

Delamere & Oakmere Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF DELAMERE AND OAKMERE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9th DECEMBER 2024 AT 7PM

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

Also, present Clerk, Mrs J Monks and one member 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 D Wheeler sent his apologies for the meeting.

2 Member's Code of Conduct and declarations of interest

Councillor J Edwards and Councillor A Bell declared an interest in relation to the agenda item regarding the Delamere concerts.

Councillor S Roberts declared an interest in relation to the agenda item regarding school transport.

3 Public Speaking Time

A member of the public addressed the Parish Council with regards to the planning application for Erection of plant machinery and related structures associated with the manufacturing of concrete blocks for a specific small contract (retrospective) (amended plans and supporting information). at EMRAY Industrial Services Limited Oakmere Trading Estate Chester Road Oakmere stating that the plans had been amended and sent to the Planning Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council.

4 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting

RESOLVED that;

The minutes of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council on Monday 18th November 2024 were approved.

5 Progress Reports and Outstanding Items

The clerk had circulated an advert for the vacant posts of Parish Councillor. Councillor C Topping will review and send any amendments to the clerk.

The clerk has received a reply from the Highways Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council with regards to the letter sent from the Parish Council and a copy of this reply has been circulated to all Parish Councillors for their attention. The clerk was asked to send a copy of the reply to a resident and a copy to the Ward Councillors and MP asking if they could pursue these issues on behalf of the Parish Council. The clerk was also asked to contact the local PCSO requesting details of accidents at both the Abbey Arms and Fishpool junctions.

6 Planning

The planning applications that had been received up to Monday 9th December 2024 were considered.

RESOLVED that;

- (a) No objections were to be made to 24/00135/FUL, amended plans/additional information for the following: Erection of plant machinery and related structures associated with the manufacturing of concrete blocks for a specific small contract (retrospective) (amended plans and supporting information). at EMRAY Industrial Services Limited Oakmere Trading Estate Chester Road Oakmere.
- (b) No objections were to be made to 24/03304/FUL, Replacement of existing main entrance area roof and external doors and windows, installation of rooflights. Delamere Forest Golf Club Golf Course Road Oakmere.
- (c) No objections were to be made to 24/03428/FUL, Conversion of outbuilding barn into annexe, Horsley Farm Abbey 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 £26,006.78 as at 30th November 2024.

£774.50 Ward Members budget for third party contribution for Little Wood project, Scottish Power £14.59, advertising income for newsletter £44.00, Xmas tree donations £1,900.

RESOLVED that;

the following payments be authorised;

B&Q	Grit for grit boxes	141.60	28.30	169.90
Solopress	printing of newsletter	507.68		507.68
Solopress	additional printing costs for newsletter	50.76		50.76
Joanne Monks	Pay for December	573.77		573.77
Cheshire Pension Fund	Pension contributions for Dec	204.92		204.92
Joanne Monks	Clerk Expenses	32.30		32.30
Delamere community centre	Additional Room hire for Xmas event	30.00		30.00
Joule Electrical Services	Electricity supply for Xmas lights	376.12	75.23	451.35
Tarmac	third party contribution Little Wood grant	857.72		857.72
Lighttech Sound and Light	Xmas tree lights and putting them up/down	1,704.00	340.80	2,044.80
Simply Signs	Xmas tree signage	145.00	29.00	174.00
HMRC	quarterly payment	487.02		487.02

8 Village scene

Councillor F Goodier reported that she has not happy with the lack of maintenance in the Parish. Residents are being encouraged to report individual items to Cheshire West and Chester Council for their attention and then if they are not actioned, they can then be pursued by the Ward Councillors. Councillor C Topping will laminate posters for the noticeboards and Councillor A Bell will put an advert in the next edition of the newsletter. The clerk was asked to contact Cheshire West and Chester Council to request the following for the Parish;

Road sweeping schedule
Gully emptying schedule
Weed removal schedule
Hedge trimming schedule

Several Parish Councillors reported issues with cars parking on the pavement on Station Road in Delamere and this was causing issues for pedestrians and in particular prams and mobility scooters. The clerk was asked to contact the local PCSO regarding this issue.

9 Field at Frith Avenue

The clerk had received an email dated 6th December 2024 which has been circulated to all the Parish Councillors for their attention regarding neighbours' concerns regarding trees on the field at Frith Avenue.

Councillor F Goodier confirmed that the Parish Council had undertaken a tree survey, and she had inspected the area with Forest England. The residents had been given permission to cut the holly bush which was overhanging their property.

10 Little Wood

The clerk confirmed that the payment of £857.72 will be paid on Thursday 12th December and that the completed paperwork had been sent to Tarmac.

Councillor D Rutter reported that there ongoing issues in Little Wood with regards to flooding and there were several trees down due the recent storms. Councillor D Rutter will contact a local resident with regards to the damaged trees.

The clerk was asked to contact the Environment Agency with regards to the sheer amount of water and flooding from Firs Brook.

The clerk was asked to book Delamere Community centre for a meeting on Monday 13th January at 1pm for two hours for a meeting regarding the flooding in Little Wood and invite representatives to the meeting to discuss.

11 Christmas event

The clerk reported that the total donations were as follows;

15/10/2024	Xmas tree donation Total Automation	500.00
18/10/2024	Xmas tree donation Foresters	500.00
25/10/2024	Xmas tree donation J&S accessories	250.00
11/11/2024	Xmas tree donation Haigh donation	350.00
14/11/2024	Xmas tree ward members budget	750.00
15/11/2024	Xmas tree donation Firow	150.00
15/11/2024	Xmas tree donation Reclaimed World	150.00
15/11/2024	Xmas tree donation L&Q	500.00
	Total	3150.00

Total Net Expenditure was as follows;

21/11/2024	Delamere community centre	Room hire for Xmas event	30.00
12/12/2024	Delamere community centre	Additional Room hire for Xmas event	30.00
12/12/2024	Joule Electrical Services	Electricity supply for Xmas lights	376.12
12/12/2024	Lighttech Sound and Light	Xmas tree lights and putting them up/down	1,704.00
12/12/2024	Simply Signs	Xmas tree signage	145.00
		Total	2,285.12

Councillor C Topping had collected £33 from stall holders and this money had been transferred into the Parish Council's bank account.

RESOLVED that;

The amount of £33 collected from the stallholders was donated to Teams4U shoebox appeal.

Councillor C Topping and Councillor D Rutter will have a look at adjusting the Christmas tree lights and putting them on a timer.

Councillor C Topping will contact the contractor after Christmas in order to arrange for the tree to be taken lights down and the lights to be stored away.

The clerk was asked to contact the street lighting department of Cheshire West and Chester Council with regards to the possible installation of Christmas lights on the street lighting columns.

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

12 Delamere Forest concerts

Councillor J Edwards and Councillor A Bell declared an interest in relation to this agenda item and did not take part in any discussion or decision.

RESOLVED that;

The clerk was asked to contact Forest England and ask them what their plans are to manage the concert events in 2025.

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

13 School Transport

The clerk confirmed that she had emailed the letter regarding School Transport on 4th December 2024 to the Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillor.

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

14 Resignation for Councillor D Wheeler

The clerk will notify the Elections Department of Cheshire West and Chester Council after 31st December 2024 of Councillor D Wheeler's resignation.

RESOLVED that;

Councillor D Rutter will purchase £200 of gift vouchers as a retirement present from the Parish Council. The clerk will then reimburse Councillor D Rutter for this purchase when she receives a receipt. Councillor F Goodier confirmed that she will donate a card for Councillor D Wheeler.

Councillor F Goodier confirmed that she will put up the agenda on the noticeboard at Delamere Community centre.

15 Gift for newsletter graphic designer

RESOLVED that;

A gift card for £25.00 was purchased as a small thankyou gift for the newsletter graphic designer.

16 Earlsbrook/tarmac community liaison

Councillor F Goodier attended the Tarmac meeting and a representative from the Earlsbrook housing estate will be a community liaison.

17 Tarmac Landfill Community Fund

RESOLVED that;

Councillor F Goodier reported that Tarmac had funds, and any community group could apply for a grant. The clerk was asked to contact various groups informing them that grants were available from Tarmac.

18 Update from Cheshire West and Chester Councillors

There were no Cheshire West and Chester Ward Councillors present.

19 Councillor's report and future agenda items

Councillor C Topping asked if the Parish Council would undertake another event in the summer. This would be considered at the next meeting as an agenda item.

Councillor D Rutter confirmed that he was in the process of organising an event for fundraising for Delamere community centre and the event was due to be held on Saturday 5th April.

Councillor A Bell reported that Delamere Academy had won an award, and this would be included in the next newsletter.

Councillor A Bell requested that donations were considered as an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor F Goodier enquired about an installation date for the village signage. The clerk confirmed that this was due to be installed before Christmas.

Councillor J Edwards reported issues with the speed sign and requested an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting in January.

Councillor D Rutter confirmed that he now had the tommy statue, and it would be put near the flagpole in Little Wood.

20 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is Monday 20th January 2025 at 7pm.

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

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Minutes of the monthly Parish meeting of Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council held on Monday 9th December 2024.