



**Minutes of the Meeting of Brereton Parish Council  
held on Monday June 21, 2021 at Brereton Primary School**

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

**Apologies:** Councillors Matusiak, Clews and The Clerk

**Members of Public:** 3

- 2. Declarations of Interest**

None

- 3. Public Forum**

A resident expressed concerns at the poor state of many of the pavements in and around the village. Two residents who use mobility scooters had been forced to stop coming into Brereton Green village because pavements have become overgrown and unusable for them. He asked whether the Section 106 money received from the Bluebell Green development could be used for improvements to the walkways to which Councillor Lindsay replied that the section 106 money could not be used in this way as it was specifically to fund extra places at the Holmes Chapel High School, and to build a roundabout at the junction of the A50 and A54. Councillor Wray added that Cheshire East have reportedly received extra funding from central government for footpath improvements.

Concern was also expressed concern at the increase in fly tipping in the area since the closure of the Arclid recycling centre and soon the closure of the Congleton facility later in the year. He asked whether we could reopen the site at Arclid to which Councillor Lindsay advised him the Brereton Parish Council shares the concern and had argued against closure and we have supported efforts by Councillor Wray and Councillor Douglas, of Congleton Town Council, to oppose the lack of a replacement for the Congleton Household Waste Recycling Centre when the leased site closes. However, Cheshire East made the decision based on cost and impractical access to the Arclid site hence it is no longer a feasible option. Councillor Wray advised that it will be possible to revive the debate in November 2021 and he is hopeful that there will be sufficient support then to overturn past decisions made under the now-superseded Cabinet system.

It was reported that the medical waste on Back Lane had still not been removed and was dangerous.

Another resident spoke at length about the levels of speeding that he and his family had personally observed along the A50 at Brereton Green. He has written many times to the parish council, Cheshire East and Councillor Wray but to no avail, he expressed disappointment with the lack of response. He was grateful for the attendance of PCSO Holt at key times to monitor speeds with a radar gun. Councillor Lindsay expressed his gratitude to PCSO Holt for her diligence in attending to measure and calm traffic at key times. He went on to suggest that a Residents' petition could be an effective way to show the strength of public support for action. Councillor Wray said that if a petition were presented to him, he would take it to the relevant groups within Cheshire East.

## 11. Reports

11.1 Councillor Wray responded to a question from Councillor Lindsay and stated that he will vote for the option which grants a referendum to any parish council who asks for one following a recommendation to transfer part of its area to another council.

## 4. Council Minutes

It was resolved **(0621/01)** for Councillor Lindsay to sign the minutes of May 17, 2021 as presented by the Clerk, as a true and correct record of the meeting.

## 5. Matters Arising

- Councillor Lindsay has written to Councillor Akers-Smith to list the 4 top priorities out of the 15 areas identified in the parish where road safety needs improving, and sustainable travel actively encouraged to see if some can become viable propositions.
- Information concerning a suggestion box has been circulated but will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Councillor Matusiak has talked with Dales Farm, who have enlarged the off-road parking available at The Cow Shed. They did not answer the question of whether they had established the need for planning permission.
- It was noted that the noticeboard at Bluebell Green was up and running with new keys purchased.
- PCSO Sue Holt reported to the Clerk that she had attended Newcastle Road North on June 5 with no speeding, whereas on School Lane on June 7, it was noted that 7 vehicles were speeding within a 30-minute period. During the month PCSO Holt has also held a beat surgery at Somerford Cafe and advised on parking at the primary school on June 21.
- The Clerk has advised the primary school of the new position for school defibrillator and requested 3 quotes.
- An unstable drain cover on the A5022 has been reported and resolved.
- Certificate of exemption and Annual Governance and Annual Report has been sent to External Audit. PKF Littlejohn.
- The 2020/21 accounts, AGAR and exercise of public rights are on the website.
- Condition of footpaths, FP2 and FP3 have been reported to Barry Poole at Rights of Ways.
- The destruction of hedgerow on the Dunkirk Farm development has been reported.
- A letter of thanks for his efforts on bridlepath BR8 has been sent to Malcolm Sample.
- Notification of co-option of Councillor Vacancy has been received from Monitoring Officer.
- A copy correspondence received from Fiona Bruce MP following a resident's complaint has been circulated to Councillors.
- Several bears were brought in for the Brereton Bear Hunt.

## 6. Councillor Vacancy

Councillor Lindsay has held discussions with a potential candidate who would be interested in joining the council. It was resolved **(0621/02)** to invite him to the next meeting.

## 7. Finance

**7.1 Bank Reconciliation** - it was resolved **(0621/03)** 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 received the schedule of payments, resolved **(0621/04)** for the Clerk to make the payments, as detailed below, on behalf of the Parish Council:

Shires Pay Services	£ 50.40
Parish Notice Board Company	£ 10.00
Ashbrook	£4,860.00
Mrs R Middleweek (May salary)	£ 521.26
Cheshire Pension Fund	<u>£ 155.01</u>
Total	£5,596.67

It was resolved **(0621/05)** for the Clerk to write and thank Ashbrook for the work they voluntarily contributed to improve the byway.

## 8. Highways

- Councillor Lindsay has received information from Councillor Wray regarding the Ward Councillor's new highways budget.
- The Clerk, Councillor Lindsay and Fern are to meet and look at unused precepted funds carried over from previous years and identify how best to reallocate. It was resolved **(0621/06)** that Councillor Lindsay will create and circulate a matrix of options, benefits, and broad estimates, to members for resolution at the August meeting.
- It was resolved **(0621/07)** to submit a request to Councillor Wray for a grant towards the cost of a village 'gateway' structure to calm traffic approaching the village on School Lane. This item is high on the list of priorities and could impact favourably of safety of schoolchildren on School Lane.

## 9. Planning Applications/Decisions/Inquiry

**9.1 21/2865c Brereton House** – it was resolved **(0621/08)** to support the application on the grounds that the proposal respects the character of the site and area.

**9.2 21/3216c Illidge Green Farm** – it was resolved **(0621/09)** to make a comment of "no comment" on the application.

It was noted that **20/4720 The Rowans** has been approved with conditions as has **20/5318c 27 St Oswald's**.

## 10. Connecting Brereton

- It was resolved **(0621/10)** to purchase two planters to sit either side of the memorial bench in Brereton Green with a budget of £250 to purchase 2 planters @ £89.99 each, with compost and plants and to stencil these "Brereton Parish".

## 11. Reports

**11.2 Chair's Report** – Councillor Morphet raised the recent response of the Enforcement Officer involved with case 20/01080E (land on Newcastle Rd South), which seemed vague and not clearly reasoned. It was resolved **(0621/11)** that Councillor Lindsay should ask John Knight if the parish council can challenge the enforcement report.

**12. Date of Next Meeting** – Monday August 9, 2021 at 7:30 pm at Brereton Primary School.

Signed:  
Councillor Andrew Lindsay, Chair  
Brereton Parish Council

Date:

### **Councillor's Action Points:**

- Item 3** Councillor Wray to ascertain how extra funding for footpaths can be accessed. **JW**
- The Clerk would send a letter of thanks to PCSO Holt for her attendance and her diligence.
- Item 5** The Clerk to liaise with the Countryside Ranger and ascertain whether any of his volunteers would be willing to help.
- The Clerk should contact Planning to clarify whether Planning or Highways approval is required for an activity of this type, as there are potential hazards for pedestrians and vehicles using the lane.
- Item 7** It was resolved **(0621/05)** for the Clerk to write and thank Ashbrook for the work they voluntarily contributed to improve the byway.
- Item 8** It was resolved **(0621/06)** that Councillor Lindsay will create and circulate a matrix of options, benefits, and broad estimates, to members for resolution at the August meeting. **AL**
- It was resolved **(0621/07)** to submit a request to Councillor Wray for a grant towards the cost of a village 'gateway' structure to calm traffic approaching the village on School Lane. This item is high on the list of priorities and could impact favourably of safety of schoolchildren on School Lane. **ME**
- Item 10** It was resolved **(0621/10)** to purchase two planters to sit either side of the memorial bench in Brereton Green with a budget of £250 to purchase 2 planters @ £89.99 each, with compost and plants and to stencil these "Brereton Parish". **ME**
- Item 11** It was resolved **(0621/11)** that Councillor Lindsay should ask John Knight if the parish council can challenge the enforcement report.