

# **CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PARISH OF CUDDINGTON HELD AT CUDDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, ASH ROAD CUDDINGTON ON THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2019.**

**Present:** Cllr Chrimes (Chairman) Cllr Brooks, Cllr Crist, Cllr Evans, Cllr Latham, Cllr Maddock, Cllr Ruchat and Cllr Vincent. Clerk to the Council Mrs Julie Chrimes and 15 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from: Cllr's Jones and Cllr Kerrigan, CWaC Williams, Mr John Kerrigan, Mrs Linda Smith and Mr Christopher Lees.
2. **PCSO Davey** No report was received.
3. **Cuddington Primary School and Sandiway Primary Schools.** Mr Priddy and Mrs Mills reported that they are both incredibly proud of their schools, they work together for the community and the children. The bond has got stronger and stronger and they face challenging financial times. It is hoped that from 1st July, the schools will form part of a multi-academy trust.
4. **Chairman's Report** The Parish Council is often a consultee to outside bodies such as Cheshire West and Chester Council and acts to represent and promote the local area. The Parish Council undertakes to be open and transparent in all we do, to strive to do more and at the same time to provide value for money and keep any Parish Precept to within the cost of living unless there are exceptional circumstances.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:** Voters approved the Neighbourhood Plan in the Referendum on 24<sup>th</sup> January. The Plan was "made" in February and is now a planning document used with others to determine all planning applications in the area. This was a mammoth task and thanks go to the chairman of the group John Kerrigan and his team for all their hard work.

**VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS:** The new play equipment at Norley Road is proving very popular. The Parish Council continues to maintain the Boundary Lane Play Area, which sadly had been vandalised recently costing the taxpayers in excess of £500. The car park at the Village Hall has been re-tarmacked using Borough Council New Homes Bonus, Ward Councillor's contributions, and grants from WREN and the Big Lottery. The parish council thank the Cuddington & Sandiway Parish Playing Fields Association for all their hard work in making the play areas one of the best in Cheshire.

Village Gateway signs on the main roads into the village have been purchased and erected. Flower boxes have been installed which will be maintained by the Parish Council. Tommie the Soldier silhouette outside the Library has been purchased and installed but again targeted by vandals, it was recently decided to move Tommie to the Cemetery and be placed alongside the War Memorial stone.

**MERE LANE CAR PARK.** Extension appears to be working well. There have been one or two concerns that at times it is full and that restrictions might be appropriate. The Parish Council has considered this and has decided that intervention is not necessary at present. However, we have undertaken to review as necessary.

**ALLOTMENTS:** These were expected (after many delays) to be available early 2019. It is certain that this latest time frame will be missed. The Parish Council are assisting the self- management company in putting pressure on Taylor Wimpey, the developer at Eden Grange to complete the allotments and announce a hand over date.

**PLANNING:** The Parish Council as consultee to the Planning Authority continues to review all planning applications. A number of these are referred to the Parish Council, the remainder being considered by the Planning Committee.

**FLEA MOSS PIT:** The Parish Council is in negotiations to sell this land for restricted development.

**GORSTAGE CEMETERY:** This is run by a joint committee consisting of representatives of Acton Bridge, Cuddington and Weaverham Parish Councils. On the recommendation of the external auditor governance issues have been updated recently.

**PARISH PRECEPT:** The precept for 2019/20 is the same as 2018/19 (nil increase).

**DELAMERE PARK BUS SERVICE:** There will be a weekly bus service from Delamere Park on a Wednesday. The 48 bus from Frodsham to Northwich will now call at Delamere Park, Cuddington station and Eden Grange as additional stops, via Weaverham. The service starts on 31st July for a trial period of 12 months. Our priority now is obviously to encourage Delamere Park residents to use it, but it offers a new route for all residents of the parish with connections to Weaverham and Frodsham.

The Chairman thanked Steven Chivers, John Faulkner, Chris Lees and Sarah Shepherd for all their hard work during the last 4 years, they decided not to go for re-election this year, which means we have 5 new members for the 2019-2023 term who are Cllr's Ann Crist, Cllr Francis Evans, Cllr Alan Latham, Cllr Maddock and Cllr David Ruchet.

Thanks also go to Cllr Brooks, Cllr Jones, Cllr Kerrigan, and Cllr Vincent who have each served more than 8 years on the Council.

In addition, the Chairman stated that he would like to place on record my appreciation of Julie Chrimes' services as an efficient and conscientious Clerk to the Council.

5. **Audit of Accounts** The accounts for 2017/18 had been audited both internally and externally and were clean. An unaudited income (£132,683.76) and expenditure (£189,573.87) statement and bank reconciliation for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 had been distributed to all present prior to the commencement of the meeting. There were no comments/ questions.
6. **Cheshire West and Chester Councillors** Cllr Fifield reported that the ward now comprises off 5 parishes which are Cuddington & Sandiway, Acton Bridge, Crowton, Norley & Weaverham. Over the past 12-month Cllr Fifield worked closely with Cuddington & Sandiway electors helping them with planning and licensing issues, potholes, road repairs waste & recycling. Ward Councillors have a £5000 member budget to use each year and over the last year they have supported 2 principle projects in Sandiway & Cuddington, £690 towards the 2018 summer reading event for Sandiway Library and £5000 towards the parking improvements at Norley Road playing fields.
7. **Parish Playing Field Association Ltd.** During the past year there have been a few changes, Mr David Cade has become a Trustee, CCTV has been installed around the hall and field following some vandalism. The senior football club have moved up a league and they have now moved to Winsford. The junior football club will now use the changing rooms and the container on the field. Two parents contacted the PFA with a request to start up the youth club in the 69ers building and they have been asked to submit proposals. Both Mr & Mrs Card are retiring from all duties concerning the PFA due to them moving out of area. A vote of thanks was recorded, and they received a round of applause from the floor.
8. **Facilities and Communities including Web communication.** Mr Russell Smith presented the floor with the following report. The new website site was part of Village Plan implementation back in 2016. The aim was to create more awareness in the village of events, news, and facilities It is the online 'voice' of the Parish Council (alongside the Round Tower newsletter) It is a 'secure' website and PC, tablet & smartphone friendly Key sections.

Newsroom (containing local news stories, planning applications, transport updates)  
Directory of clubs, activities, businesses and other facilities  
Calendar of future events  
Parish Council minutes and reports + Neighbourhood Plan & Village Plan  
Gala Day information  
Help & Support available in the village  
A history of the village  
Reports from the Library, GP surgery, Village Hall and local churches

Usage: regularly seeing 2,000 users with 4,000 visits per month and usage has grown by 33% in past 12 months.

9. **Royal British Legion Women's Section.** It was reported that although a small branch in comparison to others around the country, the group prides themselves on success. Last September the branch was awarded cups and certificates in varying categories. They have nowhere in the village to show their achievements.

**Royal British Legion.** The branch has represented Sandiway & Cuddington in Belgium to celebrate the end of WW1. The Poppy appeal continues to do well and over £5,028 was raised. The branch looks forward to being involved with creating a memorial garden in the village. Monthly meetings are held in the White Barn on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

10. **Resolutions from the floor.** No resolutions from the floor were received.

11. **Questions from the floor.** Concerns were raised in relation to some roads in the village having speeding vehicles using the roads as a short cut. Following requests from residents, the council suggested that once they sell flea moss pit, they will be in a better financial position to fund solar/electrical speed indicator devices.

*The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the annual assembly and there being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.20pm.*

Date: .....

Signed..... **Chairman.**