

# SNELSON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Liz McGrath  
Telephone: 01565 722762

Chairman: Nigel Musson  
Vice Chairman: Eddie Hopkinson

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## **Minutes of a meeting of Snelson Parish Council held in Snelson Chapel Vestry on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at 8.00pm.**

**Present** were, N Musson, E Hopkinson, J Firth, G Phillips, G Walton and the Clerk.

**13.30 Apologies** were received from L Stanier.

**13.31 Declarations of Interest** – None

**13.32 Public Question time** – None

**13.33 Approve Minutes.** The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed off.

**13.34 Matters arising from the minutes** – none

**13.35 Broadband** – Waiting to hear order of roll out in Dec 2013.

**13.36 Common** –The Clerk has had an initial conversation with Mr Curtis. Further discussions will take place following his return from New York in October.

Cllr Musson has had advice from Miles Dobell, a local tree surgeon and he has suggested a 5 yr. plan/survey of the area from a safety and management perspective should be done so that work can be concentrated and brought in to 'good Order' as recommended by the Forestry Commission.

Two companies have been approached to do such a report

One company from Macclesfield will cost £1942 ink VAT

Company from Sheffield will cost £1800 ink VAT

The Local firm is very prescriptive on the number of visits it will make, for that fee. Both companies have worked for parish councils who have undertaken similar schemes.

A suggestion of asking Mr Oliver, a local Tree specialist for his view and also if Reaseheath collage would be interested in doing a survey as a practical for forestry students.

Members agreed that an agreed focus needs to be established as to what the end goal is for the area. To open the area up too much may bring with it more issues of people camping/ travellers moving in. The meeting was clear the intention is not to clear the site but to make pathways and ponds usable for wildlife and community alike.

The suggestion was made that native bulbs could be planted in the area also.

There are two sources of funding available and these are Manchester Airport and a Woodland Improvement Grant. Both need detailed plans of the intentions for the area.

Concerns were expressed about the safety of flooding risks and liability of the council. However it was pointed out that liability and common land has differing legal implications. In its nature common land is for the community and so liability not an issue.

**The meeting resolved that Mr Oliver and Reaseheath be contacted and also the conversation with Mr Curtis be continued.**

**13.37 Cheshire East** – New CE is in place. Mr Mike Suarez. His back ground is in finance.

Rural watch is had a meeting at mere parish club and the issue of accidents involving tractors was discussed. Poor visibility and blind spots on tractors is being addressed by adding mirrors to the vehicles.

New Hospital transport on a Tuesdays £20 round trip.

Highways arrangement has been in place two years and a review is being conducted. Any comments please make known.

**13.38 Highways** – Nothing new to report

**13.39 Finance** – The only thing to report was the receipt of the ½ year precept from Cheshire East.

**13.39.01 auditor's comments** – the rounding of figures had caused a discrepancy that should be avoided in future. Other than that a clean bill of health was given.

**13.39.02 Budget considerations** –

New Grit bins? A grit spreader?

The suggestion of not asking for a precept was given. All to be discussed next meeting.

**13.40 Planning** – None.

### **13.41 Correspondence**

- Fly past commemorating 75 years of Manchester Airport on 14<sup>th</sup> September
- Tickets offered from the Airport
- Rural Fair Share petition
- Clerks and Council's Direct Magazine

Next meeting is to be 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 at 8pm.

Chairman declared the meeting closed.