

Minutes of Tattenhall & District Parish Council Meeting Held 13th January 2025 at the Barbour Institute.

PRESENT

Councillors

Chairman – J. Kershaw

J. Bailey

P. Black

R. Carden

D. Darnborough

C. Elliott

R. Jones

I. Keeping

P. Kerr

N. Matthews

A. Scarratt

B. Wilson

Clerk – Ann Wright

Public - 2

Apologies

S. Chapman – Family commitment

N. Sharp – Health reasons

R. Smith – Family commitment

Declaration of Interests

No interest declared.

Parish News

It was noted that the next Parish News is due in March.

Public Participation

No matters raised.

Minutes

RESOLVED 25/336 –That the Council approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th November and the extraordinary meeting on the 2nd December 2024.

Flooding

It was noted that a meeting has been organised for Wednesday 15th January for the public to raise flooding questions which is being attended by CW&C Cllr Mike Jones, CW&C highways and flooding officers, the environment agenda, Bolesworth Estate as well as a representative for the Local MP. Cllr Matthews reported that a record of rainfall on his farm shows that in the 80s-90s they recorded an average 24-28 inches of rain per calendar year. In 2022 it was 25 inches, 2023 32.7 inches and in 2024 36.4 inches. Over the years the water table has risen significantly with a once dry 66ft well now overflowing.

With this increase in rainfall increased building will exasperate the flooding issues.

It was raised that flooding takes place in the more modern developments noting that older developments did not take place in areas likely to flood.

Concern was reiterated about storing water up stream of the village and that the priority should be to get water through the village and away.

Public Participation

Mrs Nicky Bolton, head teacher at Tattenhall Park Primary School reported that the school is now working on the history film about Tattenhall which will be approx. 20 minutes long. There will be a drop in at the school on Monday 20th January where residents can come and share stories and photos that might be used in the film. A village song is also being developed which councillors may want to feed into. More information will be circulated by email to councillors.

In addition to the film the school is looking to create a living library of recorded stories told by

people in the village interviewed by pupils which will be made available online.
It was noted that there will be a public showing of the film on 20th March at 6.45pm.

Gritting

A member of the public had requested the Parish Council consider the lack of gritting which takes place in Tattenhall. The meeting noted the CW&C route which comes through the village off the A41 at Gatesheath, past the primary school, to the Rocky Lane junction and then out the village on Burwardsley Road.

It was agreed the Clerk request that CW&C review the gritting of Tattenhall Road noting that there have been 3 accidents at the Newton Lane junction as a result of icy conditions and that this is a main bus route.

Planning

1) Planning Register

Councillors confirmed the planning register as circulated, pages 169 to 172.

2) Planning Applications

25/00026/CAT - A - Ash tree to be felled. B - Ash tree to be felled. C - Elm tree to be felled – The Spinney, Tattenhall.

RESOLVED 25/337 –That the Council submit a comment of support noting the application has been submitted on the Council's behalf.

24/03765/LDC – Lawful development certificate to establish an existing use of land as a residential garden and curtilage – Birch Tree Farm, Newton Lane, Goldborne Bellow.

RESOLVED 25/338 –That the Council submit a comment of no objection.

3) Lead Planners

The following lead planners were noted until the March meeting, Cllrs Carden, Chapman, Kerr and Wilson.

Neighbourhood Plan

It was confirmed the Reg 14 consultation is due to be launched as soon as possible.

CW&C Public Space Protection Order Consultation

It was agreed to take no action regarding this consultation.

Spinney Tree Planting

The Clerk reported that the CW&C officer who undertook a site visit in the Spinney is expecting to have some Common Alder whips spare we can use in the Spinney plus a couple of standard trees. The clerk had also requested one of the Mersey Forest oaks to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

It was noted a number of substantial trees have been lost over the last few months and 3 more are due to be felled as a result of the latest tree survey as such the Clerk had asked the officer to recommend standard trees the Council could purchase to plant in the Spinney.

It was agreed to seek further advice on possible tree planting.

RESOLVED 25/339 –That the Council agree a budget of up to £1000 for planting in the Spinney.

Gatesheath Bus Shelter

It was noted the Gatesheath bus shelter has blown over twice in recent months and was due to be reinstalled. The Clerk had contacted CW&C to see if they had any funding toward bus shelters or any disused shelters available and was awaiting a response. It was also agreed to

contact the new bus service provider to see if they would offer any funding for a new bus shelter.

Towpath Project

The meeting noted the notes of the meeting held on the 20th November, from page 436 of the Minutes. It was confirmed that the Clerk is awaiting a date to meet again with the Canals and Rivers Trust.

Over Sail License

The Clerk reported she was still waiting for a response from CW&C regarding this matter. It was noted CW&C have sent reminder for the invoice of £210.40, it was agreed the Clerk confirmed to CW&C the invoice has been raised with the Chief Executive and that the Parish Council awaiting her response.

Recycling Boxes

It was reported that the recycling boxes have been more successful than expected with around 2 boxes being filled per month. The Clerk reported she had applied of a grant to funding for 17 blister pack recycling boxes at a cost of £1530 however it is not clear when the application will be decided or if it will be awarded. CW&C Cllr Jones has agreed funding for additional boxes along with other businesses and groups in the village as such the scheme continues to be funded at present.

Thermal Camera

It was agreed to seek to borrow the CW&C thermal camera.

Memorial Power Project

It was reported that a scheme to power the lighting via solar panels is being considered noting the current supply contract finishes in April.

Christmas

It was reported that £3506.44 had been raised by the Christmas Tractor Run which has been split between Prostate Cancer Uk and MIND. A meeting will be organised for a review of the event shortly.

It was noted 60 letters had been received for Father Christmas of which 42 were from Tattenhall residents.

VE Day 80th Anniversary

It was agreed to see if a collaborative approach could be taken to holding an event possibly with the church and school. It was agreed to advertise on social media for groups and individuals who would like to get involved with organising a community event.

Accounts & Payments

1) Accounts & Payments – Third Quarter Accounts

RESOLVED 25/340 –That the Council approve the third quarter end accounts, payments and bank reconciliation as circulated, page 5 of the Cashbook including the following payments:

Unity Bank	Unity Bank Charge	5.40
Shires Accountants (PQR)	Payroll (Oct-Apr)	276.60
Y. Keeping	REIM: Bug Hotel Sign	39.00
A. Wright	REIM: High Viz Vests	146.52
A. McGrath	Remembrance Plants	38.63
PJ Hellmers Ltd	Kissing Gate Installation	180.00

Barbour Institute	Room Hire - OCT	84.50
PJ Hellmers Ltd	Planter removal	120.00
Walkers Nurseries	Planter x3 refill	190.50
A. Wright	REIM: Remembrance & Xmas	207.29
A. Wright	REIM: Gazebos x2	60.00
London Hearts	Defib & Cabinet match funds	750.00
St Albans PCC	Room Hire - Art	40.00
PJ Hellmers Ltd	Xmas Tree Lights Install	270.00
Water +	Allotments water	6.79
NatWest	Bank Charge - October	5.60
Unity Bank	Unity Bank Charge	6.00
A. Wright	Salary - Nov	1210.00
BSB Sound Ltd	Xmas sound	567.00
Sanctuary Housing	Garage rental	50.40
A. Wright	REIM: Barriers x2	119.98
Barbour Institute	Room Hire - Nov & Dec	52.50
Dandys Chester Ltd	40x Sandbags	175.67
PJ Hellmers Ltd	Spinney Tree Works	480.00
M. Pilkington	Glass workshop	250.00
Prostate Cancer UK	Tractor Run Donation	1321.35
MIND	Tractor Run Donation	1321.35
A. Wright	REIM: Admin, Xmas	255.09
Proludic Ltd	Spiral parts	242.15
SSE	Memorial Power	72.24
Water+	Allotments Water	6.57
Unity Bank	Bank Charge	6.00
NatWest	Bank Charge - November	11.90

2) Accounts & Payments

RESOLVED 25/341—That the Council approve the accounts, payments and bank reconciliation as circulated, page 6 of the Cashbook including the following payments:

PJ Hellmers Ltd	Spinney Tree works	540.00
PJ Hellmers Ltd	Wreath removal	180.00
Groundwork & Leisure Ltd	Gyro-spiral repair	240.00
A. Wright	Salary - DEC	1210.00
LITE	Christmas Lights	2757.60
rCOH LTD	N-Plan works	346.80
rCOH LTD	N-Plan works	52.20
SLCC	Membership	120.00
Nest	Pension Contribution	88.46
HMRC	PAYE/NI - Nov	159.99
Unity Bank	Bank Charge	6.00
HMRC	PAYE/NI - DEC	159.99

3) Additional Invoices

RESOLVED 25/342 – That the Council approve the following payments:

Unity Bank	Bank charge	6.00
A. Wright	REIM: Cloudnext, Zoom, Postage. Batteries	59.99

NatWest	Bank charges	25.90
Tattenhall PCC	Parish News 2025	350.00

It was reported that the bin for the Millfield had been installed in the incorrect location by Barnfields where the bin was also rotten.

RESOLVED 25/343 – That the Council purchase 1 bins for the Millfield at a cost of £264.99.

Budget & Precept

1) 2025-2026 Budget

RESOLVED 25/344 – That the Council agree the following budget:

Item	Suggested 2025-2026 Budget	Suggested 2026-2027 Budget (+3%)
Salary (Clerk & Watering) & NI	18,540	19,096
Admin		
Clerk's Expenses		
Audit Fee		
Payroll		
insurance		
Photocopying & Printing		
Stationery		
Legal & Professional		
Website		
Chairman's Allowance	6,180	6,365
Garage Rental		
Room Hire (inc Refreshments)	1,803	1,857
Maintenance 1& 2 - General inc Play Area		
Maintenance & Inspections		
Grounds Maintenance		
Rent (£1)	13,390	13,792
Maintenance 3 - Land		
Glebe Meadow Maintenance		
Glebe Meadow Water	2,060	2,122
Spinney & Trees	5,150	5,305
Allotments	515	530
Community Events	5,000	5,150
Christmas	3,000	3,090
CLT	1,030	1,061
Grants & Donations		
Parish News Donations		
Church Yard Maintenance		
Poppy Wreath		
Millfield Mowing		
Clock Maintenance		
Community Funding	10,300	10,609
Neighbourhood Plan	2,606	2,684
Projects - Art Trail/Projects	1,000	1,030
Projects - MUGA	15,000	

Projects - Towpath	15,000	
Projects - Youth Work	3,000	3,090
Community Safety - speed limits	5,150	5,305
Visitor and Business Improvement	2,060	2,122
CIL - Towpath & MUGA	102364.00	
Carry forward	20,000	20,600
Total	233,148	209,242

2) 2025-2026 Precept

RESOLVED 25/345 – That the Council agree a precept of £75,208, 2% Band D increase to £55.78

Allotments

RESOLVED 25/346 – That the Council agree the following allotments fees for 2025-2026:

Full Plot £58.00 – Concession £46.60

Half Plot £39 – Concession £31.20

On-going projects

It was proposed to retain the following list on future agendas to ensure that they do not get forgotten. The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted the various officers regarding the projects and requested updates.

MUGA

It was noted a still meeting needs to be held with the working group to discuss this project.

Tree Planting (Barnfield & Spinney)

It was agreed not to proceed with the Barnfield planting at this time.

Towpath/Canal

Covered by previous agenda item.

Ha ha

No response has been received from the company previously contacted a new company needs to be found.

Council website

It was agreed to form a small working group to identify what we require of the website of Cllrs Black and Kerr.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Ann Wright
14/01/2025.

Next scheduled Parish Council Meeting
Monday 3rd March 2025 at 7.30pm
Billiards Room, Barbour Institute.

Informal Meeting with Canal & River Trust 20th November 2024

PRESENT

Sheila Chapman, Paul Kerr, Rebecca Mason (C&R Trust), Ann Wright (Clerk)

Purpose of Meeting: To discuss project to improve the towpath between Waverton and Beeston.

It was discussed as funding is limited we need to consider what standard we want the towpath to be and where to undertake works to the best advantage.

Towpath Surface

It was discussed that the path from Golden Nook bridge is in a very poor condition in places very narrow and uneven.

For a path to be considered accessible people need to be able to walk, run, cycle and push a pram or wheelchair on it.

It was discussed that a fully tarmacked surface would be very expensive for example a 7km stretch in Lancaster has cost over £1m. It would also not be in-keeping with the rural nature of the area and be over engineered for the expected footfall.

It was reported that the Trust does not normally level and install grasscrete on towpaths as the paths would need regular mowing.

A towpath in Disley was surfaced with Welsh slate hand laid by volunteers which cost £20k for 300m.

It was noted CW&C had undertake a scheme to resurface a BOAT in Farndon¹, it was agreed the Clerk would contact CW&C to see what the works had cost.

Funding

It was noted that a number of projects have been funded by S106 and CIL funding from developments.

Another source of funding is the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Length of Works

It was discussed which stretch of the towpath should be prioritised.

It was noted the stretch from Golden Nook to Waverton, 4km, is an obvious stretch to do as the towpath would then be surfaced up to Ellesmere Port.

It was noted Golden Nook bridge to Tiverton is approx. 8km and that the route is not all in the Parish Council's area.

It was suggested that a phased approach needs to be devised.

It was discussed working on the towpath from Golden Nook to Red Lane is approx. 2km would be a good project which would have vehicle access and have space for welfare compounds. It was noted where materials have to be moved by boat it increases the costs of the works.

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/share/mjLQ9ZYvdqM7LkYn/>>

It was discussed that standard towpaths are 1.8 / 2m width although in rural areas 1.5m is usually acceptable. It was noted Sustrans require a 3m path width which is not viable.

Conservation Area

It was noted the towpath is in a conservation area. It was stated this would only have a limited impact on the project and that the Trust's heritage adviser and landscape team would assist with the project.

Next Steps

It was agreed to undertake a site visit in the new year with a concept engineer to identify a suitable scheme.

It was noted the Trust would retain historic setts which are often under bridges.

It was confirmed the Trust has included this project in their business plan for next year.

It was discussed it would be advantageous to meet neighbouring Parish Councils and CW&C to get their involvement in the project.

Next meeting

TBC.

Ann Wright
27/11/2024