

Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7PM

Present: Councillor C Topping, Councillor D Rutter, Councillor J Edwards, Councillor A Bell and Councillor S Roberts.

Also, present Clerk, Mrs J Monks, one member of the public and Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Lush.

Part 1, items to be considered in the presence of the press and public

1 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor C Topping welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Councillor F Goodier and Councillor D Wheeler sent their apologies of absence for the meeting. Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Cooper sent his apologies for the meeting.

2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest

Councillor A Bell and Councillor J Edwards declared an interest in relation to agenda item 20, Delamere concerts as such took no part in this agenda item.

3 Public Speaking Time.

Two Parish Councillors addressed the Parish Council as members of the public with regards to the proposed license changes for Forest England and the increase in the number of concerts. Concerns were raised regarding lack of emergency access for residents in the forest, management in the increase of capacity for the concerts and the resulting increase in traffic in the immediate area.

4 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council on Monday 14th October 2024 were approved.

5 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items

The clerk reported that the next Crown Farm Liaison meeting was on Thursday 28th November at 14.00 at the main site offices by the main entrance.

The clerk confirmed that she had contacted the owners of the Earlsbook Housing Development to request dog fouling signs. The Parish Council would like to request dog fouling signage on Mara Drive, one at the top near the showhouses, one in the middle and one near the play area at the bottom.

6 Planning

The planning applications that had been received up to Monday 18th November 2024 were considered.

RESOLVED that;

- a) No objections were to be made to 24/02022/LBC, Installation of CCTV cameras on the front portcullis entrance Oakmere Hall Chester Road Oakmere.
- b) No objections were to be made to 24/02994/FUL, Change of use of existing store to holiday let accommodation, Delamere Post Office 13 Station Road Delamere
- c) No objections were to be made to 24/02978/LDC, Lawful development certificate for the existing use of land forming part of the residential curtilage to The Firs, The Firs Gallowscrough Lane Oakmere.
- d) No objections were to be made to 24/02767/FUL, Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling. Sandymere House Middlewich Road Delamere.
- e) No objections were to be made to 24/03160/FUL, change of use of an existing redundant garage building, (Class B1), to residential use, (Class C3), to include all relevant elevations changes and other associated works (Re- Submission 22/01701/FUL) Crown Barn Farm Road Oakmere Northwich CW8 2DF.
- f) No objections were to be made to 24/03273/TPO, Various works on various trees as per tree survey. Additionally, reduce canopy of Oak (T6) over the road due to lateral branches stretching over both lanes of the carriageway. Land At Forest Road (A49) Tarporley.
- g) No objections were to be made to 24/03208/FUL, Installation of 1 x air source heat pump to rear of dwelling. Wythburn Overdale Lane Oakmere.
- h) No objections were to be made to 24/03263/FUL, Single storey side and rear extensions, storm porch and first floor rear extension. Alterations to windows and doors. Claim Farm Gallowscrough Lane Oakmere.

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 £25,055.80 as at 31st October 2024.

£52.00 advertising income and £1,250 Xmas tree donations received in October 2024.

November 2024 Payments are as follows;

RESOLVED that;

the following payments be authorised;

Joanne Monks	Pay for November & backpay	715.96
Joanne Monks	Clerk Expenses	52.10
Cheshire Pension Fund	Pension contributions for November	255.71
Delamere community centre	Room hire for Xmas event	30.00

8 Meeting dates for 2025

RESOLVED that;

The meeting dates for 2025 were agreed as follows and the clerk was requested to circulate and put on the website and book the community centre accordingly.

Monday 20th January	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 10 th February	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 17th March	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 14 th April	Annual Parish Meeting	7pm
Monday 14 th April	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 19th May	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council	7pm
Monday 19 th May	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 16th June	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 21 st July	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 15 th September	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 20 th October	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 17 th November	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Monday 15th December	Monthly Parish Council Meeting	7pm

9 School Transport

Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor T Lush reported that he had been trying to arrange a meeting to discuss the ongoing issues with the School Transport Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council. Councillor S Roberts had collated a list of affected parents who had provided consent to pass their details onto Cheshire West and Chester Council.

RESOLVED that;

A letter would be drafted to submit to Cheshire West and Chester Council regarding the continued issues faced by parents in the Parish regarding school transport issues. The clerk was asked to put this as an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.

10 Cheshire Community Action

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Council would not become a member of Cheshire Community Action at the cost of £20 for 2024/2025.

11 Christmas tree/event

The clerk confirmed that she had asked the Treasurer of the Community centre if they could apply for Section 106 funds for the cost of the electrician. The Treasurer however confirmed that the Section 106 funds they have received so far have been spent or are committed so there is no funding available for this.

The clerk confirmed that she had sent the Hollies a copy of the Parish Council's public liability insurance as requested by Councillor F Goodier.

The clerk reported that the total donations so far was £3150.00.

The total costs were £2080.12 plus VAT.

This did not include any room hire charges.

The clerk confirmed that she had contact Delamere Community Association and booked the hall for Friday 29th November from 5.30pm until 8.30pm. The hall hire charge is £30.00.

RESOLVED that;

The expenditure of £30 was approve for the hire of the community centre for the switching on event. The clerk has deducted £30 from the approved £150.00 budget for the event.

RESOLVED that;

Up to £30 was approved for the additional hire for the bowling room of the community centre for the switching on event.

RESOLVED that;

The risk assessment for the tree was accepted by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was requested to invite L&Q, the PCSO, Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors T Lush and T Cooper, the local MP and former Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors H Tonge and J Leather to the event.

RESOLVED that;

Up to £200 plus VAT was approved for the purchase of A-board to advertise the event.

RESOLVED that;

Up to £100 plus VAT was approved for the hire of a PA system for the event if required.

RESOLVED that;

In the event of an emergency up to £1,000 plus VAT was approved for contractors to sort out any issue with the tree.

12 Introduction of car parking charges on railway stations

There was no update on this matter.

13 Tommy statue

The statue was in a resident's garage and would be relocated to Little Wood.

14 Little Wood

The clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had secured a grant for £7,745 from Tarmac. The clerk had circulated the agreements and documentation that Tarmac needs the Parish Council to complete to secure the funding.

RESOLVED that;

The Parish Council agrees to the agreements from Tarmac for the grant. These were signed and dated by the Chair of the Parish Council, Councillor C Topping and in the absence of the Vice-Chair, Councillor D Rutter.

Tarmac needs a third-party contribution of £857.72. The Ward Members budget grant for £774.50 as now been received.

RESOLVED that;

That the Parish Council approve the amount of £857.72 for a third-party contribution of the grant. £774.50 from the Ward Members budget grant and the remainder of £83.22 from the Parish Council funds.

The clerk will arrange for the completed documentation to be sent back to Tarmac and for the payment of £857.72 to be paid in the December banking schedule.

15 Village scene

This item was deferred until the next Parish Council meeting.

16 Field at Frith Avenue

This item was deferred until the next Parish Council meeting.

17 Highways issues

The clerk confirmed that she had sent the list of questions to the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council and the clerk had circulated the response from the Highways Department for the attention of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that;

A letter would be sent by the Parish Council highlighting continued accidents on both the Abbey Arms and Fishpool junctions and request the signs are changed on the A556 to the approved reduction in the speed to 40mph to the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council. Rumble strips would also be requested for the approaches before the Abbey Arms and Fishpool junctions to slow traffic down.

18 Junctions

This item was discussed under Highways issues agenda item 17.

19 Purchase of grit for grit bins

RESOLVED that;

Up to £200.00 was approved for the purchase of additional grit for the Parish Council owned grit boxes.

20 Delamere Forest concerts

Councillor A Bell and Councillor J Edwards had declared an interest in relation to the proposed licence application for the Delamere concerts.

As such only Councillor C Topping, Councillor S Roberts and Councillor D Rutter remained to take part in the decision and discussion on this agenda item.

The Parish Council however must have one third of Parish Councillors present and be quorate for any decision to be made. As there are twelve seats on the Parish Council, the minimum requirement is four Parish Councillors.

As the Parish Council were not quorate for this agenda item, no discussion or decision was made.

The clerk was asked to put this as an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting to discuss suggestions for improvements for Forest England to manage the concerts more effectively in the future.

21 Update from Cheshire West and Chester Councillors

There was no further update from the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors.

22 Councillor's report and future agenda items

Councillor C Topping asked when the installation of the village signage would be undertaken by Cheshire West and Chester Council, the clerk replied that it has been ordered and was due for installation before Christmas.

Councillor A Bell reported that the newsletter will be issued in the next couple of weeks.

23 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 9th December 2024 at 7pm.

Part 2; contains confidential information and only Councillors and reporting officers can be present.

24 National Pay Award

The clerk had circulated the details of the Local Government pay claim award for 2024/2025.

RESOLVED that;

The National Pay award was noted. The clerk will inform payroll to increase her pay in accordance with the National Pay Award and backdate it from 1st April 2024. This will be paid in November's payroll.

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

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Minutes of the monthly Parish meeting of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council held on Monday 18th November 2024.