



**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Brereton Parish Council  
held on Monday May 18, 2020 via Zoom Media**

**1. Members Present:** Cllrs Deans (Chair), Clews, Elves, Fern, Lindsay, Matusiak, Morphet

**Apologies:** Cllr Slater, Wray (CE)

**Members of Public:** 0

**2. Election of Chair/Vice Chair**

The Clerk asked for nominations for the position of Chair. Councillor Morphet proposed and Councillor Lindsay seconded that Councillor Deans remain as Chair for a further year. The Clerk also asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Councillor Elves proposed and Councillor Fern seconded that Councillor Lindsay stand for another year as Vice Chair.

**3. Acceptance**

It was resolved (0520/01) to elect Councillor Deans as Chair for the year 2020/21. Councillor Deans will be sent the Declaration of Office to sign but it was witnessed at the meeting by The Clerk. Councillor Deans took the Chair of the meeting. It was further resolved (0520/02) to elect Councillor Lindsay as Vice Chair for the year 2020/21. Councillor Lindsay will also be sent the Declaration of Office to sign and it was again witnessed by The Clerk at the meeting.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

None

**5. Public Forum**

No members of the public joined the Zoom call.

**6. Council Minutes**

It was resolved (0520/03) that the minutes of January 27, March 2, 2020 and the virtual meeting of March 23 were agreed to be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**7. Matters Arising**

**7.1 Infrastructure Delivery Plan –**

- Notes from the working party were received, they are categorized into three areas. List of items that are achievable immediately, items that need funding from the Council and a wish list if external funding e.g. 106 money becomes available. The Parish Council intends to work with other community groups to achieve targets. AL, KM, ME do some work and ask questions and will report back to the next meeting. Councillor Elves has liaised with Andrew Arditti from Connecting Cheshire re Broadband provision. Councillor Fern has spoken with Openreach, the outcome being that 50% funding is available if Openreach agree to the scheme, but residents will need to fund 50%. It was resolved (0520/04) for Councillor Elves to contact Fiona Bruce MP to enlist her support.
- Councillor Lindsay has been looking at community transport and taking advice from TSS. At present only the No 42 bus is running so there will be a need to publicize the full schedule when it is back in service. 34% of the survey result highlighted a desire for a community bus. TSS, Transport Services Solutions, a Cheshire East owned captive company have advised Councillor Lindsay to liaise with Richard Hibbert (Head of Transport) at Cheshire East in the

first instance. It was resolved (0520/05) for Councillor Lindsay to do this. Councillor Elves highlighted the national funding available for ultra-low emissions transport.

- Another connectivity avenue was to establish a contact within the Bluebell Green community. Through their Facebook site, Councillor Lindsay has liaised with the administrator who has agreed to feed into the Parish Council if needed.
- Councillor Sample provided costs of £400 for 20 tons of chippings to improve the quality of the bridle path, the project would need double this amount. It would also need spreading from the delivery point along the path. Councillor Clews family own the first part of the path and then the Marrow family own the rest to North Lodge at Brereton Park. Councillor Deans offered to contact the Marrow family to seek their assistance in spreading the chippings, maybe also to compact it to make it passable for cyclists and wheelchairs/pushchairs. It was noted that PROW is responsible for maintaining the surface of the footpath network and therefore resolved (0520/06) for The Clerk to contact PROW and seek advice.
- Another option to look at would be the £250m that the Government have allegedly set aside to encourage connectivity through cycle and walking paths this could help towards the goal of connecting Bluebell Green to Brereton Green along the A50.

## **8. Highways**

### **8.1 Road Safety**

- Bollards in the road on Mill Lane will be reported to Highways.
- The Clerk will re-organize speed gun training with the PCSO for interested parties.
- Councillor Morphet questioned whether there is enough street signage at the scene of the recent tragic accident on the A54. The Clerk will follow up with Highways.
- It was resolved (0520/07) for The Clerk to liaise with Holmes Chapel on their endeavour to reduce the speed limit to 30 mph on the stretch from Bluebell Green into Holmes Chapel Parish Council.
- The Clerk was asked to request that PCSO Holt monitor School Lane where members of the public have been reported walking and roller skating down the middle of the road.
- The speed of tractors on the highway was discussed and it was resolved (0520/08) for Councillor Matusiak to speak with Barry Dale and seek advice as to how the situation could be improved on a local and potentially a national level.

## **9. Covid-19 Response**

- It was resolved C19/20/06 for hand sanitizers to be purchased by the Parish Council and handed over for distribution to all Brereton Good Neighbours volunteers.
- Councillors Dean, Fern, Elves and Morphet are part of the Brereton Good Neighbours group, which offers services to residents who are isolating from Covid 19. Feedback from their last meeting with the team was that the level of demand has plateaued for now but still a regular number of residents were reliant on the service. Full details are available through the Brereton Life website.
- The Vicar at St Oswald's church has approached and is working with the Councillor Deans to establish a Food Bank within the Parish, operating from the Vicarage. They are in the process of applying for a grant from Cheshire East for £1000 as resolved C19/20/05. The grant, if awarded will be in the name of the Parish Council and deposited in the Parish Council account. Having spoken with Zurich Insurance, The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council Public Liability Insurance would cover the Food Bank. In the first instance, referrals are coming through the school and the church, the criteria being either attending the school or a resident of Brereton. Brereton Good Neighbours will be including the details in their next leaflet drop. It is being advertised on our website, Brereton Life website and local social media.
- Councillor Morphet informed the meeting of group of volunteers who are helping to create a forest school at the Primary School and are looking for a donation of £150 to purchase supplies. It was resolved (0520/09) to support the project.
- Councillor Deans raised the idea of providing a permanent covered outdoor area at the Primary School to enable children that are returning to school to be educated in an outdoor environment thus providing more opportunity of social distancing. Councillor Deans will research the idea and present a proposal at the next meeting.
- Councillor Sample advised the meeting that the footpath signs as resolved under C19/20/07 were in production and Councillor Lindsay offered to coordinate the installation of them at the most relevant points.

- It was noted that during 'lockdown' groups had been gathering at Brereton Country Park in the evening. The Clerk was requested to inform PCSO Holt to include on her rounds. Councillor Sample will inform the Park Ranger.
- The Parish Council have been offered protective face masks at a cost of £5 each. These are regulation specification, washable and wearable up to 50 times. It was resolved (0520/10) to purchase 30 for Councillors, Brereton Good Neighbours and Food Bank volunteers.

**10. Planning Applications/Decisions/Inquiry** – none at the time of meeting.

**11. Finance**

**11.1 Bank Reconciliation** – it was resolved (0520/11) to receive and approve the bank reconciliation for the month of April as presented by The Clerk. It was noted that the post service was a little behind at present.

**11.2 Signing of cheques** – it was resolved (0520/12) for the Chair and Councillor Lindsay to sign at a future and socially distanced meeting with The Clerk the following cheques: - Zurich Insurance £328.45, Prism, Hand Sanitiser £270.00, Mr. I Welsby, Forest Schools Donation £150.00, Chalc Membership £381.60.

**11.3 Internal Auditor** – it was resolved (0520/13) to appoint JDH Business Services as the internal auditor for the year 2019/20 at a cost of £209.00 + VAT. The accounts will have to go and be returned by mail at an additional cost.

**12.Reports**

**12.1 Ward Member Report** - Councillor Wray was not present at the meeting.

**12.2 Chair's Report** – nothing further to report.

**13. Date of Next Meeting – Monday June 29, 2020 at 7:30 pm via Zoom.** The meeting closed at 21:15

Signed:  
Cllr Jane Deans, Chair  
Brereton Parish Council

Date: