

**MICKLE TRAFFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
MONDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2021
At THE VILLAGE HALL**

Open Forum

PUBLIC

None Present

POLICE UPDATE

Crime Information

Date	Offence	Details
02.08.21	Theft	Bridge Trafford – Theft from a public place, ongoing CCTV enquiries, investigation.
03.08.21	Highway disruption	Littleton – Broken down vehicle causing danger to traffic, officers attended on scene and made safe.
07.08.21	Theft of a motor vehicle	Rowton – Reported theft of a car, vehicle taken without drivers' knowledge and was reunited.
09.08.21	Civil dispute	Hoole Village – Altercation between dogs, police record made, no further lines of enquiry.
11.08.21	Drunk and disorderly	Waverton A41 – Person walking in the road intoxicated, escorted home and made safe.
15.08.21	Suspicious person	Christleton – Member of the public encountered a male behaving suspiciously, incident recorded, patrols of area.
16.08.21	Burglary dwelling	Mickle Trafford – Attempt burglary of residential property, enquiries ongoing.
22.08.21	Burglary dwelling	Christleton A41 – Theft of items from residential property, ongoing enquiries.
29.08.21	Highway disruption	M53 Chester – Obstruction in the live lane of the motorway, officers removed item.

Chester Villages News

This month we have enjoyed glorious weather, which has been great for our youth engagement events around the villages. A team of PCSO's helped to deliver a range of fun activities from an obstacle course, arts and crafts, football and our interactive inflatable game. **In total, there have been over fifty events in the Chester wards, supported by** funding from the Cheshire Crime-beat charity and Cheshire West and Chester Council. We also received donations from Hobbycraft, Goals and local Spar shops. Events were well- attended and received positive feedback from both the young people and the community. It has been difficult to be interactive with young people in schools and clubs due to the pandemic, so this summer has been lovely to spend some time with families and children from babies to teenagers.

A recent initiative in the Chester Villages is the 'Safe Zone' partnership, offering a place of safety for children to make as a destination in shops or similar places. In the Chester Villages the One Stop in Waverton, Christleton Convenience Stores in Christleton, the Post Offices in Guilden Sutton and Mickle Trafford have all agreed to display the safe zone logo. Businesses will contact parents, school or police if a child is in distress or asks for help. This scheme will be explained in the primary schools to all the children.

In August I have monitored speeding and undertaken speed enforcement every week in the Chester Villages, including Brown Heath Road, Guy Lane, Christleton – Rowton Bridge, Plough Lane, Ince Lane and Warrington Road. Police surgeries continue to be on a weekly basis either virtually or in person across the villages.

Crime

This month we have seen several attempted burglaries and some break-ins to residential properties. The weather is becoming cooler now so less open windows, however it is always worth thinking about the more vulnerable spots of your

home security. Lighting, locks, obstacles, dogs barking, signs, CCTV and ring door bells are instant things to be off-putting to a would-be burglar. They are opportunists, so put away high value items and secure them, if you have trailers, caravans, outdoor machinery or industrial equipment you can mark your property in different ways to make them unique to you. Immobilising larger items can also cause disruption to potential theft.

Due to the geography of the Chester Villages we have main arterial roads, a motorway, county lanes and everything else inbetween. Break downs are a common occurrence that officers attend; if the vehicle is causing an danger or has the potential to do so. If you break down in a live lane of a dual carriageway or motorway, do what you can to warn other motorists by hazard lights, warning triangles etc. Leave the vehicle and take children with you. Stand behind a safety barrier where possible with a good distance away from the carriageway. Phone for break down and/or emergency services as required. Please report any obstructions that may cause danger to traffic.

PRESENT

Cllr M Parker - in the Chair, Cllr Rowlands, Cllr Jones, Cllr Woods, Cllr Gardiner, Cllr Bartley, Cllr Smith, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Spence, Cllr Payne and Cllr Sharpe.

Cllr Ellis and Cllr Padmore joined the meeting after Item 06

Clerk: - Mr D Bowker

Item 01 Apologies

Cllr Spence and Cllr Woods - Holiday
Ward Councillor Graham Heatley

Item 02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Parker – Village Hall

Cllr Taylor – Dee Road

All councillors declared their interests as per their “Notification of Interests”.

Item 03 Approval of Parish Council Minutes.

It was proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Rowlands and agreed by **ALL** eligible to vote that the minutes of the 12 July 2021 be accepted.

Item 04 Planning Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Payne, seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by **ALL** eligible to vote that the minutes of the 6 September 2021 are noted.

Item 05 Finance Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Parker and agreed by **ALL** eligible to vote that the minutes of the 6th September 2021 are noted.

Item 06 Co-option of Parish Council Applicants

Parish Councillors were advised by the Chairman that two substantive applications had been received which if approved would leave the Parish Council with one vacancy.

Short biographies of the two candidates had been circulated and with both candidates attending the meeting Councillors were asked if they wished to ask further questions

Cllr Taylor as the proposer for Mr Padmore spoke in favour of his application and this was supported by Cllr Bartley.

A secret ballot was taken and the Chairman announced that both candidates had been successful and duly welcomed them to the Parish Council.

The necessary documents were duly signed which allowed both to participate in the remainder of the meeting.

Item 07 QDJ Park Committee report

Following the recent report from RoSPA issues raised by them will be addressed over the next few months.

Cllr Rowlands wished it noted that the support given by Cllr Spence and Peter Spence in relation to the above work was appreciated.

It was agreed that following concerns raised by Cllr Sharpe that the lower limbs of the Oak Tree would be removed to discourage children from climbing the tree which is over pointed railings.

Item 08 Village Hall Report

User groups are slowly returning to use the Village Hall and there has also been new interest as well as one or two parties.

Cllr Taylor advised that the defibrillator outside the Village Hall is in full working order and is registered with NWS

Item 09 Parish Council Logo

It was agreed that the draft brief set out by Cllr Spence should be forwarded to the Primary School to ask them if they would involve the children.

The draft requirements will also be posted on the Facebook page, website and promoted at the HLTC event.

The competition will have a closing date of the 31st October 2021.

Item 10 School Representative or Governor

It was proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed by ALL that Cllr Smith's name should be put forward to the school to stand as a Governor and also act as the representative of the Parish Council.

Cllr Smith agreed to stand and the Clerk was asked to inform the school of the decision.

Item 11 Motion to ChALC

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and approved by ALL eligible to vote that the motion below should be accepted by the Parish Council subject to further scrutiny by the Chief Executive of ChALC

Given the proliferation of road signs obscured by hedge growth in summer and slush in winter, this meeting asks the Executive Board to try to negotiate with the Principal Authorities to enable and fund local councils to keep them visible.

Item 12 Finance/Planning meeting times

It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and approved by ALL eligible to vote that the time for the Planning and Finance meetings should be switched.

Item 13 HLTC Event – Volunteers

Cllr Smith advised that a rota of volunteers had been circulated and Cllr Sharpe added her name to the volunteers

Item 14 Meeting with Police

Following a period where the Parish Council had not had Police attendance at their meetings a meeting with Constable Rob Boulton, PCSO Linda Bailey, Cllrs Margaret Parker and Jane Spence and the Clerk took place on the 6th September.

Item 15 Traffic on School Lane (Resident's concern)

It was proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Rowlands and approved by ALL eligible to vote that the Clerk should contact CWaC Highways and their experience when attending the school was that traffic had not increased and speeding was not an issue.

Item 16 Christmas Event

Cllr Parker has ordered from The Christmas Decorators the lights and tree for the Cross as in previous years.

There was a desire that there should be a return to an event but with the current uncertainty it was felt prudent to discuss this further at the October meeting.

Cllrs Parker and Heatley will be giving £500 each from their CWaC budget to the lights.

Cllr Rowlands will organise a tree for the interior of the Village Hall and he as well as Cllrs Taylor, Ellis, Sharpe and Jones will help should an event go ahead

Item 17 PC Communication

Highways and Byways

Website

Facebook

Noticeboards

It was agreed at the September meeting that Cllrs Spence, Taylor and Smith would look at the needs of the website and produce a brief for this meeting.

Councillors felt that this was an issue that could not be looked at as individual needs and asked the group, with the addition of Cllr Ellis to look at the communications.

Item 18 Flooding report

Flooding group

The Atkins report (consultants to CWaC) has yet to be published online but Cllr Smith will be part of a meeting next week and hopefully more will be known for the next meeting.

Plemstall Lane

The Clerk was asked to contact The Environment Agency and CWaC to ascertain what action had been taken since the source of the problem had been located and whether a second source had been found

Item 19 Resilience Plan

Cllr Sharpe has offered to read through the current resilience plan and held Cllr Taylor to update it.

Item 20 Action Update

Planters

We have been advised that the Planters are now with Walkers Nursery

Cllrs Smith, Payne and Rowlands will get together to prepare a flat area so the planters can be installed

Interactive Speed signs

Ditch at School Lane

Hedge – School Lane

Cllr Parker and the Clerk will continue to chase CWaC for answers on the above issues but have been disappointed by the response so far from CWaC.

Item 21 Matters raised at the discretion of the Chairman (Not for resolution)

A report from a member of the Public had reported to a Parish Councillor about a Barn being erected on Ash Hey Lane The Clerk was asked to investigate if approval had been given for the building.

Cllr Padmore asked that the hedge growth and pavement surface be reported to CWaC on Ince Lane from the A56 to the parish boundary

Item 22 Date and time of Next Parish Council Meeting

Monday 11th October 2021 at the Village Hall @ 6.30pm

Meeting closed at 7.58pm

Signed.....

Dated.....