



## Minutes of the Holmes Chapel Partnership Committee Meeting Monday, 21st October 2024

7.00pm - Massey Room, St. Luke's Church Hall

**Present:** Peter Whiers, Hazel Sutcliffe, Richard Garton, Gail Griggs, Rab Parry, Russell Chadwick, Rachel Nixon, Mandie Maddock, Rich Wilcock, Jill Booth

**Apologies:** Martin Elliot, Karoline Peach

### SEPTEMBER MINUTES - PETER / ALL

- SpeedWatch continues regularly. Limited to reporting up to ten offenders.

### CHRISTMAS MARKET - PETER / GAIL

- Event plan was distributed and updated.
- Sponsors are up to 14 with several new ones e.g. Revolve, Preparaia, Hipswing, Taylor Coachworks
- Tesco will be providing confectionery for Santas Sleigh.
- 2 x snow shovels have been ordered to replace misplaced ones from last year in case of snow.
- Paul Green will be providing lighting services. Quote confirmed and less than last year.
- Paperwork to CE has been completed and submitted.
- Peter to contact previous volunteers plus a call out to go in November newsletter.
- Question over funding from HCPC. If not matched as per last year then event will not break even.
- Stall revenue doesn't cover cost of stall hire / lighting etc as supporting local small businesses and charities. Need to discuss if prices should be raised in 2025.

### SANTA SLEIGH - PETER / RICHARD

- Schedule has been decided with amended routes (to accommodate new houses) which will run Monday-Friday through December.
- Licence has been applied for but been told can only do a maximum of 14 days. Our schedule covers 15 dates. Russell will follow up and query with CE.
- Sleigh will need a new parking spot in 2025 as garage at Lowes will no longer be available. Mandie offered space at Dales until a permanent space can be found.

### DANE MEADOW - HAZEL

- Pond work has been finished and filling up well with the heavy rain. Frog statue needs reinstating.
- 2kilos of wildflower seeds have been purchased to sow on excess soil from the dig. Half has been sown now and has started to germinate. Second half will be sown in April.

### TRAIN STATION ARTWORK - HAZEL

- Holmes Chapel imagery for under the arch and platform has been communicated and well received. Gail to share with Broadcast group.
- Harry image for outside ticket office will be a collaboration between Eamonn and Victoria's Art Studio.

### HARRYS HOLMES CHAPEL TOUR (HHVT) - PETER / GAIL

- Stile near the Viaduct still very rickety and needs to be replaced asap. Russell to follow up with Jenni Butler, Footpaths Officer at CE.
- Slope to footbridge getting very slippery with wet weather. Decision not to run Tours through November and December due to dangers. Last Tour date returned via the A535.
- Peter to email Russell and Tina at HCPC to get CE to follow up with landowners.
- Working with Dales to try to recoup some of the start up costs through the CE Tourism Grant.
- Peter has written to Harry Styles via his mum, Anne Twist, asking for support and approval for Tours.
- Additional meeting needed to decide the future of the Tours in 2025 and possible vouchers in time for Christmas.

### FINANCE - RICHARD

- Christmas Market sponsor and stall payments are almost complete, just a few outstanding. Patron sponsorship will be used for ongoing costs e.g. newsletter rather than covering any Christmas Market shortfalls.
- No income from HHVT this year due to start up costs.
- Funds from sleigh runs will be distributed to the Groups that accompany the sleigh.

### **HOLMES CHAPEL PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE - RICH**

- Meeting has been held with Developers of London Road site to feedback the results of the consultation with both good points and concerns. No feedback received since. Awaiting planning application.
- Roof repairs and improvements ongoing at HCCC.
- Youth Council are working on proposal for outdoor exercise equipment in village. Will have a consultation survey. Also discussing a potential youth club.
- A Highways meeting was held in early October to discuss safety concerns and speeding at the roundabout at the top of Manor Lane by Saltersford Corner.

### **CHESHIRE EAST UPDATE - RUSSELL**

- New Labour government has written to CE about possible plans for devolution of Local Authorities. Has been suggested that CE could partner with Cheshire West and Warrington. CE has put a proposal forward for working with Cheshire West, but not Warrington as not ideal to inherit their debt. 2027 date has been advised for change.
- CE are supporting cyber security month to raise awareness following rise in number of attacks, especially on older people.
- Launchd a short film to encourage people to become foster carers as there is a shortage in the borough.
- New Green Waste scheme from government says food waste should be collected weekly from April 2026. Suggestions have been made to move back bin collection to every three weeks and larger food bins to be provided. Missed bin collections are one of Russells biggest local issues. Consultation is in progress.
- Staff are moving out of Westfields, Sandbach, offices by end of December. Building could be turned into a SEND Secondary School with 120 pupils. New SEND school has opened in Congleton and the Wilmslow school has increased pupil numbers but new places are still needed. Transport to school for SEND pupils is one of biggest costs.
- First solar farm in area has opened near Crewe which can power 1200 homes.
- Senior management changes are in progress following recommendations from Peer review.
- Car parks will use the Ringo payment app, as well as cash option (which is often cheaper). Charges are rolling out across borough so all previously free car parks will be chargeable by end of December.
- Cost reductions of £100m over four years are needed. Hoping for savings of £26m this year despite pressure from child and adult services.
- D&G bus services have pulled out of Southern Cheshire area. New tender will need to happen.
- Fixmystreet service will be replaced by an in-house app. No date set for changeover.

### **AOB - ALL**

- Remembrance Sunday wreath costs have increased. Suggested a £35 donation.
- Newsletter will be distributed on 1st November.

**Date for next meeting is 18th November, 7pm in the Massey Room at St Lukes Church Hall**

Common acronyms:

CE = Cheshire East County Council

HCP = Holmes Chapel Partnership

HCCC = Holmes Chapel Community Centre

HCCS = Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School

HCHC = Holmes Chapel Health Centre

HCLC = Holmes Chapel Leisure Centre

HCPC = Holmes Chapel Parish Council