

**Minutes of Antrobus Annual Parish Meeting
held on 15 May 2017 at 7.15 pm at Antrobus Village Hall**

Present

Mr R Sutton (Chairman)
Mr P Harrison
Mr C Wright
Mr S Batey
Mr S Palmer (Clerk)

Mr P Pugh
Mrs V Gallimore
Mrs C Bunn
Mr S Barker
Cllr D Hammond (Ward)

The meeting started at 7:20pm

12 people attended

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs L Gibbon and N Wright (Ward)

2. Correction and Signing of Minutes

The minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 May 2016 were approved as a correct record.

3. Chairman's Report

A report was received from the Parish Council Chairman on activities of the past year (attached).

4. Parish Council Accounts

A report was received on the Parish Council finances compared to the previous year. The detailed accounts will be published when the internal audit is complete.

Accounts at 31st March 2016

(subject to internal and external audit)

Opening Balance	£ 30,395.37
Income	£ 16,422.55
Expenditure	£ 26,593.13
Closing balance	£ 20,224.79

Expenditure rise is mainly due to £17,408 spent on the Playground, though £3,481 will be refunded from VAT.

A precept of £11,128.00 has been set for 2017-18.

5. Other concerns

The following concerns were raised by villagers:-

Arley Licence to increase capacity for events

- The Parish Council was thanked for their detailed submission before the recent hearing. Arley management decided to withdraw their application as the CW&C solicitor stated that they already in effect have an unlimited licence. It is now a planning issue with Cheshire East as the impact of

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unlimited events should be scrutinized under Planning Law. The Parish Council will continue to press for an acceptable resolution.

15 Dwellings planning application

- Maintaining affordability in perpetuity. Who is able to enforce the arrangement?
- Rented affordable housing schemes ensure the equity remains an asset for the community. It is not clear how purchase schemes could achieve long term affordability.
- The definition of affordable – related to market value – doesn't mean it can remain affordable to local people whose income is linked to local salary rates. They should publish sale prices and transparent costings.
- It was stated that the applicants said they had put their own names against a property on the basis of working in the area. Is not the criteria therefore too loose? Also, is it too soon to allocate names to houses as the allocation process has not been defined?
- The cul-de-sac should have houses at the end to discourage expansion into the neighbouring field at a later date.
- Privacy for those living on the side of Manley Close was questioned.

A Parish Councillor responded that these matters should not be left to negotiation after the consent, but set out for public scrutiny. The Parish Council has demonstrated it appreciates the issues by innovating ahead of its time with Manley Close. It's case is that the application is incomplete and not a suitable basis for consent and should in its view be supported by the Local Authority.

The meeting ended at 8:15pm, and was followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

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Attachment

Antrobus Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting Monday 15th May 2017
Chairman's Report

It's been another busy and challenging year for the Parish Council. Looking back over the year, it is surprising just how many and varied activities and issues we have been involved with. Also surprising is the length of time some of them go on for. Some examples of the PC activities this year include:

Japanese Knot Weed
Fire Hydrants
Busses & Bus stops
Dog Fouling
Road Race
Hedge cutting & tree pruning
Litter Pick

And the list goes on. I only mention this to highlight the importance of the Parish Council as a point of contact for the village. Every parishioner can raise the issues that are important to them and we aim to help them or resolve their issues.

The main items to be mentioned are:

Planning

Through the year there has been the regular applications for extensions, conversion of farm buildings etc. The PC over-see these applications and try to ensure they are right for the village. There have been 2 more exceptional applications this year

- i) the recent application for 15 houses near the village centre. The PC must consider whether the development as a whole is appropriate for the village and if it is, then ensure the detail delivers what is expected.
- ii) The second involves the application by Arley Estate for additional visitor capacity. This may have a big influence on our village

I must also mention the S106 on Manley Close. This issue goes on and on. We are still working on it and are determined to get it right.

Finance

You will see from the year end accounts we have spent a not inconsiderable amount of money this year and I believe achieved some lasting benefits from the projects including improvements to the playground, painting of the finger posts (about to start), 30mph signs at Frandley. All good work and we still end the year in a comfortable financial position should the reserves be needed

Other Activities

A new Parish Council website (due out in June), the on going battle for better broadband, HGV signs still being awaited, drainage in the village centre and again the list goes on.

I would like to record some thank you's.

First to Andy Dunkley. We are very sorry he is leaving the Parish Council and what a lot of good and hard work he has done for us. There is now a vacancy on the PC for which we welcome nominations.

Secondly, thanks to my Vice Chairman, Stephen Barker, for standing in for me when necessary and also for his in-depth knowledge of the planning system.

Thanks also to our Clerk, Simon Palmer. He puts in a great deal of hard work and his help and support through the year is much appreciated.

Lastly but not least, thanks to all the Parish Council members for giving up their time throughout the year not only for the regular meetings but for helping with the Queens Birthday celebrations and for all their help to organize the Chairman's Charity Ball. A fantastic £3100 was raised for Cancer charities.

So, once again, thanks for an active and successful year.
Roger Sutton, Antrobus Parish Council Chairman