



**Minutes of the Meeting of Brereton Parish Council  
held on Monday March 1, 2021 via Zoom Media**

- 1. Members Present:** Councillors Bourne, Clews, Elves (Vice Chair), Fern, Lindsay (Chair), Morphet, Wray (Cheshire East)

**Apologies:** It was resolved (**0321/01**) to receive apologies from Councillor Matusiak and Councillor Slater.

**Members of Public:** Councillor Robert Douglas, Congleton Town Council

- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None

**3. Household Recycling Sites**

Councillor Lindsay welcomed Councillor Douglas who went on to inform the meeting that on February 12 he attended Cheshire East Council's Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee. At this meeting Councillor Laura Crane, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Waste advised that the recommendation for Congleton was not to provide a replacement site when the lease expires at the current location in September 2021. The Scrutiny Committee asked for more detail but voted in favour of an attempt to purchase the site. Furthermore, at the full Cheshire East Council meeting Councillor Crane announced that she would be providing the Scrutiny Committee with more information and that the final decision would be deferred until April. From the recent consultation it was noted that 59% of all respondents supported retaining all eight sites listed and 74% of respondents said they only travel for up to 10 minutes to get to the nearest recycling site. Councillor Crane agreed with Councillor Douglas that the cost to fund a new site would be about £4 million but in terms of interest and repayment of the instalments they would need to find £250,000 annually.

Councillor Douglas invited Councillor Lindsay to attend the Cheshire East Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on March 15 to put forward the case for retention of sites from a parish council perspective. In addition, Councillor Douglas along with Congleton Town Council are to meet with Sam Corcoran, Leader of Cheshire East Council, to discuss the issue further. Councillor Lindsay highlighted an area within the newly built Congleton relief road that could be a potential area to house a new site and will liaise with other local parish councils to seek opinion.

**4. Public Forum**

Nothing further was raised by members of the public present.

**5. Council Minutes**

It was resolved (**0321/02**) for Councillor Lindsay to sign the minutes of January 25, 2021, at a social distance, as presented by the Clerk as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**6. Matters Arising**

- The condition of the footpath passing Dairy House Barns has been reported to Rights of Way.
- Councillor Morphet instructed Ashbrook where to lay the groundworks around the memorial bench which has now been completed.
- Kier at junction 17 have informed the Clerk that all their cabins on the site have been reallocated and are not therefore available to the parish.

- The condition of the carriageway around St Oswald's crescent has been reported to Cheshire East Highways but at the current time it does not fit the criteria for repair.
- Street name suggestions have been put forward to Cheshire East, as requested, for the new development of 10 houses near Dunkirk Farm. Flooding has been a huge problem on this site, so the Clerk has logged it with the Flood Investigation Team at Cheshire East. Councillor Wray offered for the residents affected to write to him direct with their concerns and he will take it up. The Clerk will liaise with Building Control over other issues on the site, such as the hedgerow and pavement.
- The streetlight at the end of School Lane, Brereton Lane is not working and has been reported. It was noted that this is a parish owned streetlight and therefore the parish council are liable for the cost.
- The Clerk is still waiting for costs and designs from Cheshire East for the installation of a streetlight on the A54 at the defibrillator.
- Operation Forth Bridge is in hand should the need arise.
- Councillor Lindsay has written to Brian Reed, Head of Democratic Services at Cheshire East regarding the Community Governance review and in particular Holmes Chapel's representation on a Zoom call where it was felt they had used undue influence and inaccurate information to have things changed to their favour. Councillor Wray advised writing directly to the Constitution Committee and it was resolved **(0321/03)** for Councillor Lindsay to draft a response. **Action – Councillor Lindsay**
- It was noted that the measurements to improve safeguarding of the children, at the primary school, by installing a new fence has been completed and the pavements made good.
- Councillor Morphet reported that PCSO Holt will conduct some speed watch sessions once lockdown is lifted. The Clerk reported back from PCSO Holt that Brereton Heath Lane is being observed at night as requested. Councillor Bourne will represent Brereton at the next Constabulary Cluster meeting.

## 7. Finance

**7.1 Bank Reconciliation** - it was resolved **(0321/04)** to receive the months bank reconciliation together with the expenditure against budget, as presented by The Clerk.

**7.2 Schedule of Payments** – Councillors, having already seen the information, resolved **(0321/05)** for the Clerk to make the payments, as detailed below, on behalf of the Parish Council:

Mrs R Middleweek (January salary)	£521.25
Jill Matusiak (Cllr Deans gift)	£68.50
Mr J Knight Planning Consultant	£540.00
Shires Payroll Services	£50.40
Clerk's Expenses	£128.94
Office Rental	£114.00
Cheshire Pension Fund	<u>£155.01</u>
	£1,578.10

**7.3 Direct Debit** – it was resolved **(0321/06)** for the Clerk to move monthly expenses to a Direct Debit facility

**7.4 YTD expenditure** – it was resolved **(0321/07)** to receive the report as presented by Councillor Lindsay.

**7.5 2019/20 Internal Audit Report** – it was decided that Councillors Elves, Lindsay and the Clerk will review at a separate meeting and report back.

## 8. Highways

Councillor Clews and Elves reported on fly tipping by the railway bridge on Back Lane and work undertaken by Cheshire East Highways outside Carbutts Turf. Councillor Elves will send some photograph evidence for the Clerk to log. **Action – Councillor Elves**

The Clerk has reported various issues around the parish, primarily being road signs, white lines and potholes.

## 9. Planning Applications/Decisions/Inquiry

**9.1 21/0777c Recipharm CW4 8BE** – it was resolved **(0321/08)** to support the application.

**9.2 21/0568c Congleton Link Road** – it was resolved **(0321/09)** to make a comment of "no comment."

**00438E Jahanara** – Deborah Ackerley, Principal Planning Officer (Enforcement) has informed the parish council that the Local Planning Authority is considering the urgency of issuing an enforcement notice, the speed of which is based on removing any harm from the unauthorised development. The Parish Council will be notified of the issue of any enforcement notice under the Town and Country Planning Act.

**20/01080E Land off Newcastle Road South** – the Clerk has chased up the Enforcement Officer.

## 10. Connecting Brereton

- **Broadband** – Councillor Elves presented an information sheet that he and Councillor Slater have been working on. It was resolved **(0321/10)** for it to be distributed, after a couple of amendments, via noticeboards, Brereton Life, and the council social media platforms. **Action – the Clerk**
- **Bridleway BR8** - Councillor Morphet presented the costs of £960 + VAT for re-scraping the bridleway, following the recent bad weather, in preparation for works to commence. Councillor Morphet is waiting for confirmation from the local farmer about taking the scrapings away. It was resolved **(0321/11)** to go ahead, taking the project costs to £3,960 + VAT.
- **Connectivity** – Councillor Elves presented a document which he and Nigel Curtis have compiled setting out the intended plan for traffic management within the parish. The main points include a sustainable footway/cycle link to and from Holmes Chapel, from Brereton Green, a right turn lane system for the Back Lane/Newcastle Old Road/A50 junction, splitter islands for the right turn lanes incorporating a pedestrian/cycle crossing/refuge to access the proposed cycle lane and footway link and a reduced speed limit through Brereton Green from de-restricted to 50mph. It was resolved **(0321/12)** for the document to be submitted to traffic consultants for tender, requiring them to draw up a professional design report which will define the design details for onward submission to Cheshire East Highways. **Action – Councillor Elves**
- The walking safari that was proposed at the last meeting with Councillor Akers-Smith has had to be postponed because of bad weather.
- It was noted that Councillor Elves and Lindsay will submit via email to the Local Transport Plan Consultation before the cut-off date of March 31. **Action – Councillors Elves/Lindsay**

## 11. Reports

**11.1 Ward Member Report** – Councillor Wray offered to speak directly with Deborah Ackerley about the 00438E enforcement case to see if he can confirm a timeline. He will also contact Andrew Kelly to establish ownership of the verge at the same location. Councillor Wray reminded the meeting that Cheshire East Council moves from a Committee to Cabinet system from May.

**11.2** It was resolved **(0321/12)** to receive the notes from the meeting of the Cheshire Constabulary Cluster held on February 8 which was attended by Councillor Morphet on behalf of the parish.

**11.3** Nothing further from the Chair but the Clerk informed the meeting of Census 2021 and that the parish council will be promoting it through all avenues to encourage residents to engage.

**12. Date of Next Meeting** – Monday April 12, 2021 at 7:30 pm via Zoom. The Chair thanked all participants and the meeting closed at 21:07.

Signed:  
Councillor Andrew Lindsay, Chair  
Brereton Parish Council

Date: