

Cheddleton Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE WETLEY ROCKS VILLAGE HALL, WETLEY ROCKS ON TUESDAY, 17th. DECEMBER 2019.

ATTENDANCE Chairman – Councillor M.T. Bowen.

Vice-Chairman – Councillor H.R. Jennings.

Councillor – M. Ahmad, N. Belson, I. Dakin, Mrs. D. A. Hartley, R. J. Hartley, K. Harvey, Mrs. C. A. Lovatt, Miss. O. Lucas, G. W. Salt, Mrs. L. M. Salt, S. Scalise, H. J. Tunna.

APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from: -

Councillor - Ms. C. Y. Ball, J. Carr, M.P. Worthington.

5599 **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting of the 19th. November 2019, taken as read and were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

5600 **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**

Re. Min. 5595. – Reports of Committees and Outside Bodies b. Cheddleton Playing Field Committee Re. Min 830. Installation of the Zip Wire Platform Councillor Bowen reported that last week that he, Olivia, Rob and The Clerk had been photographed by the Leek Post and Times to promote the installation and that already an attempt has been made to set fire to the seat which was stopped by a dog walker who caught the culprits in the act. This is very upsetting that anyone should want to damage it yet again.

5601 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Clerk reminded members of the meeting with Jeff Sim from Staffordshire Wildlife Trust at 2.30pm on Wednesday for anyone wishing to attend.

5602 **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Bowen is a Member of The Wildlife Trust.

5603 **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

None had been received.

5604 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from the public present.

5605 **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE/ ADDITIONAL WORKS – FULL UPDATE OF AREAS AND ANY ISSUES**

Councillor Tunna stated that the hedge has been cut along Wetley Rocks Playing Field so the Clerk agreed to check with Jim to see if he had done it as the cuttings had been left. Several items that the Clerk has asked Jim to do have not been done such as the hedge at Cheddleton Lawn Cemetery and St Edward's Lawn Cemetery. The Bus Shelter Cleaning and the top section of Cheddleton Playing Field but the Clerk did let members know that Robert was currently suffering with pneumonia but would chase up these after Christmas. Councillor Jennings stated that since the gates had been restored at the Asylum Burial ground that people walking through it were now taking the trouble to close them. All other areas were reported as looking good.

5606 UPDATE ON CITY & GUILDS TRAINING COURSE OCCASIONAL USER CHAINSAW FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH TREE THINNING, OPEN SPACE

The Clerk reported Matt had contacted her and that the course agreed was being removed by City & Guilds at the end of December so the Council would have to re-visit this. The course agreed was a two-day course and Matt had explained that the option he could provide would now extend to five days costing £750 per candidate. He is running a course at Cheadle with 2 spaces commencing 3rd February 2020. After some consideration it was proposed that rather than train 4 if we train 2 initially on this course and the lower cost for PPE only being for 2 would be the best option so Councillor Harvey proposed that Councillor Salt and a volunteer be enrolled on the course. Councillor Jennings seconded this and the Council agreed that it would save considerable funds in the future.

5607 CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL £36

The Chairman stated that the Council had continued to support the CPRE for several years so Councillor Dakin proposed the renewal of membership and Councillor Scalise seconded the proposal. All members were in agreement.

5608 SLCC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL £202

The Chairman stated that it was very worthwhile to continue the membership which was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Hartley to renew and Councillor Ahmad seconded the proposal. All members were in agreement.

5609 RBS YEAR END CLOSE DOWN TRAINING £185

The Clerk reported that the training is based at the Rialtas Offices in Swindon which would not be possible at the moment and that they have a very good help desk should she experience any difficulties and has the support of other Clerks who are on the system and have already gone through year end previously. The Chairman stated that this would save the Council funds and was happy if the Clerk felt it wasn't necessary. All members agreed.

5610 ENTRANCE ROAD – ST.EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY

The Clerk reported that this had been discussed previously and left but as at the last meeting the Council had received further correspondence from Justine at Teddy's Nursery it was raised as an agenda item. She also reported that she had contacted the Rugby club again and they stated that they have not been asked for a contribution and would not be making one anyway. After some discussion it was proposed that The Council make no ongoing contributions by Councillor Mrs. Hartley and Councillor Mrs. Salt seconded the proposal. All members agreed.

5611 CANCER RESEARCH PUDDING RACE 2019

The Clerk reported that the Community Centre was left in good order after the Pudding Race and Christina was very happy that it had been cleaned and was very tidy after the use of all areas except the Creche. Councillor Scalise had raised the agenda item requesting that a donation be considered as it was a charity event in the form of a refund for the hire of the Community Centre. The Clerk reported that the charge was £168.85 so a refund of the whole amount was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Hartley and Councillor Tunna seconded the proposal. All members were in agreement. Councillor Scalise also mentioned that during the race a member of the public wanted to take his dog into the community centre so he raised this issue that maybe a sign should be erected for access to assistance dogs only. All members agreed that this would be a good idea and save any clarification in the future. The Clerk would deal with this matter.

5612 QUOTE FOR BROADBAND – COMMUNITY CENTRE/CRAFT CENTRE

The Clerk reported she had quotes for both premises. BT quoted an installation charge of £125 per connection which would be reduced to £20 if there is an existing line. Then for a two-year contract it would be £39.99 per month for unlimited superfast broadband and an additional £10 per month for unlimited calls to UK Landlines and UK mobiles. Plusnet quoted no installation Fee for a two-year contract £27.50 per month with pay as you go calls. Also, installation cost of £50 for a new connection or free for an existing line for a 12-month contract and a fee of £26.50 per month with pay as you go calls. After some discussion it was agreed that some market research was necessary to establish the demand for use in both locations so to question the current hirers if they would use and want internet access. This would then result in the need/want for broadband in both locations and that as The Tearooms already has a broadband connection would the prospect of sharing the connection appeal to Jane and Emily from the Beauty Room to share the cost. The Clerk would carry out this and report back her findings to a future meeting.

5613 QUOTE FOR FIRE PROTECTION PRODUCTS – COMPLIANCY IN COMMUNITY CENTRE/CRAFT CENTRE

The Clerk reported that North Staffs Fire had carried out the service on all extinguishers and had made recommendations that to comply with relevant UK legislation and British Standards Codes of Practice a further two extinguishers were required. The Clerk reported that she needed to contact North Staffs Fire to establish where these were required as they had not specified which building. It was agreed that once this information had been obtained that Councillor Dakin confirm within his expertise as to the necessity to provide these as he knows the legislation. If these are both required then to comply to go ahead and install them Immediately.

5614 QUOTES FOR FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT COMPLIANCE FIXED WIRING/PAT TESTING – COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor Dakin explained that the two quotes which we have that ETM is the most reasonable at £720.00 which is required to be undertaken every five years. Then the testing of the Emergency Lighting and Fire Alarm Testing at £110 is required every year. The other quote from MEFS is £864 plus £99 for the PAT testing and they had not quoted for the Emergency Lighting and Fire Alarm Testing. So, in his expert opinion ETM would be the best company as they will provide all testing requirements. After some discussion it was agreed to check with the insurance that this meets with requirements under the conditions of the Insurance and if so Councillor Jennings proposed that the testing be performed by ETM along with the Emergency Lighting and Alarm Testing. This was seconded by Councillor Mr. Salt.

5615 REFURBISHMENT OF NOTICE BOARD MAP OF VILLAGE – BOTTOM OF HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON

The Clerk reported that this had not yet been done and suggested that maybe the Handyman could look at the job by replacing the Perspex and staining the wood. All members agreed to ask Steve to take a look at it.

5616 STREET LIGHTING DAMAGE ASHCOMBE ROAD, CHEDDLETON

The Clerk reported that she had received information from EON that one of our street lights has been damaged during building works. It has had to be cut down to be made safe leaving only a stump to protect the electrical connections. The Clerk showed members photos of the light which has clearly been cut into to build a new wall between two properties to allow a capping stone to be put on top of the wall.

