

**Cheddleton Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATHS & COUNTRYSIDE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM ON ON TUESDAY, 10<sup>th</sup>. NOVEMBER 2020**

**ATTENDANCE** Chairman - K. Harvey.  
Vice-Chairman - Ms. C.Y. Ball.  
Councillor - M.T. Bowen, N. Belson, H.R. Jennings, G.W. Salt,  
Mrs. L.M. Salt, S. Scalise.  
Member - Mr. P.H. Green.

1. **APOLOGIES** - No Apologies as there was 100% attendance.
2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 10<sup>th</sup>. MARCH 2020** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
3. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** - No matters were raised.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE: -**
  - a. Staffordshire ROW Report Issue 10077 FP 8 Cheddleton - Councillor Belson let the Clerk know and about a fallen tree on a footpath in Deep Haye Country Park which has been removed. Councillor Belson stated there was another tree down and would send it to the Clerk.
  - b. Walking in Staffordshire website <http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/> requesting the Parish Council add a link on our website to it for walks in and around England. It includes one in Cheddleton. It was agreed to do this by all members.
  - c. Staffordshire County Council - S53 Application to Upgrade FP 11(part) & FP 1(part) - Cheddleton to Bridleways. Application to Upgrade FP 7, FP 8 and FP1(part) Cheddleton to Bridleways. It was agreed to send to Chairman to map and advise the members on both.
  - d. British Horse Society Access Officer for Staffordshire Moorlands – Misuse of FP 46 Leek which is a Bridleway so referred him to Leek Town Council.
  - e. Cheddleton Bridleway DMMO Applications - More applications as the deadline is looming at the end of 2025.
  - f. Rosalind Lees - Rights of Way Officer - SCC - Thank you for works completed on FP 10 for replacing two stiles.
5. **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PATHS INITIATIVE FUNDING PROJECT** - This will remain in abeyance due to Covid 19 and will remain as a future agenda item.
6. **UPDATE ON FP 19 - CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported she had contacted Ben Haywood at SMDC as the original Planning Application was agreed roughly 18 years ago. So far there has been no response. Councillor Bowen will follow this up if the Clerk does not receive a response.
7. **UPDATE ON FP 23 - CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that the footpath starts in the middle of nowhere. Councillor Worthington was taking the forward to the Countryside & Rights of Way Panel but is no longer on this Committee. It was agreed that the Clerk approach the Panel with the details and move this forward. Councillor Jennings asked about any contact with the owners of this land on Station Street. The area is getting worst with cars and animals and report it to the Environment Agency again. The Clerk will visit and take photographs to send to them.

8. **UPDATE ON APPEAL FPS/D3450/14A/4 - ASHCOMBE PARK, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that she had received a response from Michael Murphy from legal department that this may be referred to the Planning Inspectorate. The Clerk will follow this up.
9. **OUR GREAT BIG NATURE BOOST - DEEP HAYES COUNTRY PARK/FP 38** - Councillor Harvey visited a roadshow at the reservoir which Severn Trent hosted and was given free trees which he has planted on FP 38. There is also funding available for invasive plants and thinning of trees and helping nature to perform available up to £2,000 which we may be able to apply for. He went on to report that Deep Hayes Country Park which covers over 60 acres which is being allowed to deteriorate. SCC are responsible for its management. Councillor Bowen fully supported that this is a disgrace, and the Parish are unable to take it on, but it needs to be managed by someone who will bring it back to how it used to be. Councillor Jennings suggested that an angling club would maybe be able to be approached to help restore them. Councillor Harvey stated that Severn Trent are interested in it as a water course. Councillor Bowen suggested that they need to be publicly humiliated to make people aware and get behind it as a campaign to get SCC to manage it. Councillor Scalise suggested maybe securing some funding and move forward. Request residents to send in details and photographs of how it used to be at the Country Park. Councillor Harvey will start to investigate this further.
10. **UPDATE ON THE RESTORATION OF THE BUTTERCROSS** - The Clerk reported that due to Covid 19 again this as a project has been left. At least we have the plan of works required produced by Historic England. The Clerk also reported that Councillor Bowen had suggested approaching the Moorlands Partnership Board for funding and we now have details of how to apply for match funding so once we have costings for the works we could apply to them. Councillor Harvey stated that this be a priority.
11. **UPDATE ON STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL OUTSTANDING DIRECTIONS** - The Clerk reported that the Countryside and Rights of way Panel meetings for September & October were cancelled. In July they determined 4 applications and then in August only 3. As it stands there are 143 directions have been served on SCC by the Secretary of State. There are a further 10 applications for direction currently with the Secretary of State. The next meeting is due to take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. November. The Clerk has lodged a complaint which has amounted to nothing. We could follow on and lodge it with the Local Ombudsman. It was agreed to notify SCC that we intend to do this in two weeks if they do not respond with an answer to our directions.
12. **UPDATE/SURVEY OF PATHS IN THE PARISH CONDUCTED BY VOLUNTEERS** Councillor Harvey reported that the volunteers have surveyed all the Footpaths as they are unable to do any actual works. A full five-page document has been sent to SCC with details of what is required on all our Paths. None of the works have been completed by them yet as we have been told that volunteers cannot work during the Covid 19 pandemic based on SCC recommendation as they have carried out a risk assessment. He reported that our volunteers will only fix issues which are of a matter of health and safety to the public. Werrington centre has agreed that once we can start works, they will supply the materials.
13. **ANY NOTED FOOTPATH OBSTRUCTIONS** - Councillor Harvey reported that FP 49 from Rownall Road is impassable as it is waterlogged, and he will report it for notices to be put up by SCC. Councillor Bowen FP behind the Church is in a mess as it is extremely muddy this will be reported to them.

14. **WAYMARKING** - Councillor Harvey reported that the last of the way markers have been completed.
15. **COUNTRYSIDE** - We have some beautiful Countryside.
16. **FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS**  
Community Orchards.
17. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS 2021/22**  
After considering the budget required the committee made their recommendations.

Chairman.