



## INCE Parish Council

### Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at Ince Village Hall

**Councillors Present** Andy Eardley – Chair; Chris Jackson, Lou Kearsley; Tim Lloyd  
**Apologies** Paul Longshaw; PCSO Neil Flanagan; Drew Bellis  
**Also Present** Clerk – Pam Bellis  
Councillor Graham Heatley; Sean Williams – Eni; Cerys Percival - Eni

**Members of the public**

64.25 **6:45**

#### **Presentation by Eni – Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development update**

Sean and Cerys gave a powerpoint presentation updating the progress on the proposed development of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline, outlining changes to the route of the original plans. Consultation on the proposed development closes 13 April 2025

Thanks to Sean and Cerys who left the meeting at 7:15

65.25 **Apologies for Absence**

Paul Longshaw, PCSO Neil Flanagan and Drew Bellis

66.25 **Declarations of Interest**

None

67.25 **Public Speaking Time**

PCSO had sent an email stating that there were no incidents to report. He also advised that he had spoken to the manager of the children's home and she had declined to leave a contact telephone number for the parish council

PB reported a message received via Ince Facebook from Abigail Findlay-Stankovic complaining of speeding tractors carrying heavy duty attachments and lorries using Marsh Lane and asking that the issues should be raised with the Willis'. **Action: CJ will visit Ms Findlay-Stankovic to discuss the issue**

68.25 **Requests for Items to be raised under Any Other Business**

None

69.25 **Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**

Minutes agreed and signed

70.25 **Matters arising from the Minutes NOT agenda items**

- **Setting up Friends of Ince Reservoir - TL to send details of size/area of land to PB; PB to investigate possible insurance costs for taking over the land – done.** PB had forwarded the information to the insurers who had advised that the current insurance policy would cover any proposed management and work carried out on Ince Reservoir
- **PB to forward PC Councillors' emails to DB – new email information still in progress**

71.25 **Matters to be raised with Councillors Heatley / Parker**

- Railings on Station Road
- Ward Walk update
- Station Road electronic speed check sign
- Station Road – Barebrick house pavement area
- Station Road – Barebrick house dropped kerb
- Station Road – Protos footpath safety barrier
- Station Road – dropped kerb at entrance to Protos footpath
- Marsh Lane/ Goldfinch Meadows
- Removal of the Railhead requirement Section73
- Flooding on Station Road by the bridge
- Roundabout maintenance Ince & Elton
- Flooding on Marsh Lane by the pumping station – Request CWaC to erect a flood road sign at this point
- Flooding Kinseys Lane outside Yew Tree Farm

**Action: CJ and AE to forward ticket numbers to PB. PB to contact Craig Green to discuss the items raised** PB had contacted Craig and despite an exchange of emails, no progress has been made. Councillor Heatley requested that PB send the email to him  
**Action: PB to forward email trail to Councillor Heatley**

Thanks to Graham who left the meeting

72.25 **Matters to be raised by Parish Councillors**

- **Newsletter** – items for inclusion in the newsletter were discussed and noted. **Action: PB to bring draft email to the May meeting ready for printing and distribution**
- **CJ will buy VE day commemorative flags** – CJ has purchased the flags

73.25 **Reports / communications from Members including matters arising**

- **Connections Locality meeting on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March - PB to email confirmation of LK's attendance** – PB had emailed but the meeting had subsequently been cancelled due to the upcoming by-election
- **Crowd Funding** – CJ had attended a zoom training session led by Spacehive and noted the following:
  - Funding available for Community innovation or Climate Change projects
  - Need to provide 20 donations to apply, can be as little as £10
  - Community innovation has sub-headings including Neighbourhood Pride. Can apply for £20k or 75% of the project
  - Application dates July and September
  - Create a project with information and costs before you can register
  - CJ suggested applying for the NP work on restoring the walls
- **Protos CBF** – AE had attended on 11.3.25. The available funding for 2025 as been reduced by 50% to £25,000. The committee agreed to reduce the amount for applications from £5,000 to £2,500 to enable support for 10 projects. Those who had already submitted a grant request will be contacted and asked to reapply for the reduced amount. CJ had submitted a request for funding for the Village Hall for the installation of double glazing. It was agreed to accept the lower amount and seek additional funding from another source

74.25 **Clerk's Report**

- **Correspondence**
  - PB had received a road closure notice that day advising that Marsh Lane would be closed on 9.4.25. Concern was expressed that this was the refuse collection day.

**Action: PB will email planning to advise**

- **Email received** via CHALC from Mersey Forest requesting town and parish councils to engage with planting an oak tree / collecting acorns and growing saplings, to commemorate 80 years since the end of WWII. We already have oak tree saplings available and will arrange to plant one on the parish field
- **Letter from Liverpool Bay CCS** advising of the consultation on the Runcorn Spur pipeline development

75.25 **Neighbourhood Plan**

CJ reported on the meeting with farmers and landowners held on 27.3.25. There was a presentation and a Q & A session. Edward Crank advised that he had received 12 months notice that 50 acres of his land would be taken to use as mitigation and Dave Willis advised that he has received 12 months notice that 15 acres of his land would be taken to use as mitigation; both requested support from the parish council. CJ advised that there is a land agent involved. It was to write to the Planning Dept, Local MP, Peel Holdings, DEFRA and Council for the Protection of Rural England in support of the farmers. **Action: Draft letter to be brought to the next meeting for agreement and distribution. CJ will contact Edward and Dave and advise of parish councils actions**

76.25 **Ince Wildlife Sanctuary Land**

- **Funding - S106 funding of £9610 - PB to complete and submit S106 grant application form** – grant form submitted, awaiting funding
- **Update – AE will arrange for the second stage of clearing and ground levelling to take place** – AE advised that the ground is now levelled but there are rocks, bricks etc that will need removing. Next stage needs to be planned **Action: on-site meeting 6pm Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

77.25 **Planning Applications**

**No applications received and no decisions taken by Cheshire West & Chester Council since the last Parish Council meeting. Decisions awaited:**

No planning applications received

78.25 **Environment, Highways and Rights of Way**

- **Pool Lane Roundabout – wildflower seeds** – TL and DB had cleared and planted the seeds. TL advised that the Pool Lane road sign is missing at the exit off the roundabout
- **Ward walk follow up** – no progress
- **Tree to be planted on the Parish Field and wildflower planting by churchyard wall** - ongoing
- **Railings on Station Road** - no progress
- **Station Road** – TL had removed and disposed of plastic guttering that had been dumped
- **Parish Field** – the wildflower seeds have been planted in the area adjacent to the churchyard wall
- **Goldfinch Meadows** – the bollards need replacing to prevent further fly-tipping **Action: TL will email Michael Gone PROW officer and also ask for an update on the stiles and footpaths**

79.25 **Play Area and Parish Field**

- **PB to arrange for a second quote** – PB had contacted Andrew Aird at Groundwork and Leisure Services who had provided a quote

- Replace swing basket - £700 + VAT
- Excavate the bark, supply and lay stone foundation and bonded rubber mulch - £5,280+VAT
- It was agreed to seek funding to carry out the work. Contact Michelle Lewis at Essar to see if there is any funding available. Put in a request to Protos CBF or include in next application to the Windfarm. Also suggested looking at CWVA newsletter for any funding opportunities. **Action: PB to contact Michelle Lewis at Essar**
- **Grass cutting** – Countrywide have advised that the cost will be £249.08 + VAT per month which includes fortnightly cutting April to October

80.25

#### Update on Telephone Box / Defibrillator

- **Date and arrangements for official opening** – Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May. AE will contact Jason re: defibrillator training. Final details to be agreed at the next meeting and invitation to be included in the newsletter

81.25

#### Finance

- **Summary accounts to date** – agreed and signed
- **Invoices Due** – new financial year 2025 – 2026

Date	Payment	Payee	Purpose	£
07/04/25	EP	Astbury Hire UK Ltd	Wildlife Sanctuary Land	480.00
07/04/25	EP	CHALC	Annual subscription	63.57

- **Income Received** – new financial year 2025 – 2026

Annual Precept - £4,600

- **Annual Audit**
  - End of Year accounts for 2024 – 2025 agreed and signed
  - Audit paperwork to be prepared for the next meeting for signing in preparation for the accounts to be audited

82.25

#### Village Hall

- **Summary Accounts to date** – agreed and signed
- **Annual End of Year Accounts 2024 – 2025** – agreed and signed
- **Annual Audit** – PB to prepare the accounts and paperwork for the accounts to be audited
- **Gas boiler** – annual service completed. Certificate for file and for display
- **Gutter cleaning** – funding received from Essar, **Action: AE will contact James Clayton and request a quote**

83.25

#### Agreed Items to be raised under Any Other Business

None raised

84.25

**Items for the next agenda**

- **Newsletter**

85.25

**Date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7pm**

Chris Jackson and Lou Kearsley both tendered their apologies for the next meeting

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_