

Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15th JULY 2024 AT 7PM

Present: Councillor F Goodier, Councillor C Topping, Councillor D Rutter, Councillor J Edwards and Councillor D Wheeler.

Also, present Clerk, Mrs J Monks and three members of the public.

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor C Topping welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Councillor West and Chester Ward Councillor T Lush sent his apology for the meeting. Councillor A Bell and Councillor S Roberts sent their apologies for the meeting.

2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest

There was no declaration of interest.

3 Public Speaking Time

A member of the public reported that there was dust and noise pollution from the old Haulage yard in Oakmere and they had objections to the planning permissions applied for on site.

A member of the public reported that it was HGV repairs that had caused noise pollution and there was no dust pollution from this site and that noise and dust testing was due to be carried out soon.

A member of the public reported that there were several neglected footpaths in the forest. The member of the public was asked to email the details along with a map to the clerk and this would then be pursued with Forest England. The member of the public reported that there were ongoing issues with litter in the forest. Several Councillors confirmed that Forest England and the café do undertake regular litter picks in the forest. A member of the public complained regarding potholes on Eddisbury Hill. Councillor C Topping confirmed that he would need to report these to Cheshire West and Chester Council. A member of the public also reported he was concerned regarding the introduction of a car parking charge on Delamere Station.

4 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council on Monday 17th June 2024 were approved.

5 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items

Forestry England have confirmed that their next meeting is on Monday 9th September from 11.30am.

Councillor S Roberts had not yet logged into the NatWest account, the clerk has re-ordered an activation code for her login, but this must be done as soon as possible.

The clerk confirmed that she had contacted Tarmac regarding a site meeting and an awareness session however no response has been received.

The clerk confirmed that she had contacted the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council to request a meeting with the Highways Department, but no response had been received. The clerk was asked to chase this up.

The clerk had circulated a letter regarding overgrown hedges. Councillor F Goodier reported that hedges could be cut during nesting season on Health & Safety grounds.

6 Planning

The planning applications that had been received up to Monday 15th July were considered.

RESOLVED that;

- (a) No objections were made to 24/01518/FUL, Downdale Morreys Lane Delamere, Conversion of existing outbuilding into ancillary accommodation.
- (b) No objections were made to 24/01496/LBC, Flat 3 Oakmere Hall Chester Road Oakmere, Erection and retention of railing within enclosed yard to define boundary.
- (c) 24/00135/FUL, EMRAY Industrial Services Limited Oakmere Trading Estate Chester Road Oakmere. Erection of plant machinery and related structures associated with the manufacturing of concrete blocks for a specific small contract (retrospective). The Parish Council are concerned regarding the dust pollution from this site following feedback from residents. The Parish Council would like an investigation from the Environmental Health Dept regarding dust concerns and if the dust is associated with the concrete block production.

- (d) No objections were made to 24/02035/P18, Application for Part 18 Prior Approval for repair and improvement works to Delamere Bridge (CDM Bridge 162) over the Manchester to Chester Railway Line. Delamere Railway Station Station Road Delamere

7 Finance

The clerk reported that the current bank balances were as follows and bank statements showing these amounts were presented and signed by the Chair.

Bank account balance is £28,313.65 as at 30th June 2024

£70.00 advertising income received in June.

RESOLVED that;

the following payments be authorised;

Joanne Monks	Pay for July	553.38
Joanne Monks	Clerk Expenses	32.30
Cheshire Pension Fund	Pension contributions for July	197.67
Caroline Topping	Eventbrite charges for beacon event	19.99

8 August Recess

As there is no meeting of the Parish Council in August it was;

RESOLVED that;

Planning – The Clerk should liaise with the Chair and Vice Chair on planning applications received during the Recess with subsequent discussion with all other Councillors.

The Chair, Vice Chair and the Clerk be authorised to deal with all routine matters during the Recess with discussion with all other Councillors.

The August payment bank transfer will be undertaken by authorised signatories in accordance with the bank mandates. The clerk was asked to email a financial report for August with the payment schedule to all Parish Councillors.

9 Microsoft Office renewal

RESOLVED that;

The clerk could renew the Microsoft Office licence with the renewal cost of up to £100 plus VAT for the year.

10 Website and Email

Councillor J Edwards confirmed that the website had now moved to the new gov.uk domain and the clerk was asked to thank the website developer for his assistance with this.

Councillor J Edwards will email the clerk with confirmation of her login details.

If anyone needs access to update the new website, they will need to contact Councillor J Edwards so he can allow access.

11 Earlsbrook Housing estate

Councillor J Edwards reported that there was a residents meeting on Tuesday 9th July, and this was attended by Councillor J Edwards, Councillor C Topping and Councillor S Roberts, L&Q representatives and a representative from United Utilities, Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Lush and approximately ten members of the public. The feedback was positive, and L&Q have made some positive improvements to progress the site and try to resolve issues. Councillor S Roberts will type up minutes from the meeting for circulation before publication.

Some residents have reported issues with lorries speeding down Station Road from this site and the clerk was asked to report this to L&Q.

The clerk was asked to contact Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Lush thanking him for his attendance and contribution to these meetings.

12 Little Wood

The clerk confirmed that she had submitted application to Cheshire West and Chester Council Ward members budget for a grant and was due to be processed by Cheshire West and Chester Council in the next 28 days.

The clerk had received a request for further information and for photos from Tarmac. Councillor F Goodier will take some photos and send these to the clerk and the clerk will draft a response from the Parish Council to Tarmac.

The clerk has received an invoice from the contractor regarding work in Little Wood.

RESOLVED that;

The payment of £1,000 will be paid in August as the work has been completed.

13 Christmas tree

Councillor C Topping confirmed that she had a contractor and a representative from the community centre and a location for a Christmas tree had been agreed. One quote has been supplied and this was discussed in detail. Councillor C Topping will get a further quote and the clerk was requested to obtain a third quote for this to be discussed at the Parish Council meeting in September. Councillor C Topping will investigate the possibility of sponsorship from local businesses.

14 Introduction of car parking charges on railway stations

The clerk confirmed that Cuddington Parish Council and Mouldsworth Parish Council had submitted comments to the consultation from Network Rail. The clerk had also contacted the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors regarding this.

There was concern that the introduction of car parking charges would affect the businesses on the stations and members of the public would park on the railway station car park at Delamere rather than on the more expensive Forest England car park.

The clerk was asked to put this as an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

15 VE Day 80, 8th May 2025

The clerk confirmed that she had circulated documentation regarding VE day. Councillor C Topping informed the Parish Council that the event was a celebration and party rather than the D-Day celebration which was focused on respect and commemoration. Several ideas were discussed including involving the school and the Abbey Arms pub. Councillor C Topping will discuss with Forest England regarding the possibility of another beacon event.

16 Potholes

Councillor C Topping reported that members of the public need to be aware that the Parish Council has no responsibility for potholes and that any members of the public need to report any pothole to Cheshire West and Chester Council. Councillor C Topping circulated copies of campaigns from other Parish Councils.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk will draft an advert to be put on the website, residents Facebook page, noticeboards and for the newsletter regarding the process of reporting potholes for residents.

17 Update from Cheshire West and Chester Councillors

There were no Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors present.

18 Councillor's report and future agenda items

Councillor F Goodier reported that a resident has arranged a meeting with United Utilities regarding the field at Eddisbury Borehole as he is trying to get it listed as a special wildflower site.

Councillor F Goodier reported that the hedges on both sides of the footpath on Station Road were overgrown. The clerk was asked to report this to Cheshire West and Chester Council for their attention.

Councillor F Goodier reported that she had concerns regarding the Cheshire West and Chester Council consultation on waste and the clerk was asked to raise these concerns with the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors.

Councillor F Goodier reported that the next edition of the newsletter was due to be published next week. Councillor A Bell was thanked for all his work in the production of the newsletter.

Councillor F Goodier stated that she was still waiting for a meeting date with Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding signage for the Earlsbrook housing development. The clerk will chase up the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council.

19 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 16th September 2024 at 7pm.

Chair signature.....Dated.....

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Minutes of the monthly Parish meeting of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council held on Monday 15th July 2024.