

Cheddleton Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE CRAFT CENTRE MEETING ROOM, CHEDDLETON ON TUESDAY, 14th MAY 2019.

ATTENDANCE Councillor – M. Ahmad, Ms. C.Y. Ball, N. Belson, M.T. Bowen, J. Carr, I. Dakin, Mrs. K. Green, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley, K. Harvey, H.R. Jennings, Miss. O. Lucas, G.W. Salt, Mrs. L.M. Salt, S. Scalise, H.J. Tunna & M.P. Worthington.

APOLOGIES No apologies with 100% Attendance.

5432 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Bowen, proposed by Councillor Tunna and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Hartley. Also, Councillor Ahmad was proposed by Councillor Dakin and seconded by Councillor G. Salt. On being put to the vote Councillor Bowen by 6 votes to 5 was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year. The Chairman extending his sincere thanks to the members for his appointment and advised that all Members need to raise any questions through the Chairman by raising their hand and he would bring them into the debate. He wants the meetings to be less of a free for all. He also went onto state that minutes are not to be shared until ratified at Council and that Social Media was to not be used as a forum by Councillors other than for there own personal views not the views of the Council.

5433 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Chairman duly signed his declaration of acceptance of office.

5434 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor Jennings, was proposed by Councillor Bowen and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Hartley, so was duly elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

5435 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the 16th. April 2019, taken as read, were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

5436 MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM

Re. Min. 5426 St. Edwards Park Residents Association Donation The Clerk reported that this will be a planning agenda item as to what to spend the money on.

5437 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS FOR 6 VACANCIES – 4 CHEDDLETON WARD & 2 FOR SOUTHWOLD WARD

The Chairman explained that there were 6 candidates present who were applying to be Councillors but that a further person had not arrived. Councillor Worthington suggested then that they Co-opt all 6 people present. Councillor Ahmad objected that if there was another candidate, they deserved the chance to be included. The Chairman asked each candidate to introduce themselves and explain why and what interested them in being a Councillor. Each candidate introduced themselves to the Council Members. The Clerk read out the correspondence she had received from the possible 7th candidate and it was declared that it was not an application but purely a show of interest and the Clerk had responded via email as she had no telephone number to contact her on so therefore, she was no longer interested. There was a show of hands to agree to co-opt all 6 candidates which Councillor Ahmad objected to. Therefore, it was resolved to co-opt: - Nigel Belson, Carole Ball, Richard Hartley, Katherine Green, Olivia Lucas and John Carr as Councillors.

5438 CO-OPTED COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

All 6 New Councillors signed a Declaration of Office and were signed in as in attendance in the book and invited to sit at the table by the Chairman.

5439 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chairman explained for New Members that we now have to decide on members of the committees and these were made up of a number of Councillors dependant on the Committee so if anyone wanted to be involved to please put themselves forward for the various committees. Chairman & Vice-Chairman attend all Committees.

The following appointments to committees and outside bodies were made: -

a. Planning & Amenities Committee

Councillor – M. Ahmad, Ms. C.Y. Ball, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, Miss. O. Lucas, G.W. Salt, Mrs. L.M. Salt, S. Scalise, H.J. Tunna, M.P. Worthington.

b. Community/Craft Centre Management Committee

Councillor – M. Ahmad, I. Dakin, Mrs. K. Green, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley, S. Scalise.

c. Footpaths & Countryside Committee

Councillor – Ms. C.Y. Ball, N. Belson, Mrs. K. Green, K. Harvey, G.W. Salt, Mrs. L.M. Salt, S. Scalise.

d. Cheddleton Playing Field Committee 5 members of the Cheddleton Ward:-

Councillor – I. Dakin, Mrs. K. Green, Miss. O. Lucas, S. Scalise, M.P. Worthington.

e. Wetley Rocks/Toll Bar Playing Field Committee 3 members of each Ward.

Councillor – M. Ahmad, Mrs. K. Green, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley, K. Harvey, H.J. Tunna.

f. Burial Ground Committee

Councillor – M. Ahmad, G.W. Salt, Mrs. L.M. Salt, S. Scalise.

g. Finance Committee

Councillor – M.T. Bowen, H.R. Jennings + Chairmen of all standing committees.

h. Cheddleton Cautionary Lands Charity

Councillor – M. Ahmad, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, H.R. Jennings, S. Scalise,
M.P. Worthington. Executive committee: M. Ahmad.

i. Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly

Councillor – Mrs. C.Y. Ball, K. Harvey.

j. Wetley Rocks Village Hall Committee

Councillor - Mrs. D.A. Hartley, H.J. Tunna.

k. Churnet Valley Railway – Representative

Councillor – Mrs. K. Green.

5439 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES continued...

l. Environment Agency/Pointon's Liaison Group Meetings

Councillor – I. Dakin, H.J. Tunna & substitute – Councillor Mrs. K. Green.

m. Cheddleton Pound and War Memorial Keeper

Mr. S. Beardmore, Hollow Lane, Cheddleton.

n. Wetley Rocks War Memorial Keeper

Mr. S. Plant, Wetley Rocks.

o. Parish Tree Contact

Clerk – Ms. L. Eyre.

p. Parish Plan Contact

Clerk – Ms. L. Eyre.

q. Wetley Moor Joint Committee

Councillor – K. Harvey.

r. Churnet Valley Living Landscape Partnership

Councillor – I. Dakin.

s. Dalecrete Liaison Group Meetings

Councillor – M. Ahmad, I. Dakin.

5440 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman asked the members of the Planning committee to stay behind at the end of the meeting to consider two planning applications.

5441 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

5442 MEMBERS' SECTION 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None had been received.

5443 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

5444 CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE

Proposed by Councillor Worthington and seconded by Councillor Jennings it was resolved: to leave the Chairman's allowance standing at £500. The Chairman expressed that rather than he receive the allowance that the funds be set aside by the Clerk and he would be reimbursed for items as and when purchased and then if any of the allowance is remaining that it be a saving for the Council. Councillor Harvey asked if this would be applicable for the next Chair and it was agreed it could be decided by the next Chairman.

5445 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The calendar of meetings as circulated was considered. Following discussions, it was resolved: - to accept the calendar of meetings, as issued.

5446 ATTENDANCE RECORDS

The attendance records for the year 2018/19 were recorded as follows: from April 2018 to March 2019 there had been 11 meetings and 1 Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council: - Councillor - M. Ahmad 8/12, J.G. Arnold 4/12, Ms. C.Y. Ball 11/12, M.T. Bowen 12/12, J. Carr 9/12, (G.J.R. Furnival 5/11 up to February then was removed), Mrs. D.A. Hartley 12/12, K. Harvey 11/12, Mrs. B. Hine 10/12, H.R. Jennings 12/12, (Mrs. C. Latham 0/9 dispensation granted – up to January then was removed), (P.A. Latham 1/9 up to January then was removed), Mrs. C.M. Meyrick 9/12, Mrs. A. Oakden 6/12, S. Scalise 11/12, H.J. Tunna 12/12, M.P. Worthington 11/12.

5447 REVIEW OF THE ASSET REGISTER

Copies of the updated register had been issued. The Clerk ran through the items purchased in the last year. Councillor Harvey suggested that next year those be highlighted on the list. It was resolved: to accept and agree the updated version, as issued.

5448 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

All Members had received a copy of the Financial Regulations and Councillor I. Dakin asked who is the Responsible Officer to which the Clerk stated that it was her. It was resolved: to accept and agree this version, as issued.

5449 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

All Members had received a copy of the Standing Orders and it was resolved: to accept and agree this version, as issued.

5450 REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENTS

All Members had received a copy of the Risk Assessments and it was resolved: to accept and agree this version, as issued.

5451 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS – STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE

The end of year accounts including the receipts and payments account, the income and expenditure accounts and all related supporting notes had been issued to members for their perusal. The Internal Auditor's report – Findings: The general funds after the exclusion of earmarked reserves we consider is of a high level for general funds at the year end. We note that there are high levels of income which has not attracted VAT. We note that you have not registered for VAT and you are currently claiming VAT under the VAT126 scheme for expenditure. Having discussed this with the Clerk we have planned to carry out a detailed review of trading when we carry out the interim audit in the autumn. It is likely that we will recommend that you operate a VAT “de minimus” arrangement. We will also advise the Clerk if any repayment to HMRC is required. A copy of the Annual Return duly filled in and a copy of the Section 2 Statement of Assurance had been circulated for members' consideration and approval. The questions relating to the Statement were duly considered, agreed and appropriately filled in by the Chairman.

5452 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS - ANNUAL RETURN

Following discussions, it was resolved: - to authorise the Chairman and Clerk to sign the Annual Return ready for the return in June.

5453 BENCH SEAT ON PLOUGH BANK/MEADOW AVENUE IN NEED OF REPAIR

Councillor Tunna reported that this particular seat required repairs as the wood needs replacing. It was resolved that the Clerk ask Rob & Ken to carry out the works as this would be the best option.

5454 DAMAGE TO GRASS VERGES ON MILL LANE, WETLEY ROCKS BY CARS PARKING.

The Clerk reported that a resident had asked if there was anything that could be done about the damage being caused to the grass verges by vehicles. She showed members photographs of this. Councillor Tunna also stated that there was a car that is parked all day opposite The Croft which hinders through traffic so asked could the school be contacted and asked if it could be parked in the school carpark. The Clerk asked if Councillor Tunna could let her have registration number and she would contact the school. Councillor Scalise suggested that maybe in certain places the grass verges needed to be set back to allow the road to be widened which would help with the problem so it was suggested that Staffordshire Highways be contacted for a possible solution.

5455 REPAIRS TO PLAY EQUIPMENT ON TOLL BAR PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk reported that the Clatter Bridge at Toll Bar was damaged as some of the timber slats had come off which she showed a photograph. The timber has gone rotten and so the fixings had failed. Councillor Mrs. Hartley & Bowen had been to take a look too. Councillor Mrs. Green asked how old the Bridge was? The Clerk reported that it had been installed in 2009 and it was manufactured by Sovereign and that she had already contacted them about its state. They had asked when it had been last inspected and she had provided them with a copy of the latest inspection report from last May. Councillor Harvey stated that Oak would be a better wood to use and would last longer. She also, had arranged to cordon the Bridge off as Councillor Tunna had kindly fetched two barriers from Leek which Staffordshire Highways had supplied to stop any accidents until it could be fixed as the handyman had wrapped tape around it but it was not sufficient. The Clerk would report back once Sovereign had a solution but that she had also approached Wicksteed who do the inspection to see if they could quote for the repairs as a guide to costs.

5456 NEW LIGHTING ALONG GULLY AT FOLD LANE TERRACE END

The Clerk had been asked to add this to the agenda as this is the reason that The Gully was closed during the election. Councillor Scalise reported that he had been made aware by R. Gee that this was to improve the lighting but wasn't sure if it had. The Chairman stated he would take a look and report back.

5457 FOOTPATH 38 REMOVAL OF VEGETATION AT THE TOP END AS NARROWING OF THE PATH

Councillor Scalise stated that he had asked for this on the agenda as he had walked the footpath and the vegetation at the end near to the Red Lion is making the footpath very narrow and wondered if Councillor Harvey could possibly help. Councillor G. Salt said he would take a look and report to volunteers any works required.

5458 GATED ENTRANCE TO ST. EDWARDS LAWN CEMETERY OFF CHEADLE ROAD, CHEDDLETON

The Chairman reported that the gate had not been painted since it had been put in so suggested that this maybe another project for Rob & Ken. The Clerk also, reported that there had been some rubbish tipped on the cemetery over the bank holiday weekend. Councillor Jennings stated it was not there on the Sunday when he had visited the site. The Chairman had spoken to the Leek Post & Times and was appalled that someone should do this. The Clerk stated that she had reported it to SMDC as fly tipping but received a response that there was nothing they could do because it is private land. Councillor Jennings had supplied photographs of a large sand bag full of rubble and some broken slabs. Councillor Mrs. Green said she had rubbish to take to the tip and would ask her husband to remove it and dispose of it at the same time. Councillor Jennings stated that there may be a charge as it would be classed as commercial waste so suggested that the Council pay any charge incurred. Councillor Mrs. Green would report back.

5459 GARDEN WASTE TIPPED ON BRIDGE EYE

The Clerk had received an email from Rob Gibson with photographs of garden waste, grass cuttings and weeds that have been dumped on Bridge Eye and details of the possible culprit. There was a bag of clothes dumped which the handyman had already removed. The Clerk asked what the Council would like her to do should she instruct the handyman to remove it? It was agreed. The Clerk also, reported that she had spoken to a lady in the garden of one of the houses opposite and left her details explaining that there was a problem with tipping and should she see anyone would she please report it to her.

5460 TREE INSPECTION UPDATE STEVE MASSEY – SMDC

The Clerk reported that she had received details from Steve which she had asked him to look at a couple of trees on behalf of the Parish Council on Open Space alongside 10, Cheddleton Park Avenue. A mature oak tree which requires works and the removal of a Norway Maple which is partially uprooted. It was agreed that the Clerk ask Tree Heritage to take a look and price up for the job. Also, suggested that a quote from Charles Piggott be obtained. The Clerk also, reported that Steve had kindly agreed to meet on Thursday to give advice on the thinning of the trees should anyone want to come along at 10am to meet on Cheddleton Park Avenue to access the footpath. Councillors:- Harvey, Jennings, Bowen, Salt & Mrs Salt agreed to attend.

5461 BOLLARD ON MOORLAND ROAD ENTRANCE TO CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk reported that she had been asked about the siting of a bollard on the middle access to Cheddleton Playing Field through Rob Beresford by the owner of a property up for sale. Is there a specific reason why the bollard was sited at the entrance from Moorland Road rather than the end by the Playing Field? Councillor Ms. Ball stated that it is a pedestrian way so is not for vehicular access and that's why the bollard is there. These houses were built in the 1940's but they do have access via garages at the rear of the properties. Councillor Dakin suggested he take a look and measure the width of the access along with the one higher up Moorland Road and report back his findings.

5462 RE-INSTATEMENT OF LAND (REMOVAL OF HARD STANDING) STATION ROAD, CHEDDLETON

The Chairman reported that he had again spoken to Ben Hurst at SMDC who had now spoken to the owner of the land which is the son of the previous owner and that he is happy for it to be re-instated. He also reported that Ben had contacted Western Power who were under the impression that the owner wanted it left but would now arrange removal of the hard-standing. So, it looks like it will finally be concluded.

5463 LETTER BOX SET ON FIRE – GRANGE ROAD, CHEDDLETON

The Clerk reported to members that this was a random incident which had happened. Councillor Miss. Lucas stated that she was the one who had notified the authorities of the fire and asked what the outcome was? The Clerk would contact Royal Mail for an update.

5464 SWASTIKA ON THE WELCOME TO WETLEY ROCKS SIGN TWINNED WITH MITTERTICH

The Clerk had seen this topic on Cheddleton Chat Facebook Group. Councillor Tunna stated it had been there for years so was nothing new. Staffordshire Highways were supposed to have removed the swastika but, as the new signs were in progress for the gateways to the village there was little point contacting them again as the sign itself is going to be replaced. The Chairman went on to explain the current plan for the gateways to New Councillors.

5465 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES The Council examined the reports of the following committees and adopted their recommendations: -

a. Planning & Amenities Committee Meeting

Re. Min. 2597. Tree Stump on Mill Lane, Wetley Rocks Councillor Scalise reported that it was still there. The Clerk informed it had been reported to Staffordshire Highways.

Re. Min. 2598. Blocked grid at Lady Bank Cottage, Leek Road, Wetley Rocks

Councillor Tunna asked if there was any progress. The Clerk reported that there is a correspondence item.

b. Reports of Committees and Outside Bodies

There were no reports from Outside Bodies.

5466 ACCOUNTS

5467 CORRESPONDENCE

- a. NHS Long Term Plan – How does this affect you? – Public Sector Executive. The Health Care shown on 26th-27th. June 2019 taking place in London a free place is available worth £899 + V.A.T. Any member wishing to attend to contact the Clerk.
- b. ASC Steeplejacks Ltd – specialist in height and all maintenance projects. The Clerk would keep on file for future works.
- c. Playdale – Play Equipment. Invite to the opening of a new themed play area.
- d. Public Sector Network Newsletter – April 2019. The Clerk asked if members would like a copy to contact her.
- e. Earth Anchors - Memorial Benches and Notice Board prices.
- f. Amey Report 4136321 Completed. Weight Restriction Sign Basford Bridge Lane, Cheddleton. The Clerk reported that this was a request for further signage back on 17th. September 2018 about the weight restriction on the bridge. She had sent correspondence thanking Staffordshire Highways for the excellent works carried out on repairing the River Bridge and asked for an update on what the progress was for Divisional Highway Programme (DHP) as yet without response. Again, she will chase this up and ask why the report has been closed.
- g. Amey Report 4139133 Completed. Speed of traffic on Mill Lane, Wetley Rocks. The Clerk reported that this had been raised on 16th. October 2018 as the result of a resident's enquiry as to the speed at which vehicles travel along Mill Lane especially large vehicles as the speed bumps do not slow them down. Again, the Clerk will enquire why this has been closed and what the actual outcome is?
- h. Amey Report 4157045 Logged. Tree Stump – Mill Lane, Wetley Rocks. The Clerk reported this as requested on 1st. May 2019 but as yet there was no further update.
- i. Amey Report 4157047 Logged. Potholes Cellarhead Road – Bus Stop. The Clerk reported this as requested on 1st. May 2019 and has received on 10th. May 2019 that this had been inspected and classed as urgent to be carried out in the next seven days.
- j. Amey Report 4157049 Logged. Pothole Bones Lane, Cheddleton. The Clerk reported that she had noticed this and so reported it on 1st. May 2019 and that it had been inspected on 10th. May 2019 and was not high risk so currently 50% of such repairs take place within 60 days.
- k. Amey Report 4157052 Logged. Pothole grid Cheadle Road, Cheddleton. The Clerk reported that she had noticed this and reported it on 1st. May 2019. Councillor Tunna stated that this has been repaired before. The Clerk had been notified that it had been inspected on 10th. May 2019 and was not high risk.
- l. Amey Report 4078977 Logged. Pot Hole bridge near Bridge Eye, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton. The Clerk had noticed and reported this on 1st. May 2019. No update as yet.

5467 CORRESPONDENCE continued...

- m. Update of Countryside and Rights of Way Panel Meetings – David Rice stated that 3 applications were on the agenda for 9th. May 2019. This means that by June Meeting 2 more of the orders made by the secretary of state will have been exceeded by more than 12 months. So, the wait goes on for many applications including the ones raised by Cheddleton Parish Council.
- n. Nominations for Staffordshire Dignity Care Awards 2019. Details from Care Market Development Team of Staffordshire County Council the date for nominations has been extended to 24th. May 2019 with 7 award categories for individuals should anyone know of anyone they wish to nominate.
- o. Letter of thanks from Rob & Ken. The Clerk read out the letter after the installation of the WW1 Centenary Bench, thanking Councillor Ahmad for the donation of hard core to prepare the base. Mr. Tom Neal a local builder from Beech Avenue, Cheddleton for the supply of three 3x2 paving slabs. The former Cheddleton Playing Field Action Group for supply of all sand and cement. Also, a huge thank you to Councillor Tunna for his time and help transporting all the materials from various places to the site at Wetley Rocks. Councillor Jennings also explained for the new Councillors that this seat had been donated by Cheddleton Parish Council and Cheddleton Lands Charity as Cheddleton British Legion had wanted to supply wooden benches to both Cheddleton & Wetley Rocks churches which was not permitted by the Diocese. So, on behalf of the British Legion he wanted it recorded that they thanked the Parish Council for organising this in a special year as part of the centenary celebrations.
- p. Trans City Rail – HS2 meeting on 18th. July 2019 at The Vox, Birmingham. Speakers from across the Midlands.
- q. CPRE – Tour of Fordhall Farm, Nr Market Drayton – 10th. July 2019 from 1pm followed by tea, coffee and cakes at 3pm. 140 acres including wetlands, woodlands, streams, the River Tern and grasslands.
- r. Amey Report 4081073 response from Carol May. The Clerk reported that she had contacted Councillor Helen Fisher from Staffordshire County Council on 3rd. May 2019 and received an out of office reply suggesting contacting Carol May – Executive Support Officer who responded stating that Councillor Fisher would reply on her return. The Clerk reported as yet there was no response.

5468 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Chairman
18th. June 2019