5616 STREET LIGHTING DAMAGE ASHCOMBE ROAD, CHEDDLETON (Cont'd...)

The two options are to replace the lighting column with a new steel column and move it slightly as to not impact on the wall which would require written permission from the resident where the light is sighted and the cost would be £979.95 or remove the column and disconnect which would cost £552.84. After some discussion it was agreed to write to the owner of the wall who had clearly damaged the column by cutting into it for them to pay the costs. The Clerk would send a letter and contact the neighbor also as permission would be required from them.

5617 CHAIRMAN'S CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION

The Clerk circulated an envelope to collect monies for the Chairman's Charity and will be kept to add to by any members not present.

5618 COUNCIL DINNER – PROVISIONALLY – SATURDAY, 18th. JANUARY 2020

The Clerk reported that 9 seats were required and a further 6 mentioned at the meeting so a total of 15 people would attend so the Chairman will book a venue.

5619 PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2020/2021 FINANCIAL YEAR

Members' attentions were drawn to the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting and the recommendation made by the Committee of a £70,000 precept. The Clerk explained that based on the number of properties in the Parish that this actually represented a slight decrease based on the Band D equivalent of 0.6%. Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor Bowen and resolved, that the Council ask for the recommended £70,000.

5620 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

The Council examined the reports of the following committees and adopted their recommendations: -

a. Community/Craft Centre Management Committee Meeting

Re: Min. 3085. Any Urgent Works/Matters to Raise – Craft Centre The Clerk Reported that the handyman had fixed the two doors entering the tearooms.

b. Planning & Amenities Committee Meeting

Re: Min. 2689. Matters Arising Planning Appeal – 0700 Councillor Jennings asked if there was any update on the appeal to which Councillor Bowen stated that our objections had been submitted and no date has been set yet. He had further information about Old Fold Farm and the land and the retaining wall so a question over the legality of the application and if it could be deferred until after the conclusion of the Local Plan but don't know what will happen.

c. Confidential Meeting of the Finance Committee Meeting

Re: Min. F571. Handyman's Hourly Rate of Pay Councillor Bowen explained that as Steve had only just been employed this was agreed not to review yet.

Re: Min. F587. Asylum Burial Ground Works 3Yr Plan Councillor Bowen explained that once advice has been given by Steve Massey a plan will be discussed.

d. Reports of Outside Bodies

SMDC Committees

Climate Change Sessions Councillor Bowen reported that more sessions will be offered in January and advised that members should attend if they can. Both Councillors Mrs. Salt and Mrs. Lovatt felt it was a very comprehensive session and worth the time.

5621 ACCOUNTS

5622 CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Managing Mental Health & Wellbeing in the Workplace Conference 28th. January 2020. Central Manchester.
- b. CPRE – Countryside Voices Magazine. Members were given the opportunity to read it.
- c. Paul Rochfort – SCC – Response to Footpath 19 obstruction. SMDC should regulate when planning applications are submitted that affect rights of way and diverted and it is down to the landowner to rectify this through an application to divert the path. Situations like this are very common and there is over 300 in Staffordshire alone and SCC may in the future have the resources to deal with these obstructions.
- d. Glasdon Street Furniture Catalogue.
- e. New Consultation – The West and Shires Permit Scheme. This has come from SCC and will need to be circulated to members and added as an agenda item for discussion at the next meeting.
- f. Staffordshire County Council DMMO Application Update. David Rice stated that only one application has been dealt with at the Rights of Way Meeting so the list gets increasingly longer of Directions to be dealt with. Councillor Jennings suggested that Councillor Bowen compose a letter to the Secretary of State as a matter of concern that our 4 Directions will never be dealt with.
- g. SMDC Christmas Bin Collections. Circulated to members to advise residents.
- h. Utility Aid – Letter of Authority Renewal. Requesting a new letter of authority to deal with the utility suppliers for the next 3 years.
- i. Western Power be ready for winter.
- j. Staffordshire Wildlife update.
- k. SLCC 2020 Practitioners Conference 26th/27th February 2020.

5623 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions raised.

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

Chairman
21st. January 2020.