



**Minutes of the Meeting of Brereton Parish Council
held on Monday January 25, 2021 via Zoom Media**

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

Apologies: It was resolved (**0121/01**) to receive apologies from Councillor Slater.

Members of Public: 3

- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None

3. Connecting Brereton

- **Broad band** - it was noted that Cheshire East have awarded a contract to a company called Airband, who specialise in alternative broadband for rural homes and businesses. Councillor Elves is looking to make contact to see if they can assist in the Parish where connectivity is poor. An information sheet is also being compiled for residents with details on how to improve broadband provision. **Action – Councillor Elves**
- **Bridleway BR8** – work has been put on hold because of the wet weather. Re-scraping will have to be repeated before work can recommence and the contractor, Ashbrook, has quoted for this. Councillor Morphet is investigating a couple of other options, one being to put down a footpath width of MOT limestone and she will report back at the next meeting with costs. **Action – Councillor Morphet**
- **Connectivity** - it was noted that Bloor Homes, who are currently building Bluebell Green, are under no obligation to provide sustainable access to Brereton Green from their development. The Parish Council are hoping to improve the physical connectivity between the two settlements by way of a foot/cycle path. Another area would be to improve the Back Lane/Newcastle Road South junction which is currently dangerous to navigate. The working group are aiming to produce a document to go to traffic consultants so they can collate evidence on behalf of the Parish Council that can be presented in a useable format. It was resolved (**0121/02**) to engage, on a voluntary basis, the services of Nigel Curtis, a former employee of the Cheshire East Highways Development Control Team, to undertake the work, which at this stage divides into two parts being, the A50 connectivity and secondly the speed of vehicles in the parish together with the parking issues at Brereton Heath.
- Councillor Akers-Smith, Cycling and Walking Champion for Cheshire East, informed the meeting that Cheshire East's Speed Management Strategy is under review and advised that residents should take advantage of this and send their input to LTP@cheshireeast.gov.uk before the end of April. It was resolved (**0121/03**) for Brereton Parish Council to input the current issues such as speed past the school, parking at Brereton Heath and the safe walking/cycling between Bluebell and Brereton Green together with the recent Connecting Brereton Survey results and further input from the traffic management findings. Councillor Akers-Smith agreed to take a 'walking safari' through Brereton Parish to look at some of the issues raised. **Action – Councillor Lindsay**
- Discussion took place over community transport and Councillors were advised to input the thoughts of the Parish Council onto the current Local Transport Plan Consultation and to engage with the primary school to see if a joint venture can be achieved. It was resolved (**0121/04**) for Councillors Elves and Lindsay to submit to the consultation. **Action – Councillors Elves and Lindsay**

4. Councillor Vacancy

Cheshire East have advised the Clerk that as 10 members of the public had not come forward for election the Parish Council were free to co-opt. It was resolved **(0121/05)** to co-opt Mr Steve Bourne as the new Parish Councillor for Brereton. Mr Bourne accepted the position and read the Declaration of Office. The Clerk will make arrangements to get the necessary paperwork to Mr Bourne at a social distance.

5. Public Forum

A member of the public mentioned the poor condition of FP4 from the A50 past Dairy House Barns and The Rectory.

6. Council Minutes

It was resolved **(0121/06)** for Councillor Lindsay to sign the minutes of December 14, 2020, at a social distance, as presented by the Clerk as a true and correct record of the meeting.

7. Matters Arising

- Councillor Elves reported that Bluebell Green was unlikely to get its' own Royal Mail post box as it does not fit the required criteria.
- Ashbrook have been instructed to proceed with the works around the memorial bench in Brereton Green. They are due to start in the second week of February.
- The Clerk reported that the Kier site at junction 17 should be cleared by the end of January. She has asked whether they wish to donate any cabins to the Parish and is waiting for a response.
- The condition of St Oswald's Crescent and the road sign has been reported to Highways.
- The precept request has been submitted to Cheshire East and receipt acknowledged.
- The Clerk confirmed that she has followed up with Bloor Homes regarding the outstanding items.
- Correspondence from Street Naming was discussed, and it was resolved **(0121/07)** to suggest Dunkirk Farm Lane for planning application14/5834c.
- Councillor Morphet is to attend the Cheshire Constabulary and Local Parishes meeting on February 8.
- The Clerk has met with Ian Darlington, Highways Technology Manager about the provision of a light above the defibrillator on the A54. He is coming back with best scenario and costs. The Clerk has approached Somerford Park to ask whether they would be prepared to let the parish use the defibrillator electricity source, Simon King has agreed on principle, based on costs.
- The Headteacher of the Primary School has written to advise that they are installing better fencing around the perimeter and the works are causing temporary disruption to the pathway which will be made good at the end of the installation.
- The Clerk asked the Community Speed Watch Councillors to agree a new date for data capture on the A54. Councillor Lindsay asked the Clerk to request that PCSO Holt capture some data on Brereton Heath Lane.

