

ALSAGER TOWN COUNCIL

PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN ALSAGER INSTITUTE
ON TUESDAY 17th JULY 2018

Present: Councillor R Fletcher (Chairman)

Councillor S Bishop
Councillor M Gruse
Councillor S Helliwell
Councillor D I Hough
Councillor T E S Jones
Councillor H Robinson
Councillor J Smith
Councillor P Williams

N Clarke (Town Clerk)

1 Member of the Press
8 Members of the public

The Chairman read out the fire action procedure in the event of discovering a fire in the building.

PEC18/30 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C V Burgess, D Burgess, C Pletscher, D Keen and R Tyson.

PEC18/31 Declarations of Interest

Councillor D I Hough declared his interest as a member of Cheshire East Council and a member of their Strategic Planning Board, he further declared that he would not be providing an opinion or voting on any application that he considered may be the subject of determination by the Strategic Planning Board.

Councillor R Fletcher declared his interest as a member of Cheshire East Council and part owner of a house built by Stewart Milne.

Councillor H Robinson declared her interest as a member of ANPSG.

Councillor J Smith declared her interest as a member of ANPSG.

Councillor P Williams declared his interest as a member of ANPSG.

Councillor T E S Jones declared her interest in item PEC18/32 as a member of the PCC at Christ Church, Alsager.

Councillor S Helliwell declared her interest in item PEC18/44 having met residents regarding Close Lane highways works.

PEC18/32 Cemetery Provision

The Committee considered the Cheshire East Council Cemeteries Strategy. The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow members of the public to speak.

Resolved: To comment on the Strategy as follows:

- The Strategy highlights local need but acknowledges that Alsager has the highest demand but lowest availability for burials.
- Object strongly to expect people to commute to Crewe or Macclesfield especially with a large elderly population and poor public transport.
- Cheshire East Council has been fortunate that Christ Church in Alsager has met the demands of its residents for many years and now feel that the Cheshire East Council should provide facilities as the burial space is now full.
- Is there a possibility of collaborative working between Cheshire East Council, Alsager and neighbouring parishes to acquire land to provide additional cemetery provision in Alsager?
- A meeting is requested by the Town Council with Cheshire East Council to explore the above issues.

PEC18/33 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting dated Tuesday 26th June 2018 were referred to and it was: -

Resolved: That, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environment and Community Services Committee dated Tuesday 26th June 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

PEC18/34 Matters Arising

Councillor S Helliwell requested clarification on item PEC 18/26. Councillor P Williams confirmed the Terms of Reference will be brought to the next Planning, Environment and Community Committee Meeting for approval.

Councillor S Helliwell reported that Connecting Communities had been set up in Alsager which will work with the Radway estate.

PEC18/35 Public Participation

The Chairman read out Standing Order 2 in respect of Public Participation.

Members of the public spoke on:

1. Disappointment that a liaison meeting has still not been organised for White Moss Quarry despite many emails and telephone calls. Councillor R Fletcher

reported that Cheshire East Officers have been attempting to arrange a meeting and he will continue to press for this to happen.

2. Concerns were raised on an article raised in “Focus” (Alsager branch Lib-Dem newsletter) highlighting the agreement to widen Close Lane has been agreed. Questions have been raised with Cheshire East Officers for some time on the S278 agreement and when it will be implemented. Could the plans be shown to residents.
3. The plans for Close Lane were approved 4 years ago. The footpath should have been in place prior to commencement of the development. Can the agenda item on Close Lane be moved to Part 1?

PEC18/36 Planning Applications

The Planning, Environment and Community Services Committee considered Planning Applications registered with Cheshire East Council as follows:

Week ending 29/06/18

Week ending 06/07/18

Week ending 13/07/18

Resolved: That, the Planning, Environment and Community Services Committee’s formal comments on all applications registered with Cheshire East Council up to week ending 13/07/18 be forwarded to the Planning Officer, Cheshire East Council. (Appendix A)

PEC18/37 Decisions List

The Chairman referred to the circulated decisions list as received from the Planning Authority, Cheshire East Council up to week ending 13/07/18.

Resolved: That, the Decisions List be received and noted.

PEC18/38 Members Item – Crewe Road Pedestrian Crossing – Councillor S Bishop

Councillor S Bishop highlighted concerns on the lack of pedestrian crossings on Crewe Road.

Councillor R Fletcher updated members that £50,000 is available through S106 money but not sufficient to build a crossing.

Resolved: That, the Town Clerk write to Cheshire East Council expressing concerns on the safety of pedestrians and as a “safe route to school” should provide a pedestrian crossing.

PEC18/39 Cheshire East Council’s Proposed Changes to Highways Maintenance Priorities

Resolved: That, to defer the item to the next meeting to allow further time for members to read the strategies thoroughly.

PEC18/40 Highways Issues

The Chairman asked for highway items to be raised:

- Antisocial behaviour on Fairview Carpark is a major concern of residents especially during the summer months.

Resolved: That, the Town Clerk contacts Cheshire East Council Community Safety Officer and ask for an update on whether Cheshire East Council will enforce antisocial behaviour measures as they promised.

PEC18/41 Licensing Issues

None reported

PEC18/42 Exclusions of Public and Press

At the invitation of the Chairman it was: -

Resolved: That, in accordance with the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960 as amended the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information, including staffing and salary issues.

PEC18/43 Neighbourhood Plan Printing Quotes

Resolved: To approve the recommendation from the Alsager Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to accept the quotation from South Cheshire Print to design and print the Neighbourhood Plan at no more than £1200.

PEC18/44 Members Item – Close Lane – Councillor R Fletcher

Councillor Fletcher introduced the confidential plans for widening and creating footpaths on Close Lane. The confidentiality of the draft plans was challenged by a member.

Councillor R Fletcher informed the members of the meeting with a Cheshire East Officer on 18th July to discuss the plans.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and concluded at 9.10pm.

Councillor R Fletcher
Chairman