ACTON, EDLESTON & HENHULL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Karen Bedford
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To: Members of the Parish Council Date: 13 January 2023

Dear Member

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2023** at **7.30pm** at Acton Parish Hall. The agenda is appended below.

Yours sincerely

Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

Notification to members of the public attending the meeting

The Parish Council welcomes and encourages members of the public to attend its meetings.

You are requested to enter and leave quietly and to remain quiet during the meeting. Mobile phones and pagers should be switched off, and no food or drink should be brought into the meeting. If you do attend, copies of the agenda and accompanying papers will be provided for you.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interest, and the nature of that interest, which they have in any item of business on the agenda and, if necessary, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

Declarations are a personal matter for each Member to decide. Whilst the Clerk can advise on the Code of Conduct and its interpretation, the decision to declare, or not, is the responsibility of the Member, based on the particular circumstances.

3. DISPENSATIONS

This item is a standing agenda item to enable dispensations to be granted as and when appropriate following receipt of an agenda. If a Member is unaware that he/she has a DPI in an item of business until the agenda is received, there is an opportunity for a written request (e-mail acceptable) to be submitted to the Clerk at least two clear days before the meeting (or whatever period the Parish Council considers appropriate). The matter of dispensation can then be considered by the Parish Council (or the Clerk if this is delegated) at the same meeting.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2022

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24 November 2022 as a correct record.

5. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW AND CREATION OF NEW BURLAND AND ACTION PARISH COUNCIL

To update Members on the transition to the new Burland and Action Parish Council. Meetings were held at Cheshire East Council in November 2022. At these meetings, information was shared on the Community Governance Review process and the outcomes of the Review. These sessions were supported by ChALC. In total, seven mergers took place as a result of the CGR, creating new parish councils, one of which involves Burland in a merger with Acton, Edelston and Henhull Parish Council into the new Burland and Acton Parish Council. These changes will come into being on 1st April 2023, with elections to the new Council taking place on 4th May 2023. In terms of Council Tax, Cheshire East Council has determined the precepts of the newly created councils. The precept set for Burland and Acton Parish Council is £17,191 (taxbase is 513.06 and each Band D property will therefore pay £33.51). A request to review this amount by the existing councils was rejected by Cheshire East Council. Other areas covered by the changes and any transition period were discussed at these sessions, but no definitive advice was provided by CEC/ChALC, rather it was advised that discussions should take place between the existing parish councils affected by the changes. These issues included: -

• The role of the existing Clerks

• Bank accounts/assets/contracts To facilitate discussion on the above matters, as well as other factors relevant to the changes, meetings have been held between the Chairs and Clerks of Burland and Acton, Edelston and Henhull Parish Councils.

The following matters were **agreed**: -

• To retain both existing clerks and to review the position after 12 months
• To make arrangements for the precept to be paid into one of the existing bank accounts

• To hold 11 meetings per year and to hold these meetings on a Thursday evening at Acton Parish Hall Further to these initial agreements, further discussions have taken place between the two existing councils and ChALC.

The following information has been gathered from these meetings: - Burland Parish Council – Parish Council Meeting 12 th January 2023

• In terms of the bank account, the most straightforward approach is to retain one of the existing bank accounts and to arrange for the precept to be paid into this account – in this case, it is proposed that the Acton bank account is used for this purpose. The name of the account should be changed in May 2023 and the last action of Burland PC should be to transfer any monies to the Acton bank account prior to 1st April 2023 and then to close the Burland PC account. Cheques approved prior to April 2023 can then be given out in May 2023 from the new bank account. No payments can be made by the new Council until after the elections in May 2023. Therefore, any outstanding payments for Burland PC will have to be made at the last meeting of the council due to take place on 13th March 2023 and outstanding payments for Acton Edleston and Henhull Parish Council will have to be made at the last meeting of the council due to take place on 23 March 2023.

• In terms of the Clerks, the new council cannot have joint Clerks, but can have a Clerk and a Deputy Clerk. It is suggested that the Burland PC Clerk becomes Clerk to the new Council and the Acton, Edelston and Henhull Clerk becomes the Deputy Clerk. It is further suggested that this arrangement is reviewed after 12 months by the new Council. Therefore, although the new Council will come into being on 1st April 2023, no business will be able to be transacted until after the elections on 4 th May 2023. If any urgent decisions need to take place, this will be done by the Cheshire East Ward Councillor.

Based on the precept provided by Cheshire East Council, a budget for the new Council has been drawn up. A copy is attached. The total budget is £20,575.42 which will be covered by the precept quoted with the remainder from reserves.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are asked to **RESOLVE** the following: - • Note the information set out above in this agenda item

6. MATTERS ARISING

ACCOUNTS as at 19 January 2023

PLANNING MATTERS

22/5016N – THE WHITE HOUSE, DIG LANE, ACTON – Comments by 30 Jan 2023.

23/0035N – 20 MEADOWSIDE DRIVE HENHULL – Comments by 27 Jan 2023.

22/4934N – ACTON CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL – Comments by 1 Feb 2023.

7. CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

8. CORRESPONDENCE - The Clerk to report receipt of correspondence.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Parish Council is asked to authorise the following payments from the Parish Council Account:-

(a)	Acton Parish Hall – 19.01.23	£ 13.90
(b)	Nick Jackson – Gardening Services	£
(c)	Clerk's expenses 2022-2023	£

9. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Parish Councillors are invited to share information or to request items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 23 March 2023