8. Cheshire East Recycling Proposals

Brereton Parish Council has written to Laura Crane, Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste regarding the closure of local household waste and recycling sites and a response has been received. The suggestion of using the Graham compound as a suitable location for a new site was discussed. Councillor Wray has offered to promote the idea within Cheshire East. The Clerk will copy the correspondence to Councillor Robert Douglas and Councillor Suzie Akers-Smith.

9. Community Governance Review

Following on from the Community Governance consultation of January 2020, of which Brereton Parish Council submitted input, Councillor Brian Reed, Head of Democratic Services and Governance has written to update Parish Councils on the progress of the review.

10. Highways

- Subsidence and missing chevrons signs at the railway bridge on Back Lane.
- Mill Lane chevron sign has fallen backwards.
- The Clerk has asked for the footpath at Dog Lane to be scraped back.
- Surface potholes are forming after the recent wet weather on the A5022.
- Correspondence from residents on Mill Lane has been received and the invitation to join in a Zoom meeting to discuss the current issues has been accepted.
- The Clerk mentioned advice from Simon Wallace, Highways Engineer about the possibility of installing a give and take system on the lane. It was resolved **(0121/08)** for this is encompassed into the LTP input.
- Councillor Clews reported on her meeting with Mark Arnold, Ranger at Brereton Country Park, where she was looking to ascertain how many people are currently visiting the park. Ranger Arnold offered to seek permission to use the data from the parking machine and there is an infrared laser that does a pedestrian count, but it is currently out of order. Councillor Clews was advised that there is no more scope for extra parking within the park and to be mindful of extra visitors versus the balance of the eco-system that has been created. The current increase in visitors is thought to be temporary due to COVID-19 restrictions. Ranger Arnold mentioned that instead of the usual 4 bags of rubbish he is now collecting 24 a week! Councillor Clews mentioned landscaping the parking areas on Brereton Heath Lane to make the parking facilities more defined.

11. Planning Applications/Decisions/Inquiry

11.1 20/00438E Jahanara – still waiting for a response to Brereton Parish Council's letter of January 19, 2021 asking Deborah Ackerley, Cheshire East Head of Enforcement, for a timeline of enforcement in this case.

11.2 20/01080E Land off Newcastle Road South – Brereton Parish Council has written to Cheshire East Council over concern that an agricultural piece of land purchased is being used for domestic purposes.

11.3 20/4892c 15 Bagmere Close CW11 1SG – application approved with conditions.

11.4 18/4921c Land off London Road – it was resolved **(0121/09)** to object to the application on the grounds that the proposed build is in open countryside.

12. Finance

12.1 Bank Reconciliation - it was resolved **(0121/10)** to receive the months bank reconciliation together with the expenditure against budget, as presented by The Clerk.

12.2 Schedule of Payments – Councillors, having seen all the backup information, resolved **(0121/11)** for the Clerk to make the payments, as detailed below, on behalf of the Parish Council:

Adam Keppel-Green (website host, management and domain renewal)	£130.00
Mrs R Middleweek (January salary)	£521.25
Cheshire Pension Fund	£155.01
Cheshire Pension Fund (correction payment)	£35.19
Mrs J Deans (Chair's allowance)	£125.00
Mr A Lindsay (Chair's Expenses)	£28.98
Total	£995.43

13. Reports

13.1 Ward Member Report – nothing formal to add to the meeting.

13.2 It was resolved **(0121/12)** to receive Councillor Elves report from 'attendance' at the Town and Parish Engagement Session on January 12, the presentation slides from the session are also available. In addition, Councillor Elves has the presentation from the Police and Crime Commissioner engagement session on January 19 should anyone wish to view.

13.3 Chair's Report – nothing further to attend formally but extended a very warm welcome to the newest member of Brereton Parish Council, Steve Bourne.

14. Date of Next Meeting – Monday March 1, 2021 at 7:30 pm via Zoom. The meeting closed at 21:18.

Signed:
Councilor Andrew Lindsay, Chair
Brereton Parish Council

Date: