

HALE PARISH COUNCIL OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



DATED THIS 22ND DAY OF MAY 2023 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (APM) WILL BE HELD AT HALE VILLAGE HALL, HALE VILLAGE ON TUESDAY THIRTIETH MAY 2023

THE MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 7.30PM

This meeting is to be held, adhering to the legislation of the Coronavirus Act 2020



Mr. Brian Hargreaves Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

For further information

Please email: clerk@haleparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 07803611222

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Introduction and Welcome
- **2. Minutes** To review and approve the Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 30th May 2022
- **3. Annual Report** An Annual report for year ending 31st March 2023 will be presented by The Chair of The Parish Council.
- **4. Reports from Local Organisations** Local Groups and organisation's are invited to give updates on their activities.
 - i. Report by Stephen Marnick PCSO Cheshire Police
 - ii. Report by Lord Mayor/Freemen of Hale
 - iii. Report by Friends of Hale Village
- 5. Invitation for members of the public to raise any matters of interest



HALE PARISH COUNCIL OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN HALE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 30th MAY 2022 AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllr McNamara, Cllr Healey, Cllr King, Cllr Spargo, Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Brown, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Cleary

In attendance: Mr. Brian Hargreaves (Proper Officer) and 10 Members of the public

- 1. Introduction Cllr Trevaskis chaired the meeting and gave a brief introduction welcoming attendees and outlining the fact that it was not a Parish Council Meeting and that its purpose was to hear updates from local groups and stakeholders. He also made it clear that any electors present were entitled to vote on any Agenda items requiring a vote.
- 2. Apologies Cllr Williams and PCSO Steve Marnick registered their apologies
- **3. Minutes** The minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting on 26th May 2021 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Spargo and seconded by Cllr Healey

The Motion was approved

4. Annual Reports – Cllr Trevaskis thanked ex-Councillors G Wright and A Banks for the work they undertook whilst in office as Parish Councillors and welcomed the two replacement members Cllrs Brown and King. After a difficult period during the covid-19 restrictions Cllr Trevaskis said he was happy to be returning to some semblance of normality and looked forward to the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations during the coming year.

Cllr McNamara gave an overview of the events staged by the Wellbeing Working group in 2021/2022. In particular she praised the members and volunteers who helped to make the individual occasions (i.e. Halloween, Christmas & Easter) successful. She thanked Cllr Spargo who headed up the catering contribution at each event. All events took place safely with all the relevant considerations having taken place and were each well attended by over 150 children & family members. She went on to state that the success of these occasions made her happy and were the main reason for her continued work as a Parish Councillor.

Cllr Spargo gave an account of the Civic Service and afternoon tea staged by the Parish council in April this year. He felt that the improved format of an afternoon service followed by a sit down buffet with tea and soft drinks was a step up from previous events. Attended by two Lords Mayor, Freeman Mal Sutton from Hale Village, and Cllr Mary Rasmussen from Liverpool City Council and accompanied by the Mayor of Halton Christopher Rowe and Vice Chairman of Halewood Parish Council Cllr Barbera Dunn, Cllr Marie Wright from Halton Borough Council and their various consorts all enjoyed a

bright, spring day. The event was well attended by over 70 people and deemed a total success by all, especially as the event coincided with a local football derby match.

The Lord Mayor of Hale unveiled a plaque acknowledging the contributions made by local residents, contractors and Council members during the rebuilding of Hale Village Hall

Cllr Cleary noted the work of various organisations who work in the community without any formal recognition and highlighted a local member of the public who has previously arranged a number of football trips abroad to support local teams. He pointed out that only regular pub goers may be aware of this type of group or organisation but that they clearly have a value within the community.

Cllr Spargo observed that within the Community there were very few (if any) activities which targeted Gentlemen. Leisure time events such as darts or dominoes could be considered to fulfil the requirement in future planning.

5. Reports From Local Organisations

i/ Friends of Hale Village – Former Lord Mayor J Ross Thanked the Parish Council for the support that they have offered to the children of Hale Village during and since the recent pandemic. However he questioned the fact that they appeared to overlook the more senior members of our community. He advised that the Friends of Hale Village (FOHV) are focused on this demographic and it was pointed out that many seniors are lonely or in need of company. Cllr Trevaskis stated that all events staged by the Parish Council were not strictly events for children but rather for families. He asked that any support which residents feel the Parish Council can assist with should be requested formally and a proposal offered for consideration at a Parish Council meeting. He also made it known that from memory he did not believe that any request had ever been turned down.

ii/ Matters of Interest -

- a. Cllr Brown criticised the lack of activity and input afforded to Hale Parish Council's social media sites. He made a comparison with the Halebank Parish Council's offering and asked why Hale could not have a similar presence. It was agreed that this was a situation currently under review and would be addressed at the next Village Hall management committee meeting. Discussions with a local contractor have already taken place and a proposal has been received from him. This needs to be reviewed before formal approval can be given.
- b. Cllr Trevaskis defended the general criticism of the Parish Council's performance from the floor stating that in a very difficult year the Parish Council had worked tirelessly to keep the Village Hall open during the pandemic. Despite being reported to the Local Authorities and Police for non-compliance it was noted that upon inspection all considerations were found to be appropriate and in order. All the required measure were confirmed ensuring the safety of all visitors, hirers and staff.
- c. A member of the FOHV Sunday Tea group who meet in the village Youth Centre stated that she was disappointed at the fact that none of the members of Hale Parish Council had attended their meetings despite being encouraged to do so while passing. Cllr Spargo thanked the member of FOHV for the offer and

received the general acceptance that members of Hale Parish Council would be welcomed going forwards.

He went on to state that the divide which has developed between certain members of the FOHV and Hale Parish Council should end and that a greater effort to work as Villagers with a common interest should be encouraged. The "point scoring" environment which exists currently needs to end and a better working partnership created for the future.

Cllr Treveskis stated that despite previous incidents where his car had been damaged and he personally had been insulted and spat at he was keen to put it behind him and move on. He recognised that there will always be differences of opinion but that the common goal has to be to benefit the Village in every contribution.

d. The Lord Mayor thanked all the volunteers who have helped up to date with preparations for the Village Jubilee events. He informed the meeting that the Lighthouse is now finished and looking fantastic and that plans for the celebrations on 2nd June were well under way. The Fawcett cannon has been refurbished, installed and is ready to be presented at the Village Hall.

He went on to express his disappointment with the contribution made by the Parish Council and said that all village members should be working together not against each other. He said that he felt that metaphorically speaking some "heads need banging together" to encourage better co-operation. He declared that a balance needed to be found so that the Council would not be seen as dysfunctional.

Cllr Trevaskis explained that the Parish Council recognised that it may have appeared that it was attempting to monopolise the events for the Jubilee celebrations but that that was definitely not the case. The report which Cllr Trevaskis produced was simply aimed at formalising the proposal for submission to any suitable funding panel. As a result it was agreed that a cash donation to the Freemen would move matters forward in the most efficient way and give them the opportunity required to achieve their goals.

Cllr Mitchell asked whether any provision has been made for a memorial gift for children within the village. She was informed that enquiries had been made and a quotation received but that it was felt that the expense was prohibitive. This was challenged by Cllr Brown who voiced his opinion that the expense was small and that it was disgusting that there was not a gift available for children of the Village yet.

Cllr Brown withdrew and left the meeting.

It was agreed that a previously discussed commemorative mug may be appropriate and could be produced relatively quickly. The Clerk agreed to make enquiries to move matters forwards.

At this point Cllr Trevaskis reminded the meeting that the Jubilee events were taking place over a 12 month period and that other projects can be proposed for consideration.

The Lord Mayor expressed his Sympathies on behalf of the Village to the friends and family of the recently deceased Freeman Peter Doyle. He gave thanks for all the hard work Peter had contributed particularly to the Merseywave Choir and to the Freemen of Hale and expressed how much he would be missed.

- e. A member of the pubic stated that in future she felt it would be appropriate to plan events like The Queens Platinum Jubilee well in advance. She stated that a number of matters had been left too late or unattended and that it would make for a better experience if better forward planning was undertaken
- f. The chairman of the Merseywave choir reported that despite some reports to the contrary the Merseywave choir is thriving. Like all groups and organisation's there has been a turnover of members but is generally in good health and looking forward to a full program in 2022.
 - He went on to inform the meeting that he has been asked by PCSO Steve Marnick about forming a link and becoming the point of contact with Steve to pass any feedback back to the villagers as his time is now limited and his availability at a premium.
- g. Former Lord Mayor J Ross informed the meeting that the recent work on Parsonage Green was culminating in a formal presentation on Sunday morning 5th June when a plaque will be unveiled to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee year.

Cllr Trevaskis re-iterated the fact that any proposals need to be sent to the Clerk before 10am on the morning of any meeting which takes place and thanked those present for their attendance before closing the Meeting at 9.00pm

HALE VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 22nd May 2023

Here is the Police Report for the Hale Village Parish Council. This report covers a period of three months so approximately 20th March to 20th May 2023. The date shown is usually the reported date and not necessarily the date of the incident though it often is.

Abandoned Phone Calls x3

Assist other agencies x1 vehicle fire off Ramsbrook Ln with Merseyside area 14/04/23

Burglary in a Dwelling x1 Arklow Drive access through rear patio doors 04/04/23

Burg other than in a dwelling x1 Building used by football academy rear Hale Park 15/04/23

<u>Anti-Social Behaviour</u> x4 12/05/23 Clamley Gardens eggs thrown at wall of property. 18/03/23 High Street youths off bus banging on door and windows to property.21/03/23 & 12/05/23 report connected with Parish Council incidents advice given.

<u>Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Activity</u> x1 07/04/23 two youths seen in grounds of building site Church Rd – no trace on arrival.

<u>Violence Harassment & Threats</u> x5 28/03/23 possible malicious call over parking (small close), 15/04/23 female ejected from local pub, 16th and 17/04/23 Possible neighbour tenant issue Ireland Road, 02/05/23 vehicle was causing an obstruction and threats from driver Church Road.

Complaint against the Police 29/03/23

<u>Concern for Safety</u> x6 28/04/23 concern re resident Pepper St and 11/05/23 person on roof same location. 15/04/23 report of possible medical incident Town Lane, 04/05/23 possible drink driver in Hale Park, 06/05/23 dispute over parking (small close), 04/05/23 person taken to hospital for checks following small gas leak Town Lane.

Criminal Damage Two vehicles damaged at a garage Hale Road 21/04/23

<u>Danger Dog</u> – Dungeon Lane Merseyside Police Incident 20/04/23

Domestic Incidents x 2

Miscellaneous x10

Missing Person x 1

Road Related Offences 28/03/23 Town Lane – vehicle moved before police arrival.

Vulnerable Persons Reports x5

Overview and Crime

These reports I produce are for the Parish Councils, residents and other interested parties and I produce them because I feel they are a good way of keeping connected with you all. Sometimes, if I am off for whatever reason, they may not be produced. I am always able to try to help anyone with anything I can. I hope the Parish Council and readers understand.

We are not saying any crime is acceptable, but we are pleased to say we are back to the lower levels we have become accustomed to of late. We are always striving to improve this, and, with your help, we can do this. Thank you for the part you play in keeping the area a nice place to live and work.

Statistics

The statistics in this report remain low. For the past three months, there were under 50 entries for the Hale Village area. In many of these cases it does not indicate a crime at all. You may not realise just how much you keep the statistics low. You, the residents and your families, the school including teachers and pupils, businesses, St. Mary's church and congregations and visitors alike. By being crime aware, looking out for each other and for reporting suspicious activity. Thank You - from all of us here at Cheshire Police. Thank you to those residents that also keep a watch, not only on their own property, but also on their neighbours.

Parking & Traffic issues

Parking is enforced across our area with particular attention to the school and the area nearby as and when patrols are in the area.

I have submitted a few Fixed Penalty Notices on Church Road – usually obstructions to the footpath.

Please remember if there are solid white lines in the middle of the road then you must not park (even if on the kerb as the restriction applies up to the wall or building). The other issue is Unnecessary Obstruction - not allowing sufficient space for prams, wheelchairs, and disabled persons etc. to pass freely on the pavement. Remember to keep lowered kerbs clear.

I have asked the local authority to have some road markings place onto Church Road at Lighthouse Lane (hatchings) to try and reduce the number of vehicles parking in front of the gates at this location and the occupant of the lighthouse has placed additional signage to assist with this.

Weight Limit

As Hale Village has a 7.5t weight restriction, I will keep an eye on this to try to maintain low levels of transgressors. Remember it is not a HGV ban! I must also highlight that we do have a farm within the village restriction and there will be vehicles over the limit but needing access, this is allowed. We have not had any reports of Heavy Goods vehicles causing issues this period. When carrying out speed enforcement I am conscious to any possible breaches of the limit.

Speed Enforcement

Speed enforcement is carried out on Hale Road and Ramsbrook Lane. Enforcement was carried out 15th May 2023 no activations on Ramsbrook Lane and 18th May 2023 Hale Road with ten activations by the camera van. Highest speed was 63mph! (Halegate Road was also enforced) Enforcement will continue and please do report any concerns you have via our website www.cheshire.police.uk

I have heard that we are trialling a new speed detecting device which is more suitable for darker evening.

<u>Wildlife & Rural matters</u> I have checked with our farmers and pleased to report generally no issues from their perspective. We do get the occasional incident around Hale Village such as the one reported 14th May 2023. We are keeping our eyes and ears open for any reports of illegal wildlife activity. Please do report any suspicious activity to us – often such activity is carried out under the cover of darkness, telephone us on 101 and we will check. Hale Estates ask persons not to trespass onto their land without permission.

Places of faith I try to check around St. Mary's Church a number of times each month.

Summary

Hale Village remains a very nice and safe place to live. Please carry on reporting the issues you do and do not rely on others possibly calling us if you witness anything that troubles you. Remember when you phone 101 for the police in Hale Village you are covered by Cheshire – not Merseyside Police. There is often an option so please choose correctly.

We want to encourage even more information – intelligence that we gather. If residents are not confident in passing their details to us they can call Crimestoppers on **0800 555111** – they will not ask for your details and the information will still reach us. We would rather the callers have the confidence in us and the system as the callers' details are "sanitized" from all the intelligence reports. I.e. suspicious goings on/suspicious persons/vehicles, smells of cannabis etc. if reporting vehicles or persons try to obtain details such as vehicle registration marks; clothing descriptions etc. – if you have a mobile with you many have voice recorders.

We are hoping the Parish Council, school, church, businesses and residents are encouraged and reassured by the report however if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

If you want up to date information about Hale Village policing matters, we post messages on Facebook – see below for details. We will post as often as we should/can when we are on duty. If

any readers are local and they need any help with this, I can also call along to set these up for you or show you how to tweet or post yourselves! It's so easy - just like texting!

Another great communication tool is the Cheshire police's internet site at www.cheshire.police.uk

I would also like to promote the Cheshire police ALERT system further. This Alert system is geared up like a Homewatch scheme whereby businesses or households can choose to be alerted on matters that you want – such as scams, bogus callers, etc. and by which method you choose such as text, phone call, email etc. There is more information on our website or via https://www.cheshirepolicealert.co.uk I am more than willing to help any resident or business get set up.

A resource for obtaining information as to police related matters is https://www.askthe.police.uk (apps available)

Remember <u>999 calls are for emergencies only</u> and these cover matters such as but not limited to:

- there is a danger to life
- violence is used or threatened
- a serious crime (violent crime/burglary) is in progress or likely to occur
- · a suspect for a serious crime is nearby
- there is a road traffic collision involving personal injury or danger to other road users
- a vulnerable person needs urgent attention
- Our 999 call handlers strive to answer all calls within 10 seconds

Non-emergencies

For non-emergency calls, call **101**. Using 999 for general enquiries may delay response to someone who needs urgent assistance. You should dial 101 (the non-emergency number) if:

- you want to report a crime or criminal damage that is not in progress at the time of your call
- you want to report a minor road traffic collision

PCSO 9489 Stephen Marnick <u>Stephen.marnick@cheshire.pnn.police.uk</u>
Beat Manager is PC 30465 Debra Jackson
Supervision is Sergeant 37078 Amanda Moore

Facebook "Ditton & Hale Police "

Please do not report crimes to our social media accounts. They are not always monitored and we do not yet have the facility to use this process.