**Declarations of Interest**

**HYNET –**

**Matters Arising**

Discussion re HYNET.

* Objections
* CO2 effects

**Open Forum**

Nil Attendees

**Part 2**

**02/23 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Changes to be made re the comments made by DR (spelling) and ML was present.

SE was disappointed that, having given assurance, **HYNET** had failed to deliver a collective meeting in SE’s ward. No response yet and SE will come back as quick as is possible with any further response from them. MC reported that there is little response also back to the land agent. Still waiting for more information on the valves etc. Cllr Dodd highlighted the issues relating to the highways. Borough council to be fully acquainted with the issues locally and specifically relating to the narrow lane which is to be used for access.

Registration of comments is by Friday 13th January 2023. SE suggested there may be a benefit to having a joint approach with the local community PC’s.

**DJ to register concerns for PC as a collective.**

* Access
* Logistics
* Traffic flow
* Proximity to natural and man-made feature
* Disruption to village hall
* Environmental pollution hazards risks
* Mud on the road

**03/23 Planning**

* Planning applications
* [**To erect two portal-framed buildings comprising cafe, offices, toilets / changing and storage facilities, together with ancillary structures, site works and landscaping**](https://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=R9932PTEKXB00&activeTab=summary)

Cheshire Oaks Fisheries Strawberry Way West Backford Chester CH1 6PN

Ref. No: 22/01150/OUT | Received: Thu 24 Mar 2022 | Status: Awaiting decision

Councillors were concerned about the fact that previous conditions still has not been met on the site of this application. **DJ to ring planning**.

Cllr. Dodd concerned about the size increase of buildings in the area of Costco. SE has raised this with Highways – no prospect for any additional road construction. Big verge would be capable of being removed but SE explained there were no monies for this type of investment.

DR asked if this was of benefit to the industry and the owners of this site. Would the council accept this.

**Ongoing Enforcements:-**

1. Poplar lane – nothing further happening. Extra traffic down the lane noticed. Dog walking is not an agricultural occupation and the owners would need a change of use. Passing places are used for parking and signs would be useful for that and keep off the verges signs.
2. Whitby Lane – concerned re now this is actually a livery yard and therefore would require a change of use – still with the enforcement officers and waiting for feedback.

**03/23 Reports by Representatives**

To receive reports from the following representatives:

* The Consolidated Charities, (Backford, Charities) - MC and ML
* War Memorial Trust - Councillor MC
* Other Rural Local Issues - To be confirmed

DJ reported comments made at the Lea by Backford Parish Meeting the previous evening.

* Village Hall

Cllr. Dodd feels that the challenges for Councillors when representing the Parish Council is a concern and would consider helping at the village hall committee.

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**04/23 Finance**

* Bank Balance – Cllr. Deary reported that committed spend this year financial year was £3859 with anticipated costs being two more litter picking months, village hall and parish clerk this leaving a total of £6547.20.
* Amberol to be paid and this will be £944 to be re-imbursed from the Community Pride CWAC budget. DJ to expedite final payment and delivery.
* £6027 budget to be set for financial year 2023/24 – all agreed
* Payments for staff - cheques were written.

**05/23 Police Report**

Nil to report. Discussion re: the speeding on the A41. Minutes of the meetings to be sent to the police regularly. Cheshire Oaks and devolved police powers was raised during busy times at Cheshire Oaks roundabout. AH explained the concerns about the change of route when using the A5117.

**Councillors agreed that the relevant person within Cheshire Police should be contacted this being Andrew.Jones @.cheshire.police.uk - DJ.**

**06/23 Highways Update**

Cllr Dodd highlighted a recent complaint from a resident re speeding on Church Lane this needs to be discussed with the police. Explore with Wendy Leason next time.

**DJ to discuss with the hospice.**

**07/23 Parish Plan**

**08/23 Newsletter**

Distributed between Parish Councillors

**09/23 HYNET**

Already discussed.

**Any Other Business**

* Litter on Rake Lane – CMto let us know a weekend date – MC agreed to support walking litter pickers with tractor. Others to be invited.
* Oak tree village green now dangerous and needs to be assessed for cutting down. Looks weak. Tree would need to be re planted. CWAC will assess and Ade Deary will report.
* Ward Signs – sign now in place.
* Elections
* Woods behind Backford Park – Emmerson – looks a mess brambles overgrow the path and wood causes a trip hazard – nettles and area is not usable. Cllr. Deary to discuss with Mike Pursell.
* The channel gulleys are now reported as they are blocked.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 14th March 2023**