

**Capenhurst and Ledsham Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Parish Council**

Date	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Time	7pm
Attended	Cllr. Ann Clowes, Cllr. Tania Foster, Cllr. Joyce Tomlinson, Cllr. Colette Francis, Cllr. Christine Pemberton, Cllr. Tracey Royle, Cllr. Jamie Davies, Cllr. Simon Eardley, Neil Fagan (Urenco), Cath Taylor, David Collinson
Location & Details	Capenhurst Court, Urenco

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Procedural Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Apologies</b> – Cllr. Gareth Baker, Cllr. Mark Brassington, Wendy Leason (PCSO),</li> <li>- <b>Communication</b> – all relevant communications sent onto councillors</li> <li>- <b>Declaration of Interest</b> – None received or declared</li> <li>- <b>Adoption of the Minutes from the last meeting</b> – Due to the need to check on a procedural matter the adoption of the minutes will be undertaken at the next meeting.</li> <li>- <b>Resignations &amp; vacancies</b> – none received</li> <li>- <b>Dates of Future Meetings &amp; Locations</b> - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Capenhurst Village Hall. Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Urenco, Capenhurst Court. Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024, venue to be confirmed. Clerk has written to the Headteacher but as yet not received a reply, will follow up with another letter.</li> <li>- <b>Notice of any urgent AOB</b> – none</li> </ul>	CB
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Visiting Officers:</b> Simon Eardley</p> <p>Apologised for his lateness this was due to attending the first meeting of a new Highways Board. CWAC have agreed additional monies for innovation, this may not offer a full solution for Capenhurst, they are trying a new approach to the pavements in Ledsham.</p> <p>The Battery Storage Planning Application was approved despite objections, SE intends holding them to account on the promises made prior to approval.</p> <p>Ledsham Public Right Of Way issues, these are due to the lack of staff, ditches are the main problem, they are not being maintained so are causing problems also hedges and trees not being maintained. SE wants an officer to attend to see the problems first hand. Continues to log pot holes and encourages everyone to do same in all areas especially Ledsham Lane.</p> <p>There has been correspondence regarding the speed signs in Badgers Rake Lane between Cllr Eardley, Cllr. Miles Hogg and CWAC Highways</p>	SE

	<p>as they are in negotiations about the cost that can be attributed to each including the Parish Councils. The cost is substantial, over 5K for 8 signs. NF has offered a contribution to the signs from Urenco.</p> <p>SE is happy to look at any small projects from his budget.</p> <p>CP asked if anything could be done about the speed of cars exiting the Sports Field, NF explained Urenco were looking at a new exit to help this.</p> <p>TF suggested that CP let the clerk know the times et this was happening and she would write to the Police for assistance with the issue.</p> <p>TR informed the meeting that she had measured the pavements where the hedges have encroached and mad walking difficult. She explained that in some places space to pass was reduced by 70% because of the bushes. Drains were also blocked which led to flooding and mud being washed up making the surfaces slippery and dangerous, also very dark so difficult to see especially for those with reduced eyesight. TR has plotted the issues and will supply to SE, pointed out that there is a potential for Council liability. JT suggested that it be put on the Facebook page to ask Farmers and Householders to cut back hedges and overhanging trees by their properties.</p> <p>TF asked SE if he had been able to get hold of the minimum standards for Roads and Bridges for CWaC yet. SE to again try to get hold of them.</p>					
3	<p><b>Update from Urenco</b></p> <p>The festival was held despite the weather being awful, attended by 3.5k people and £12,000 raised for Charities, 10K going to The Good Shepherd and the other 2k to Christies, in Manchester, in memory of a local young man, Callum Powell.</p> <p>Lots of lessons were learned from it to carry forward to next year if it happens. It was good to see so many staff and the wider Community volunteering for the event. NF extended his thanks to TF and all who helped esp the tractor drivers who rescued cars stuck on the parking. Said that if it is held next year they are aiming to raise at least 10k for each charity, they will be holding a presentation to the charities and will invite the Councillors.</p> <p>NF would like to present Urenco’s Ten Year Plan to the next meeting in addition to the Regulators report, it was agreed that this would be an Agenda item for the next meeting.</p> <p>NF was welcomed back after his sick leave by the Chair and Councillors especially looking so well.</p>	NF				
4	<p><b>Britain in Bloom</b></p> <p>BiB went ahead with a visual book showing what had been done and what was planned. The results should be announced at the end of September.</p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> That the trees should be approved from Donated Funds.</p> <p>Quotes are Overdale Garden Centre £419.17</p> <table><tr><td>Ashridge</td><td>£471.02</td></tr><tr><td>Premier Plants</td><td>£247.88</td></tr></table> <p>All include VAT</p> <p>Premier Plants are agreed as the provider, Proposed by CF and seconded by TR, all in favour.</p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Two growing trugs be purchased for the Village School, these</p>	Ashridge	£471.02	Premier Plants	£247.88	CF
Ashridge	£471.02					
Premier Plants	£247.88					

	<p>would be the height of the average child and two metres long.</p> <p>Quotes are Overdale      £369.98                           Robert Dyas      £395.98                           Premier Plants      £369.98</p> <p>TR suggested that she approach the local Men in Sheds to give them an opportunity to quote for the Trugs. TR would contact them and bring to the next meeting, Agenda item.</p> <p>CF handed the receipts for the photos to TF for repayment (£21.45)</p>	TR
5	<p><b>Emergency Plan</b></p> <p>Still awaiting a response regarding the maps from the Council, Also no response from Utilities. NF suggested that the Council might be able to use the plan in Urenco's Emergency Plan, this to be investigated.</p> <p>CP suggested putting the web address in the Notice Board. This was agreed. TR has various contacts for the plan, all have been approached and agreed for their details to be included, will send to CP to update.</p>	
6	<p><b>Notice Board Update</b></p> <p>CWAC are reluctant to come out on a site visit, None of the pavements adhere to their requirements for all ability access. CWAC have offered to give the council a quote for the work but won't give permission for the board without altering the approach. AC has contacted several firms to quote but to date none have come out. AC asked for suggestions for firms for the flags or concrete. SE asked why some benches/planters are being allowed and others aren't. Pointed out that a lot are not approved and nothing is done.</p>	
7	<p><b>Members of the Public Speaking time</b></p> <p>CT/DC asked how far the Penfold Close project has got? TR explained that at the moment it hadn't got very far, but is a designated Play Area. DC very concerned about Safety on the site and issues that could arise such as dog fouling, Anti social behaviour. He also said there was a problem with weeds and that he had to at his own expense spray them. He informed the Council that his conveyancing document allows him access and parking on the entrance. He informed the council that there had been no children on the field over summer but that the grass had been cut. TR explained that we hoped that his issues would be dealt with as the project progressed, she also expressed the fact that his solicitor should have informed them that it was a play area prior to their buying the house.</p> <p>TR went onto say that it was aimed at Primary age children, and assured DC that there would be no lighting in the area. The Council feel that the area has to be put to good use for the benefit of the village children and parents. TR asked them to put their issues into an email to her and it would come to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Internet/Website/Facebook</b></p> <p>The Chair asked JD if he would like to be the Councils Web Champion to help to put documents on the website in a timely manner, he agreed.</p> <p><b>Events</b></p> <p>Harvest Festival 8<sup>th</sup> October at Capenhurst, 11.15am, a two course Roast would be provided at a cost of £5 per person.</p> <p>Harvest Festival 15<sup>th</sup> October at Two Mills Chapel, 6.30pm Tea and Apple Pie to be provided with no charge, with a Produce Auction afterwards.</p>	

## Planning

New Planning Applications – The Nursing Home had submitted an application to cut back the Leylandii trees as they were blocking their neighbours light. They are in the Conservation Area where all trees have TPO's on them so require Planning permission to do any work.

Planning Sub Committee Report -

### 1) "Ledsham" Planning Application

[Erection of front oak framed porch - Bushy Tail Barn Foxes Farm Badgers Rake Lane Ledsham Chester CH66 8PF](#)

Ref. No: 23/02507/FUL | Received date: Tue 08 Aug 2023 | Status: Pending | Case Type: Planning Application

The planning sub group had no objections to this application and thought it would be an appropriate addition to this rustic property. We recommend approval of the planning application.

### 2) "Capenhurst" Planning Application 21-Aug-2020 4:46 PM

[Installation of 9 no. floodlights mounted to 6m high columns erected around pitch side for use between the hours of 6pm and 9pm during winter months around the rugby pitch - Capenhurst Recreation Ground Capenhurst Lane Capenhurst Ellesmere Port Cheshire](#)

Ref. No: 23/01839/FUL | Received date: Mon 12 Jun 2023 | Status: Pending | Case Type: Planning Application

It was noted that some of the lighting poles have already been erected, prior to this application, and this should not have happened.

However, the planning sub group agreed that with the limited hours for the proposed use of these lights being between 6pm and 9pm during winter months, and as long as the floodlights did not shine directly into neighbouring properties, that approval should be given for this application. The floodlights appear to be single lights and not a bank of lights on a pole as seen on many pitches. As long as the conditions mentioned in the application are adhered to then there should not be any detrimental impact.\*

The Parish Council have not received any objections from residents about this application and there are no adverse comments recorded on the CWAC planning site.

\*Since the PC planning group's meeting we have received notification of an objection from Mr Gary Wright who lives adjacent to the rugby pitch. The reasons for his objections have been clearly stated in his letter of objection.

The PC planning group are aware that Mr Wright has been in contact with Cllr Eardley who has informed us that he has asked to provisionally call this application in on the grounds of the potential detrimental impact on residential amenity of neighbouring residents. The PC welcome these further investigations.

Planning Approvals and Updates – Nursery Cottage has been approved, Native River (Battery Storage) permission has been granted to put Bat Boxes up.

**9 Finance**  
RFO report

The Clerk has been sent the confirmation regarding our registration for self-exemption under the local audit (smaller authorities) regulations 2015 with our external auditors PKF Littlejohn. I have still not had confirmation from them that this has been accepted.

Our present bank balance stands at £9,306.00. £1148.92 and £2,852.45 of that remains ring fenced for specified projects.

Income since our last meeting:

- £372 from Urenco for payment for flag

Expenditure as agreed at our last meeting:

- £372 to Ann Clowes for flag

Regular Payments, as agreed at the AGM:

- £338 wages
- £36 Website admin
- £366 Internal Audit fee

Expenditure requiring agreement:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None on agenda. Flags still need to be dealt with.</li> </ul> <p>Expenditure not requiring agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £6.15 stationery</li> </ul> <p>Please request to see the full accounts should you need to at any time.</p> <p>May I also remind members that the budget will be a point of discussion at the next meeting in order that the draft budget may be produced ready for setting at the meeting after that. Can all members think about this and be prepared for the discussion on 7th November. It would also help me if I could be forewarned of any suggestions in order that I can ensure full facts are available at that meeting.</p> <p>I would like to propose that this report is accepted by councillors.</p> <p>Tania Foster</p> <p>All present agreed to its acceptance.</p> <p><b>Proposal</b> That C&amp;LPC pay the required ICO fee of £35 per annum via Direct Debit Proposed by AC and seconded by TR</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Penfold Close Play Area</b> See Members of the Public Speaking Time. Agenda item 7	
<b>11</b>	<p><b>D Day Celebrations</b></p> <p>It was agreed that one big event would not work as previous event had to be cancelled. So was agreed that there would be another competition through the school, an afternoon tea for the older residents and to get a mobile Fish and chip van for the village on the day.</p> <p>WI Bunting – TR had contact from the WI who would like to borrow Hi Vis and pickers for their walk, CP will also talk to CWAC about borrowing some and providing bags. TR estimates that about 60 metres of material would need to be purchased at a cost of approximately £8 a metre. There is an offer of some donated material which will be looked into. Agreed that red, white and blue should be the main colours. TR has had no response from the Poppies, will keep trying.</p>	
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Members info</b></p> <p>Any Councillor who would like to attend CHALC's AGM will need to let them know, 12<sup>th</sup> October.</p>	

13	<b>Members speaking time</b> CP brought up the subject of Dunkirk Lane, the ditches need to be reinstated to prevent flooding, TF informed the meeting that the ditches had never been reinstated following the development of the substation alongside the railway; she had reported the issue to CWaC but it had not been rectified. TF agreed to go with CF to assess the issue of ditches along the Ledsham Public Right of Way. CWAC Report it App – remind people in the Notice Board and Facebook	
	Meeting closed at 20.52 pm	

Minutes Approved .....

Date of Meeting .....