

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE LOWER PEOVER PARISH
HELD AT LOWER PEOVER SCHOOL ON
MONDAY 8TH MAY 2013 AT 7.00PM**

Present Cllrs L. Halman (Chairman), S.D Nuttall, Mrs S. L. Geake, G.T. Dutton, R.E. Taylor, Mrs R. A. Kendall, J. A. Jackson

Cllr G Walton (Cheshire East Borough Council)

1 member of the public in attendance

Acting Clerk Mrs E A McGrath

1. **Apologies** – George Walton, Alan Jackson, Robert Taylor and George Dutton.
2. **Minutes of the meeting held 9th May 2012** – These had already been signed off in July 2013 and so the meeting took them as agreed.
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not already covered in an agenda item.** - None
4. **Correspondence** – None
5. **Parish Council's Annual Report** –

This report must start with the sad news of Graham Leigh's health. Having worked closely with Graham on parish council affairs over the last few years I have always been amazed at his depth of knowledge over all the areas we covered.

We hope he continues to make progress towards recovery over the coming months.

Other than Graham's condition, it has been another quiet but workman like year for the council.

Concerns continue to be the Smithy Green and the Phone box, and Speeding on the B5081.

We must thank PCSO Kelly Mankee for her work on ensuring that speed guns have been used near the crown inn, I understand this is to continue.

We have continued to give our views on planning applications as appropriate.

As we look to the future, funding is going to be our biggest problem, with a big jump in our precept later this year is possible.

My thanks must go to Graham and to Jackie Weaver at Cheshire Association of Local councils for advice between clerks.

I would like to thank Liz McGrath for stepping to our aid at such short notice. Liz brings her experience with other councils and a different perspective to the Job of Clerk.

Cllr George Walton has again given his aid and support, for which we must give him our thanks.

Lastly I would like to thank Simon Nuttall as vice chairman and all council members for their advice and support throughout the year.

6. Parochial Charities

I. Richard Comberbach Trust - Sally Geake, Correspondent to the Richard Comberbach Trust

Since the last report of May 2012, the Trustees have met twice (July 19th 2012 and February 27th 2013) and once jointly with the School Governors on April 23rd 2013.

The Trustees were greatly saddened at the news of Graham Leigh's illness. Mr Leigh has been the representative for Nether Peover and Treasurer for the Trust since 1995. Prayers and best wishes were expressed at the meeting and regular contact has been maintained with Graham and his family.

As the owner of the school land and the school building and School House, the Trust is involved with all developments affecting these areas. No major building schemes have taken place on the school site during the last year. The Trustees approved the plans for a log cabin style outdoor classroom, and the provision of a new boiler but were not required to donate funds towards these projects.

The Trustees, having met on many occasions with Norman Withenshaw in his then capacity as School Governor and his current membership of the Parochial CC has supported the Trust in many practical ways, expressed their thanks to him and agreed to make a gift to his colleague for the drawing up of a revised map to mark the Trust's boundaries and the rights of way across it.

Allstock Parish Council elected Mrs Julia Wilson to be their representative for the Trust.

Accounts:

The accounts for the year ending 31.07.12 will be submitted to the Parish Council by Oliver Beck, Chairman of the Richard Comberbach Trust

II. Plumley, Allostock and Lower Peover Aid Fund - Sally Geake, L.P. Parish council representative

The Trustees met on the 22nd November 2012 at the home of Mr Norman Withenshaw, vice-chairman of the Parochial Church council of St Oswald's Church, Lower Peover and acting Chair of the trust.

The statement of accounts for the year ending 30th September 2012 was circulated. The fund has a modest balance of about £400 of which about half is spent each Christmas time on small gifts of Shop vouchers and plants.

Mr N Withenshaw was elected as Chairman for the next 12 months.

Names of suitable recipients were discussed and the trustees arranged to buy these items and distribute them.

Lower Peover Parish Council and Church officers had, as in previous years, recommended people who might benefit from receiving these gifts, and so we were able to offer seven names from Lower Peover residents this year. Three of these were long standing members of the Lower Peover community who are currently in residential care.

7. Questions from the public for the Parish Council

Mr Ian Dickenson introduced himself to the meeting and explained he had been living in the village for 3 years and has become increasingly concerned about the speed of traffic along the B5081 through the village.

It is his opinion that the speed of traffic along Middlewich road has increased and other fellow dog walkers have expressed concerns and have commented such things as "this road terrifies me!" With the increased speed and the safety of the village Mr Dickenson is not alone in wanting action this particular issue. With the number of pubs, turnings and houses along the 30 mph section of road, if speed is not reduced a serious accident will happen.

The Chairman made the point that the parish council have done all in their power over the years to tackle speeding. He also mentioned the recent actions of PCSO Mankee in her speed targeting days. Mr Dickenson has travelled many miles around the country and speaking as a driver one of the most effective methods of slowing speeding vehicles down are Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). There are a number of other options of signage and community speed watch but the flashing signs are very effective.

The issue of funding of these signs with budgets being tight is very often down to the parish council. Borough councils have limited funds and would only consider paying for VAS if there is significant need (i.e. a built up area, school nearby etc.). The Parish Plan may have funding opportunities for funding a VAS but needs to be published first.

The other issue Mr Dickenson wanted to bring to the Parish council was the large wagons travelling through the village in the early morning. These wagons are causing vibrations to properties when they come into the village at speed and then need to deploy their air brakes to navigate the bends.

Meeting closed 7.30pm

Signed:

Date: