

Capenhurst and Ledsham Parish Council
AGM Meeting

Tuesday 4th May 2021 7.00pm Via Zoom

Present: Cllr J Pemberton (Chair), Cllr J Tomlinson, Cllr T Foster, Cllr A Clowes, Cllr M Brassington, Cllr C Pemberton, Cllr P Iredale, *carr T. Royle*
Clerk: Ms H Tweedie

1. Introduction and Welcome

Cllr J Pemberton the current Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the meeting as the Annual General Meeting of Capenhurst and Ledsham Parish Council.

2. Apologies

Cllr Tom Ainsley

3. Annual Chairperson's Report

Cllr Joanna Pemberton read out her report for the year.

See below:

Report from the Chair to Capenhurst and Ledsham Parish Council
4th May 2021

Welcome and thank you for attending our 2020/21 AGM

Reflections on the Parish Council activities and highlights over 2020-2021, are varied and busy. I have been proud to be part of such a good team of fellow Councillors.

The major change we experienced in 2020 was the first lockdown, to protect us from COVID-19 pandemic. This meant we could not meet in person and we considered other means of sharing local council matters.

We embraced taking our meetings to Zoom online to allow the business of the Parish Council to carry on. The aim was to engage with our residents, whilst grappling with the IT issues of poor internet connectivity. We hope to overcome this by promoting the community internet provider B4RN. Many thanks to Councillors for adding to their skill sets by communicating in different ways.

We continued with "socially distanced" projects as Cllr Christine Pemberton took on the lead in the Village Green planting for our "In Bloom" competition aspirations. Many residents and businesses joined in with Premier Plants and Urenco donating plants and funding. The fabulous owl and woodland friends' sculpture by Simon O'Rourke give an added feature demonstrating our commitment to the environment. The PC supported regular litter picking along the lanes around the villages.

We gave a sad goodbye to our Parish clerk Lisa Tiplady and Cllr Tony Warden (Vice-Chair) in 2020. Tony set up our Facebook group, we will miss his professional insights and support with B4RN. We welcomed Hazel Millington as our new Parish Clerk last October and wish her every success. Relative elected newcomers on the PC are: Councillors Christine Pemberton, Tracey Royle, Ann Clowes, more recently Phil Iredale and Tom Ainsley. It has been heartening to work alongside new Councillors as they have taken part in many activities, indicating their commitment and hard work for our communities.

This year we agreed to set up a Planning group due to the number of applications received and the time required to give detailed consideration. The group reports to the main council and is currently working on a local strategy to help future applicants. Many thanks to Councillors. Joyce Tomlinson-Carr, Tania Foster, Tracey Royle and Ann Clowes for their time, considered insights and efforts.

We have had regular reports from Urenco, CNC and NDC from Neil Fagan, Grace Fogg and others. These are valued and continue to keep us informed. We are still receiving complaints concerning background noise levels and are endeavouring to resolve them in co-operation with CWAC, Cllr Simon Eardley and the Environment Agency. There have not been any local liaison group meetings this year due to COVID-19 although we have asked for zoom or team meetings going forward.

Neil Hardwick has been kind enough to provide monthly traffic speed reports and he is the contact for the B4RN project. Some residents are now connected, others await connection subject to landowners giving "wayleave permissions". Thank you, Neil.

As a Parish council are pleased to offer continued support the plans for a new village hall. The CWAC planning department made changes which have been instrumental in slowing the plans down.

The speeding traffic continues to cause concern at every council meeting. The 40mph from the Parkgate Road to the village is now live and has signage after many years of highlighting and communicating our concerns to CWAC Highways. Well done all concerned. The next area of focus is Badgersrake Lane, Ledsham for reduction from 60mph to 40mph. The traffic monitor showing speed of traffic causes much concern as we await the reports from CWAC highways who have instructed URENCO to remove the current monitor. This is to be replaced with two new machines. This is an ongoing debate; we cannot let up on our efforts to slow down speeding traffic. Especially, as Capenhurst & Ledsham form part of the national cycling route 56. Speeding traffic caused the death of our neighbour Pippa Whitmore in April at the junction of Dunkirk Lane and the A5117. Cllr Iredale is the Highways Champion and has been busy renewing road markings, cleaning signage and updating residents on road safety issues. Cllr Tomlinson has been out with residents with the speed gun, and we liaise with CWAC for training when available.

The Parish Council have a live website and we commit to further training to enable all Councillors to communicate with residents www.capenhurstledshampc.org.uk

The Capenhurst Penfold has endured damage from traffic accidents. As an ancient monument CWAC eventually repaired the animal enclosure. The PC will ensure this village feature is kept safe from further damage.

Councillors have attended training provided by CHALC and CWAC to improve knowledge and expertise in the following: Planning, Parish clerk role, new Councillors responsibilities (a revised handbook), Chair's role Parish Clerk and In Bloom advice sessions. All Councillors are unpaid and volunteer many hours to their villages. I would like to express my thanks for their time and commitment 2020/21 and beyond.

Joanna Pemberton Chair Capenhurst & Ledsham Parish Council

3. Current Chairperson stands down

Cllr Joanna Pemberton formally stood down as the Chair for 2020/21

4. Elect Chairperson for the year 2021/2022

Cllr Ann Clowes was proposed as the new Chair of Capenhurst and Ledsham Parish Council by Cllr J Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr T Royle

5. Elect Vice Chairperson for the year 2021/2022

This role has been vacant since the previous Chair moved out of the area.

Cllr Joanna Pemberton was proposed as the new Vice Chair of Capenhurst and Ledsham Parish Council by Cllr J Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr T Royle.

Cllr Joanna Pemberton the outgoing Chair welcomed Cllr Ann Clowes as the new Chair.

Meeting Closed at 7.08pm

Agenda following AGM
Tuesday 4th May 2021 Via Zoom

Present: Cllr J Pemberton (Outgoing Chair), Cllr A Clowes (Incoming Chair), Cllr J Tomlinson, Cllr T Foster, Cllr A Clowes, Cllr M Brassington, Cllr C Pemberton, Cllr P Iredale

Clerk: Ms H Tweedie

In attendance: Cllr Simon Eardley, Neil Fagan (Urenco) & Grace Fogg (Urenco)

1 Procedural matters

Who to Action

Apologies

Cllr Tom Ainsley

PCSO Tony Icke (new to the role)

Declarations of interest

Cllr J Pemberton has shares in B4RN

Confirmation of the Previous Minutes held on Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Proposer: Cllr C Pemberton

Seconded: Cllr T Royle

Action

Cllr J Pemberton to sign the

Minutes

JP

H Tweedie to load them onto the website and circulated

HT

Dates of future meetings.

6th July 2021: Village Hall/Zoom tbc

7th September 2021: Village Hall/Zoom tbc

2nd November 2021: Village Hall/Zoom tbc

Start Time: 7pm

Action

H Tweedie to request a Checklist for resuming safe face to face meetings from
CHALC

HT

2. Britain in Bloom.

Theme for 2021: "Embrace, Promote and Celebrate, Diversity"

Cllr C Pemberton has approached Mike Francis from Premier plants about hanging baskets.

Baskets: £30-£50 each

Filling of baskets approx £15 each

Bolts to secure hanging baskets approx £30-£50 each

Volunteers will be required to water them once a week

Is permission required to put baskets on lamp posts?

Action

Cllr C Pemberton to contact Steve Hewitt, Highways

CP

Sponsorship

Sought for additional benches as part of Britain in Bloom

Neil Fagan suggested when Urenco order picnic benches for onsite site, Urenco would be willing to order an extra two which could be located on the village green

Who to Action

Neil Fagan also suggested Urenco would be willing to sponsor the hanging baskets outside Urenco.

Action

Cllr C Pemberton to coordinate with Neil Fagan

CP

Action

H Tweedie to approach businesses

HT

Cllr J Pemberton to approach Merseyrail re. Planters on Capenhurst Station

JP

Trees from Climate Funding

Email received from Mary Lavery – Green Infrastructure Manager at Chester Council Funding – form received to register interest for Autumn 2021.

Cllr T Royle suggested planting trees in remembrance of loved ones lost due to COVID

Action

H Tweedie to forward email to Cllr C Pemberton to progress

HT/CP

Litter Pick

Cllr C Pemberton thanked everyone involved in the recent litter pick. It was a great success and volunteers have expressed an interest in continuing.

Great British Clean Up: 28th May- 13th June 2021

Individuals or groups can join in. The aim to pledge a number of minutes to "Clean Up" The minutes are converted into miles. The objective of the scheme is to achieve 1 million miles.

Action

Cllr C Pemberton to publicise

CP

Cllr J Pemberton thanked Cllr C Pemberton on behalf of the Council for all her efforts in relation to the success of the recent Litter Pick Event

3. Community engagement/Communications

(a) Urenco - Neil Fagan

Litter Pick

Urenco took part in the recent Litter Pick Event and collected 45 bags of rubbish. Urenco plan to continue with litter picking on a monthly basis. The plan is also to keep clear the whole area in front of the sports field.

Lockdown

Although officially ends on 21st June, Urenco will continue with restricted numbers on site with people working on a rota basis.

Local Liaison Group

Will be a virtual meeting. July meeting not possible due to holidays.

Action

Neil Fagan to supply dates

NF

Urenco - Grace Fogg

When a steel beam was dismantled a wallet owned by Charles Baird from the 1950s was found. Mr Baird is buried at Capenhurst Church. His son lives in Chester.

Action

Cllr J Pemberton to contact Mr Baird's son to return the wallet

H Tweedie, if Mr Baird's son agrees, to contact the Chester Chronicle

JP

HT

(b) Visiting Officers

Tony Icke new PCSO unable to attend. H Tweedie has requested, if available, a local report.

(c) Visiting Members

None

(d) Visiting Member: Cllr Simon Eardley

New Speed Signs along Capenhurst

The 40mph signs at the Parkgate Road end of Capenhurst Lane have been erected.

Flashing Speed Sign

In principle it has been agreed to erect a new flashing speed sign somewhere near the White Cottages

F2F Meetings

Court case was dismissed last week and from 17th May 2021, F2F meetings to recommence

VAS Signage

Progressing, place orders ASAP

Pinfold Coping Stones Missing

This has been logged as job not complete

Footways

Ledsham in a poor state and has been logged again

Potholes in the Parish

These have also been logged

A550 Consultation

17th March the principle engineer to design a scheme to improve safety. The scheme is to be presented to the Parish Councils involved and comments invited
BT broken drain near Fir Cottage

Trees for Climate

£1 billion has been put aside for this project and the Council are encouraged to pursue securing trees from this project.

Rio Planning Application

No news as yet

Piece of Land earmarked for Community Value by the local community

* Playground? Behind Village Hall

Possible to become an asset of the Community

Action

Cllr A Clowes to clarify

AC

(e) Members of Public Speaking Time: Neil Hardwick

B4RN

13th May 2021 is planned date for more customers to be connected.

Still struggling to get wayleaves for play area and land in front of Penfold

Action

B4RN contact to approach Cllr S Eardley for support.

SE

(f) Correspondence from members of the public: Centenary Poppy Appeal

See below

(g) Website -Status

Action

H Tweedie to keep up to date

HT

(h) Events

Poppy Appeal – Centenary – Lamp post Poppies see email dated 16.04.21

Action

H Tweedie to forward mail to Cllr T Royle

HT

(i) Village Hall

6th May 2021 local elections. Election volunteers deadline 25th April 2021 to apply

(f) Correspondence from members of the public: None

(g) Website – Hazel to continue to update

(h) Events

See above:

* Britain in Bloom

* Great British Clean Up

* Poppy Appeal

(i) Village Hall

6th May 2021 local elections.

One way system in operation and voters bring their own pen.

Proposed New Village Hall

Cllr T Foster has documented why a larger hall is required

Village Hall Consultation has taken place and it has been Approved

4. Planning

The Planning Portal has been difficult to get into recently. Therefore, not all applications have been updated.

Cllr S Eardley confirmed there have been issues with the Portal and suggested emailing comments rather than posting on the Portal to ensure the Planning department receive them.

(a) New/recent applications to be updated before next meeting

21/01349/FUL	1 Holly Bank Farm: Replacement of external doors and windows
21/00402/FUL	White Cottages: Amendment to application – single storey rear extension
21/01245/OUT	Land at Badgers Rake Lane: Erection of key workers dwelling
21/01170/FUL	Urenco: Post-operational clean out, decommissioning, demolition and land quality appraisal of the B550 incinerator complex

(b) Awaiting Decisions – to be updated before next meeting

20/04538/FUL	White Cottages Refurbishment of existing sewage effluent plant at Urenco. Comments submitted
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(c) Decisions to be updated before next meeting

20/04538/FUL	Refurbishment of existing sewage effluent plant at Urenco. Comments submitted
19/02829/FUL	Old Rectory Nursing Home Rectory Lane Capenhurst Chester CH1 6HN Construction of a cabin to house 2 no. biomass boilers and associated fuel store (Retrospective)
19/03727/FUL	Land Off Chapel Lane Ledsham Chester Change of use of land to dog park including addition of fencing and containers for site office and the storage of equipment – retrospective
20/03045/FUL	Oakcroft Cottage Ledsham Lane Ledsham Chester Cheshire CH66 0NB Conversion of Redundant agricultural building into 2.no residential units
20/02196/OUT	Land At Badgers Rake Lane Ledsham Chester Outline Application for one keyworkers' dwelling and detached garage

(d) Planning sub-committee Report.

Capenhurst and Ledsham Parish council by Cllr T Foster

Another busy time on the planning front. Presently under consideration is the application at Holly Bank Farm for replacement windows and doors that Joyce has been looking into, an amendment to an application for a single storey extension that was previously dealt with by Tracey and operational work within the Urenco site. The applicants at Badgers Rake Farm have resubmitted plans for a keyworkers dwelling in a different spot; we believe this application is covered by our neighbouring parish council and wondered if checks could be made to ensure that they have the details. The annex at Park Farm was carefully looked into particularly as it is within the conservation area and the general opinion was that this would be an improvement to the property and no detriment to the area. The use of recycled products was praised. A re-submitted application for an agricultural building was also dealt with and whilst we were aware of some local opposition it was not found to have any valid planning reasons for objection. We note that:

- The application on Rio which was started prior to a decision and then submitted a changed plan more in keeping with what would be approved has been finished as per the original plans.
- The dog park in Chapel Lane, Ledsham is operating despite the website showing awaiting decision. A report has been received that the gates across the footpath were locked when a walker was attempting to cross the land.
- The reinstatement of the land in Dunkirk Lane has not included re-instating the ditches. This is a well-known area of flooding and we would ask that this be reported to enforcement to ensure that the ditches be reinstated.
- Cycle route. I have been in discussion with the agents for the landowner of the "proposed" cycle route. Due to forthcoming development the cycle route would not be convenient to them, however they have said that once this development was complete they may be open to discuss the matter with us and Councillor Eardley.

Since the formation of the planning sub-committee, we have produced a code of conduct and practices that we stick to without grace or favour and we have, in the main, had really good feedback in the active involvement of the parish council. As the now famous Jackie Weaver states, most parishioners only become aware of the activities of the parish council as a result of planning applications and this is an excellent way to involve the community. Whilst one sub-committee member is nominated to lead each application, all four then thrash out the main points to ensure fairness in all our dealings. We have dealt with numerous applications in detail and pass back to the full council to ensure a full picture is available for all councillors. We have been delighted by the support we have been given from Councillor Simon Eardley who shows keen interest in our villages, and again would like to thank him for this. We have also undergone training with CHALC arranged via Ann, so thank you for that Ann. It is also nice to see our comments shown on the council website, thank you for submitting our views Hazel, much appreciated.

5. Highways

Culverts and Drains

Ongoing issue.

Broken Drain

Caused by BT a number of months ago.

Action

See above re contacting Mike Powell

Verge Markers

There are 4 spare verge markers

Fixed speed camera

Thank you to Neil Hardwick for the updates. Still an issue with speeding.

The average speed in 20mph is 35mph

The Police have periodically stood opposite Brook Farm, Capenhurst Lane with a speed gun.

Speed Gun Training

To be arranged Post COVID: Graham Lowe

Speed limit along Badgers Rake Lane

Approx Cost £5000

Cllr Eardley has £500 available,

Action

H Tweedie to contact the other Councils involved with Badgers Rake Lane; HT
Ellesmere Port (Nicole Meardon), Puddington, Willaston (Miles Hogg), Redrow
Community Fund

State of the Lanes

Street Scene confirm grass verges will only be cut once a year. If a resident choses to cut their own frontage then the cutter will lift and move onto the next section. Potholes still an issue.

Action

Encourage residents to report potholes

ALL

6. Finance

Income Received

£2200 Precept

Payments made

Training for Cllr Pemberton £40

Balances / Bank statements/Payment schedule cash book.

Funds available to spend this year on Council projects is: £3500

7. Policy review.

NALC Policy on Electronic Communications circulated 28.04.21

Action

Councillors to read and email comments by the deadline: 21st May 2021

ALL

8. CWAC and other organisations

Community Resilience Plans – email dated 19th April from Nikki Hewitt

Action

Cllr A Clowes to make contact with Neil Fagan and progress

AC

9. Members information / speaking time

Cllr J Tomlinson

Expressed concern about the state of the villages' roads/lanes

Picnic tables on the green – who would own them and provide insurance?

Cllr C Pemberton

How many picnic benches? Two

Cllr T Royle

£180 donation was made to The Hospice of the Good Shephard which was raised from the Christmas Tree bauble donations

Cllr T Foster


Concerned about the grass verge area which has been driven over a lot. Would it be possible to replace the verge with a path?

Action

Cllr S Eardley to write a letter and put pressure on Highways

SE

Meeting Closed: 9.24pm

Chair 
31/1/2022

New Chair 
31/01/22