

**Mawsley Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 7pm**

**Present: Cllr B Littler (Chair), Cllr K White, Cllr T Sanders, Cllr H Esler, Cllr R Barnwell, Cllr P Richards, Cllr K Wilson**

**Also present: Juliet Lewis (Clerk); Borough Cllrs C Moreton and J Hakewill; Chris Leeson & Roy Fox**

- 17.12.01** To receive **Apologies of Absence:** None
- 17.12.02** To receive **Members' Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Richards confirmed that his planning application was listed for discussion, he will also abstain from voting on any allotment issues as a prospective allotment holder.
- 17.12.03** To receive **Members' requests for Dispensations:** None
- 17.12.04** **To approve Minutes of the Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017.** Cllr Barnwell requested that the draft watermark be removed from copies stored on the website once approved. This will be actioned by the clerk. Cllr Richards requested rewording of 17.11.16 to reflect that agreement needed to be sought from Chris Leeson before issues could be rectified. It was then resolved to accept the minutes of Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 as a true and accurate record. All agreed.
- 17.12.05** **To discuss Matters arising from these minutes only:** None which are not covered in the agenda items below.
- 17.12.06** **Public Time** (15 min): The allotment association requested an update on the allotment situation. Cllr Littler confirmed that this will be covered in 17.12.13.
- A member of the public commented that the advertising signs issue had been dealt with promptly and had noted that both Matthew Oliver and Olivair have both been 'guilty' of unlawful advertising. There was a further question regarding the Horts board by the pond. Cllr Sanders confirmed that this was sponsorship for their contribution to pond maintenance.
- 17.12.07** **Chris Leeson – opportunity for questions:** Chris Leeson gave a general update. He has also produced a full update which is available from the clerk. Chris stated, with regards to the Legal Deed of Discharge and incidental agreements, a significant number of meetings and negotiations have occurred during the year between the existing landowners' agents and TWEM. Legal representatives have been instructed on both sides and engrossments are now being formed. We aim to have signed agreement by Easter 2018. Negotiations can then begin with Northampton County Council to embark on adoption agreements and works to advance the dedication of the Roads. Realistically, formal adoption of the whole village will still be 2-3 years given the agreements, works and maintenance periods involved.
- He reassured the Parish Council that they will continue to look after Mawsley Village until such time as it is fully adopted. Cllr White queried if the commuted sum had been agreed. Chris advised that, although it hasn't been agreed, it was a standard calculation and will not hold anything up.
- Cllr Sanders thanked Chris for his continued support especially in relation to conveyancing queries. He asked for confirmation that there was nothing else holding up the process such as ownership of the boundary fencing. Chris stated that he was not aware of anything else outstanding. Cllr Sanders pushed for a date when the agreement would be signed. Chris stated that they were looking at January, Cllr Sanders commented that he was disappointed by further delay.

Cllr Sanders asked if all the other builders concerned were on board. Chris confirmed that as far as he was aware they all are as it is in their best interest to complete the process. Cllr Sanders commented that there was no legal obligation though. Chris confirmed that they have allocated funds for this process and they intend to see it through.

**Walkabout report** – Some of the issues that were highlighted during the walkabout have been rectified. A specialist company will be dealing with the hedges. Cllr Richards advised that some items were higher priority such as Hawthorn Avenue towards the playing fields. Chris will keep the clerk up to date with progress and she will share with the Parish Council.

Chris was thanked for his attendance and he and Roy Fox left the meeting.

**17.12.08**

**Borough / County councillor update:** Cllr Hakewill advised that the initial budget proposal letter had been issued. This process has meant looking closely at which services provided were obligatory and which were discretionary. This has meant a look at how library services are provided within the county. They are fighting hard for Rothwell Library at the moment. There are further meetings to ascertain where the shortfall will come from. He stated that as the Government settlement figure has not been confirmed and, as such, they are still unable to confirm the full extent of the issue. He further stated that he takes the need to provide for those who cannot provide for themselves very seriously be that children in care or the elderly.

Cllr White commented that the leader of the council has stated that Council Tax will rise by 5% but that it needed to go up by 10%. Cllr Hakewill confirmed that this had been discussed. With regard to the increase by 10% he explained that the Government are reducing funding but also imposing a referendum on any Council proposing a rise above 5.99%. Therefore if they want to increase by 10% a referendum would need to be held in May (at the cost of £1m). If the referendum failed then they would need to rebill every resident. The cost of the referendum and the rebilling exercise would have to be found out of the current budget and therefore is a risk.

Finally Cllr Hakewill, aware of Cllr Littler's planned resignation, thanked him for all the hard work he has put in for the good of Mawsley be it on the Parish Council, TCAM or MVA and wished him well for the future.

Cllr Moreton stated that he had spoken to Peter Chaplin regarding the failed attempt to enter into an agreement with DW Homes. He has confirmed that DW will continue to maintain but that the costs DW are currently spending on maintenance is now closer to Borough Council spending. Cllr Moreton confirmed that he was still pushing Peter to arrange a further meeting and to help bring the situation to a close. Cllr Sanders stated that he had not responded to us with regard to this matter adding that we need a 'formal statement of intent'. Cllr Littler commented that we need to be careful not to confuse the adoption of roads and the adoption of open spaces. Cllr Littler asked Cllr Moreton if they have requested a statement of intent. Cllr Moreton confirmed that this hasn't been requested as all dialogue has broken down.

**17.12.09**

**Planning: (a) To discuss the following planning applications:**

**KET/2017/0806:** London And Cambridge Properties Ltd - Barnwell Court, 21 The Green, Mawsley: Change of use from office to retail (A1), financial and professional services (A2) and non-residential institution (D1) and installation of new shop front. **No Objection.**

**KET/2017/0811:** London and Cambridge Properties Ltd - Barnwell Court, 21 The Green, Mawsley: Change of use from offices to cafe restaurant and takeaway (A3 and A5), installation of shop front and 2 no. extractor fans to rear elevation. **Object.** The Councillors

have raised concerns about the possibility of noise and odour pollution from the extractor fans and the disruption caused by numerous deliveries.

**KET/2017/0875:** 31 Hawthorn Avenue, Mawsley: Replace wooden windows with white PVC-U timber effect: **No Objection.**

**(b) Pub site plans – open meeting details:** Please note this meeting is not connected in any way to the Parish Council. A public meeting has been arranged by the developer on Friday **26<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7:30pm.** Cllr White commented that substantial feedback had been received about the proposed development mentioned at the last minute, should we pass this information to the developer? It was confirmed that this is not something that we should get involved in however, as the comments are in the public domain, the developer can view them without our input. Cllr Littler commented that Cllr Hakewill is in communication with the developer and has commented on the social media post himself.

**17.12.11**

**Finance:** (a) To approve monthly Receipts & Payments: The following payments were presented and approved for payment:

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Budget Heading</b>	<b>££</b>
J Lewis	Salary & Travel	Clerk Salary	£469.93
TCAM	Inv 2854	Room Hire	£25.50
BDO	External Audit	Audit	£360.00
M Bentley	Mower Service	Village maintenance	£94.56
T Sanders	Expenses	Councillor Expenses	£63.21
Shire Ltd	MyBus Project	Grant Payment	£357.50
TCAM	Toilet Floor	TCAM Maintenance	£1,968.00
TCAM	Boiler Replace	TCAM Capex	£2,014.80
HMRC	Tax & NI	Clerk Salary	£223.80
			<b>£5,577.30</b>

**It was Resolved that** the payments be made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 and subsequent amendments.

Bank account total on 01/12/17 was £108,813.37 which includes £40k TCAM Major Repairs Contingency Fund.

**(b) TCAM floor and boiler repair / replacement:** The floor repair was approved under maintenance as the lease agreement clearly states permanent flooring is the responsibility of the landlord (MPC). The second request, under TCAM Capex, was considered and a vote was taken. This application was approved unanimously.

**17.12.12**

**Bus Shelter Project – progress update:** Cllr Sanders gave the following update:

- The project will be delayed for another month awaiting confirmation of the Licence to Occupy and some of the utilities providers to provide confirmation of their support.
- The clerk has produced a letter confirming that MPC will cover the cost of removing and replacing the shelter should it be required for them to have access underneath. The letter confirms the cost of removal and replacement as approx. £1500 (estimate provided by Cllr Sanders). The clerk sought confirmation the Parish Council are happy to take on this responsibility. It was voted unanimously to accept this liability.

- The lead time for the supplier is 2 weeks. The project will be reviewed fortnightly.

### 17.12.13

**Allotments – progress update** (please note there is public participation during this agenda item as it was requested by Cllr Littler that the discussion of allotments in public time was held until this point). The following comments were made:

- Allotment association (AA) – What is the update? Have you been in touch with the allotment team at KBC? Have you taken legal advice?
- Cllr White advised that he had been in contact with Mr Kremple of Silverhills. He is still considering the best approach to gain planning permission and may now be considering a different plan altogether. Although he has not discounted the idea altogether it would likely be a considerable time before it came to fruition, if at all.
- AA stated that they cannot wait on a ‘possibility’ as they have already been waited for 21 months. They are now having to consider legal advice / action to ensure that the Parish Council meet their statutory obligation. Whilst they appreciate all the work that has already been put in by the Parish Council they do not want to wait any longer. Silverhills is not a long term solution, we need a long term solution.
- Cllr White stated that that the area being considered by Mr Kremple is not designated for development however he feels that Mr Kremple may be looking for an ally which the Parish Council clearly are not able to offer him.
- The allotment association mentioned the KBC have an allotments team which may be able to offer legal advice cost free – Clerk to follow up.
- Cllr Littler stated that he feels this has now come to a head and we need to obtain legal advice. Cllr White expressed concern about spending the residents money on legal advice if it can be avoided. Maggie (AA) reminded Cllr White that the prospective allotment holders are also residents.
- One resident, not a prospective allotment holder, asked what the aim of legal advice is?
- Cllr White questioned, legally, what do we do next. Cllr Littler responded that that is what we need to establish. We need legal advice to move this forward.
- Cllr Sanders stated that it is unfair to put the onus on the Allotment Association to take legal action against the Parish Council.
- Cllr Esler suggested that we re-start the Allotment working group. AA stated that it was unworkable, Cllr Esler suggested that new people could be involved not the same team as last time. AA stated that as Cllr Barnwell has withdrawn his land from the equation and the original site was no longer an option anyway as the allotment holders would not feel comfortable what use would reforming the working party be?
- Cllr Littler re-iterated that he feels the need for legal advice. Cllr Littler proposed legal action, all agreed with the exception of Cllr Richards who abstained due to a confliction of interest. Clerk to action.
- AA warned the Parish Council that if there was no progress in the next 12 weeks then they will commence legal action.
- Cllr White will investigate if there is an allotment team at KBC and if they are able to offer legal advice.
- Cllr Barnwell confirmed that he had tried all the adjoining land owners to no avail.

### 17.12.14

**Village Youth Action:** Cllr Esler has been engaging with the teenagers in Mawsley in an attempt to establish what they want utilising ‘teen helpers’ to gather feedback. The overwhelming majority of young people expressed that a teen shelter would only be used if it was wifi enabled. What they really wanted was to be allowed back into TCAM. They expressed interest in a ‘drop in’ centre with a pool table / games consoles / possibly a beautician. Several suggestions were then voiced by the public such as the use of the coffee shop after hours or the Den. The school hall was also suggested but it was confirmed that it would not be available without a responsible adult. Cllr Ester re-iterated that they had specifically expressed an interest in being allowed to use TCAM.

Cllr Barnwell stated that we need someone to 'run with this' and look at the possibility of setting up a sub group which includes youth representatives. Once we have some firm plans we can approach funding organisations for project costs.

Cllr Littler commented that Mawsley has historically found it difficult to obtain grant funding as it is considered an affluent community. We need to get the young people directly involved which we have failed to do in the past. There is a willingness to progress this. It would be beneficial if any working group also involved the MVA.

Cllr Richards stated that we have some suggestions to work on including two possible meeting places and that he and Cllr Esler will work together to move this forward.

Cllr Barnwell suggested that we engage a young person to act on our behalf on social media.

17.12.15

**Village Maintenance:**

- **Pond:** It has been reported that this is bone dry. Cllr White and Cllr Richards will assess what we need to do and when.
- **Litter pick:** Facebook post was put up as requested at the last meeting. There has been no response.
- **Village Walkabout list:** Covered above.
- **Bike Shed:** The shed will be removed leaving the bike rack. The replacement will be considered as part of the youth solution.
- **Outdoor Gym:** No update.

17.12.16

**Village Entrance Stones:** We now have agreement from Keir. We have previously agreed that the stones will be made of iron stone. Cllr Richards will obtain quotes. Update at the next meeting.

17.12.17

**Meeting inclusion and the use of amplification equipment:** Cllr white has done some investigation regarding the use of amplification equipment in Parish Council meetings. The equipment recommended by the British Deaf Association amplifies sound directly into the hearing aid. The cost is approximately £500 with 1/3 of the cost going to the association.

Cllr Sanders stated that some organisations use PA equipment in meetings so that when people chat between themselves they can be heard. Meeting protocol calls for clear speech and eye contact. He suggested that a PA system could be utilised by other users of TCAM and not just in MPC meetings. Cllr Barnwell asked if everyone had to be mic'd. Cllr Sanders stated that hand held microphones could be shared but lapel systems would need one each. He suggested that Bob Holland would be the best person to speak to.

The clerk suggested that if the system was to be available to all TCAM user groups then maybe it should be raised with TCAM. If it is felt that it would benefit many users they can apply for a grant via the usual procedure. Cllr Sanders will approach TCAM.

17.12.18

**Community Police reporting inc concerns on crime incidents posted on FB Page:** No update. It has been confirmed that no routine police attendance to Parish Council meetings will take place in the near future but that Crime Statistics are available online at <https://www.police.uk/northamptonshire/SCT122/crime/>

The following crimes were reported in November 2107: Anti-social behaviour – 5 reported cases on or near: Kemps Close, Chambers Hill, Hares Run, Acre Close and Roman Settle.

17.12.19

**Parking on Grass Verges – Sign options:** Signs are available for between £6 and £200 however before any can be placed we would need permission. Once the roads / verges have

been adopted they would be removed by Highways. Cllr Richards will contact Chris Leeson for his advice.

**17.12.20 ANPR cameras at village entrances:** Cllr White stated that this is being impacted by police budget cuts and, as such, the Parish Council scheme has been paused. Mawsley is on the list and they hope to restart the roll out in January. The cost is approximately £5k per camera, there are 3/4/5 year lease potential. They are keen to progress as these schemes are very effective in villages where there is no through road.

**17.12.21 Councillor resignation and re-election of Chairman and Vice Chair:** Cllr Bob Littler tendered his resignation from the Parish Council with immediate effect. He explained that he has decided to leave the village and does not feel it appropriate to remain on the Parish Council once the decision has been made. He thanked all his colleagues, past and present, for their commitment.

Cllr Barnwell thanked Cllr Littler, on behalf of the whole village, for his tireless work from when Mawsley was originally part of Cransley parish, through forming Mawsley Parish Council to today. He commented that Cllr Littler should be very proud of the sterling work he has done as Chair of the Parish Council. He said that Cllr Littler will be missed and wished him all the best for his future.

The clerk then asked for nominations for the position of Chair of the Parish Council, explaining that the Parish Council cannot carry out any business without a Chair in place. Cllr Sanders suggested that Cllr Barnwell, as current Vice Chair, should stand. Cllr White nominated him and all agreed. Cllr Barnwell said he was happy to accept the position until May.

As the Vice Chair position was then vacant, the clerk asked for any interest in the position and Cllr Sanders stated he would like to put himself forward. All agreed.

**17.12.22 Councillor vacancy process:** The clerk will start the process in the January, giving residents the opportunity to request an election for the vacancy followed by the co-option process should it be required.

**17.12.23 Correspondence received by the clerk not covered above:** The clerk asked if anyone from the Parish Council wished to attend a consultation committee on councillors expenses, nobody wished to attend.

Cllr Barnwell stated that we needed to review the documents on the website to ensure they are up to date. Clerk to follow up.

Meeting closed at 22:15

**Next Meeting – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 7pm**