

Madeley Parish Council

MINUTES OF Madeley Parish Council MEETING held on Thursday 6th October 2022 commencing 7pm at The Madeley Centre, New Road, Madeley

Present: Councillors J. Stephenson (JS) Chair), C. Hopkin (CH), T Morgan (TM), P Carnall (PC), G White (GW)

In attendance: K. Howe (Locum Clerk), C. Withington (RFO), Cllr. Peter Northcott (PN), 10 Members of the Public (MOPs)

The Chair opened the meeting with commiserations to the Royal Family on the death of her Majesty the Queen and welcomed members of the public attending.

1. Apologies for Absence in accordance with Standing Orders received from Cllrs. K Walley, D Whitmore, B Ruscoe, A. Davenport, J Whitmore, S White.
2. Councillors' Declarations of Pecuniary Interest in items on the Agenda - none
3. Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting - none.
4. Public Participation / Open Forum

8 MOPs attended to register their interests in the proposed Pump Track, which they believe would be a fantastic asset for the village. A spokesperson explained that there was a significant lack of organised activities for young people currently available. Those available locally were too expensive for parents to fund on a regular basis including costs of bus fares etc. Hence, young people hang around the village on bikes with nothing to do. Residents criticise them for hanging around and riding on the roads. Parents felt if there was land available in the village it should be used for the positive benefit of all parties. The Chair expressed support for the public response at the meeting. Madeley PC recognise the need for teenagers to have somewhere to go and are trying to find a solution through use of the land on Bower End Lane with funding options potentially through HS2.

It was highlighted by other MOP present that Bridle Path Group have expressed concerns of use of contaminated land for this purpose, busy traffic on Moss Lane and the railway line adjacent.

Chair explained that the contractor was advising on multi-surface use installation, which would not require foundations due to modern engineering techniques. Solution would be risk assessed. If land is contaminated there is little else it can be used for, but Chair recognised the need for wide public consultation. Chair confirmed potential

user consultation with schools was underway via The Meadows School, Madeley High School and Sir John Offley Primary School.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

Councillors **RESOLVED to approve** and for Chair to sign as a factual record the Minutes of the last **Council Meeting held on Thursday 1st September 2022**

6. Matters Arising

To consider any matters arising from 5 above - none.

7. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

Councillors NOTED verbal Report from Peter Northcott (PN) County Councillor:

- Highways – repairs ongoing but 50% of resource move over to gritting during winter months. Last month 483 repairs were undertaken in the area.
- Residents had requested bollards be installed in Madeley on the pavement opposite the One Stop Car Park. Highways have assessed but determined that bollards are not suitable installation (as paths are too narrow). Installation of railings has received funding. Works have been agreed and will be carried out within the year.
- New business set up support is available to deliver resilient new businesses.
- Adult learning courses have been funded and Council are promoting widely. Healthy Lifestyles and Stop Smoking 12-week courses for over 40's available during October.

Councillors NOTED verbal Report from Cllr. Gary White (GW) Borough Councillor:

- 4-year Council Plan now available on Council website.
- Cabinet meeting approved next stage for Local Plan Housing Needs consultation in Spring (8 weeks).
- Walleys Quarry - abatement notice for severe odour issues – Borough had vociferously defended, and Red industries withdrew appeal and paid Borough £400k (a high proportion of legal fees). Abatement notice will stand.
- Woodside Planning Proposal – developer withdrew application due to public opposition.
- Station Rd & Onneley Development Proposal – Highways have recommended refusal. Planning Officer has given applicant more time to address issues to go to November Planning Committee.
- Tree problem on Woodside - large willow branch fell on public footpath damaging railing. Borough inspecting other willows in area. Arbori-cultural Dept. have confirmed annual inspections are in place.
- Neighbourhood Development Plan – Baldwin's Gate (200 house application) – going to Planning Committee on Tuesday. Planning Officers informing that if Neighbourhood Plan is more than 2 years old the weighting of its policy is severely

depleted. This has been challenged by our planning consultants and advice being sought on the impact on Madeley's Plan.

8. Police Update PCSO present reported:

- Anti-social behaviour - in Madeley 1 up 29% - in Madeley 2 down 31%
- Crime – in Madeley 1 up 9% - in Madeley 2 up 65%

(PCSO reported crime figures were driven by assaults and nuisance motorbikes). Councillors expressed concern regarding cars parked on footpaths causing obstruction for wheelchair users and push chairs. Councillors requested further information on a report of damage to cars on Cherry Hill. Councillors **NOTED** Police & Crime Commissioners funding available for CCTV to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime which could be relevant to proposed Pump Track.

9. Financial Update

Councillors **NOTED** Financial Matters reported including:

- a) There had been no Grant applications under the Grants Programme hence current balance remained at £2,605
- b) Councillors **NOTED** the detailed Budget Summary supplied by the RFO itemising Projects for the draft budget for 2023/24 and precept implications/impact on Reserves at **Appendix A**.
- c) Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve payments/orders, receipts and transfers as **Appendix B**. Councillors **NOTED** use of General Power of Competence to fund the plaque in Memorial Garden.
- d) Councillors **NOTED** the budget update at Appendix B – budget for Birchdale had been reduced from £30k to £15k. Council **NOTED** advice from RFO that no Data Protection Officer had been contracted to MPC so currently no DPO in place.
- e) Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation statement as **Appendix C**.

10. Appointment of Locum Clerk

Councillors retrospectively **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of Kate Howe as the Locum Clerk for Madeley Parish Council and **RESOLVED** to appoint her as Proper Officer of Madeley Parish Council.

Councillors **NOTED** and **APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE** the need for Clerk's access to a SMARTPHONE to enable agile hybrid working. Costs to be identified at next meeting.

11. Planning Matters

Councillors considered the following applications and **RESOLVED** that final approved comments on applications listed would be submitted by Councillor Chris Hopkin to the Clerk for onward submission to the local authority.

- a) 22/00812/FUL – The Cottage, Moss Lane, Madeley. **NO OBJECTION**

- b) 22/00747/SCH17 – Various HS2 works land to land to the North-West of Bower End Lane, Madeley. **NO OBJECTION**
- c) 22/00743/FUL – New proposed access for The Nook. **NO OBJECTION**
- d) 22/00738/FUL – Rose Cottage, rear of poolside. **NO OBJECTION**
- e) 22/00748/FUL – Chapel Cottage, Moss Lane. **NO OBJECTION**

12. Operation London Bridge

Councillors **NOTED** the actions taken following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II including the Book of Condolence and Flowers in the Memorial Garden. Locum Clerk to research actions required regarding the Book of Condolence.

13. Operation Golden Orb

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve (JS) as Chair and KW, TM, & GW as members of a working group to advise Council on preparations for the Coronation of King Charles III.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve a provisional budget of £3,000 be allocated for the celebrations (currently identified as Sunday June 3rd 2023).

14. HS2

Councillors noted verbal update from Cllr Gary White:

- meeting to be re-arranged due to a Planning Committee clash and asked to include representatives from Environmental Early Works Dept. regarding flood mitigation.
- Work is currently in progress on attenuation pond, Red Lane and due around Madeley Cemetery to attenuate privacy issues.
- Confirmed Joe Wilson was replacement Community Liaison for Phase 2a.

15. Play Areas – Councillors **NOTED** verbal update:

a) Birchdale refurbishment – JS confirmed (in her absence) that KW was chasing confirmation for a firm start date and had requested this should not be during half term holidays. Councillors **NOTED** resident's comments that play areas in the village are only for very young children. Councillors suggested upgrade to play areas should be publicised via the website and requested KW arrange.

b) Councillors considered and **NOTED** the annual inspection reports for the Heath Row and Birchdale play areas and **RESOLVED** to request the Locum Clerk obtain quotations for required works for item identified as moderate risk. **(Appendix D)**

16. Events

Councillors are asked to consider and resolve to approve actions for:

- a) JS confirmed all schools were sending representatives to **Remembrance Day** service, 8 wreaths had been ordered. Councillors requested Clerk to contact Church Minister to sort arrangements for the service at the Madeley Centre.

- b) Christmas – JS confirmed the Madeley Centre has been booked and they are arranging ticketing for the older persons Christmas party. Deposit has been paid for the pantomime – Clerk to check when balance is due. JS will purchase another set of lights for Madeley Heath. A tree is being purchased from Elmside to be erected by Tree Brothers – erecting first Sunday in December. KW arranging Lights Switch On event in Madeley Centre.
- c) Halloween Party – in the absence of Cllrs. Jill and David Whitmore – confirmation of set up was awaited.

17. Heath Wood

- a) Resident alerted concerns on tree health in Hill Wood. Martin Sheratt has assessed and provided estimated cost including Planning Permission for works. Councillors **RESOLVED** to retrospectively approve emergency tree works previously instructed £650 & VAT + £50 for Planning Permission on grounds of H&S.
- b) Councillors retrospectively **RESOLVED** to approve work to review the existing Woodland Management Plan £450 & VAT.

18. Allotments

Councillors **NOTED** the quotations provided (**Appendix E**) for the proposed:

- a) 45m replacement post and rail fence - quotation £1304 - Councillors requested a report on condition of current fence and requirements to make safe.
- b) wooden planter bed – quotation £532 – Councillors NOTED the land identified was in an unused area on allotment site owned by The Madeley Centre and would need to obtain approval on location of planter (JS declared an interest as a Trustee of the Madeley Centre).

Councillors requested Judy and Dave work with allotment holders to provide consultation on proposals for both fence and planter.

19. Pump Track Proposal

are asked to consider and resolve to approve:

- a) Councillors **NOTED** restriction of land - being long and narrow - so is suitable for a Pump Track (retaining trees), but not suitable for a MUGA. Councillors **NOTED** detailed design proposals for Pump Track at cost of £3,500, on which indicative views were being obtained, with inclusion of car parking at Bower Lane (20 cars) all subject to Planning Permission.
- b) Actions for delivery – Needs Assessment - Councillors **NOTED** proposed consultation with potential users via schools through workshop discussion and formal report. KW and TM working with 3 schools to identify:
 - Q1) Is there a need?
 - Q2) Will people use it?
 - Q3) Do Council want to invest?

Councillors RESOLVED to approve suspension of Standing Orders NOTED by Chair as passing 9pm

20. Parish Appearances and Highways

- Councillors **NOTED** MPC Lengthsman had been very ill for the last few weeks.
- JS suggested 2-3 weeks in advance of future meetings Councillors Chair and Clerk written proposals for items to be considered. This would allow time for relevant research / quotes to be obtained prior to discussion.

21. Madeley Pool

- a) Update on s.106 Working Group – CH reported an encouraging meeting with the Ground Works Project Officer to discuss potential projects including interpretation panels / adventure play area / picnic site / walkways / bankside strengthening. The requested copy of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust report had been supplied. Councillors considered additional sources of funding for the projects including HS2.
- b) Lease update – JS advised terms appear too high. MPC have instructed Vanessa to produce Heads of Terms (JS and CH providing comments). She will work with MPC negotiating Terms with Staffordshire Borough Council. CH reported there are very few trees with TPO in the Conservation Area. (Councillors **NOTED** MPC do not want to take on responsibility for tree management).
- c) Plans for Geese Management 2023 – CH reported meeting with Geese contractor and range of options. There was a clear view against culling, and recommendation for egg pricking and installation of low level high tensile wire fence to prevent geese exiting water (as Biddulph Grange). Councillors **NOTED** need for decision before imminent breeding season.

22. Councillors are asked to be mindful of the Equality & Diversity Policy and their crime prevention powers for the Meeting;

23. Councillors' planned absence – None to note

24. Next Meeting

To note the date of the next regular meeting as **Thursday 3rd November 2022 to commence at 7:00pm.**

The Public and Press are welcome to attend - but please note that they may be excluded for any item the Council decide should be treated as confidential