

**Cheddleton Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE WETLEY ROCKS  
VILLAGE HALL, WETLEY ROCKS ON TUESDAY, 18<sup>th</sup>. JUNE 2019.**

**ATTENDANCE** Chairman – Councillor M.T. Bowen.

Vice-Chairman – Councillor H.R. Jennings.

Councillor – M. Ahmad, I. Dakin, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley, K. Harvey, G.W. Salt, Mrs. L.M. Salt, S. Scalise and H.J. Tunna.

There was 3 members of the public present.

**APOLOGIES** Councillor - Ms. C.Y. Ball, N. Belson, J. Carr, Miss. O. Lucas, M.P. Worthington.

**5469 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the 14th. May 2019, taken as read and were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

**5470 MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**

**Re. Min 5459 – Garden Waste Tipped on Bridge Eye** The Clerk reported that Robert Gibson had reported that there had been another incident of waste being tipped so she had informed SMDC and had been in contact with Enforcement who were looking into it. Councillor Scalise requested all the details as he is Waste Management Portfolio holder at SMDC. The Clerk agreed to keep him updated.

**Re. Min 5462 – Re-Instatement of Land (Removal of Hard Standing) Station Road, Cheddleton** Councillor Jennings asked if there was any update and Councillor Bowen stated that he was awaiting on Western Power for an update but he would report back.

**5471 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR FOR VACANCY - SOUTHWOWE WARD**

The Chairman reported that there were no candidates for the position and therefore the next item on the agenda was not required also.

**5472 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced that 4 planning applications had been received so could members of the Planning & Amenities Committee stay to discuss these at the end of the meeting. He also stated that during his absence the Clerk had organized a flower arrangement for the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Mrs. Irene Fleming who was a long-standing resident of the village. He had also received a letter of thanks from Ann Hall who is Irene's daughter. The Clerk read it out.

**5473 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**5474 MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

None had been received.

**5475 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Firstly, the re-examination of the Planning Application SMD/2019/0143 of Land Adj to 10 Ox Pasture, Cheddleton and that the Staffordshire Highways have now reported that road can not be adopted as it is too narrow. This is also, the second application which should not have been validated being only outline when it is on the boundary of a Conservation Area. Therefore, SMDC are ignoring their own guidance and that their own Conservation Officer has not been involved. Councillor Bowen stated that he had spoken to Dai Lerner at SMDC and his concerns about the case officer dealing with the application and had arranged a meeting with Dai, Ben Hurst and Councillor Paul Roberts to discuss her removal next Wednesday after the Council Assembly Meeting which will discuss the Local Plan further.

A further question was asked does that mean this will be the start of the next consultation period of the Local Plan which Councillor Bowen stated that it would be. Councillor Ahmad raised that Consall Parish had similar concerns about a planning application in progress in Consall so had also met with SMDC with a couple of residents and were being kept more informed. Councillor Bowen stated that he was meeting with the residents before the meeting with SMDC to have a plan going into the meeting.

Another question was asked about when the planning application for Cheddleton Park Avenue was being discussed by SMDC Planning Committee and that he would promote that residents need to object again even though they have already. He would also check to see if any notices had been put up as if not this would delay it anyway as there has to be 21 days' notice before it is put to the Committee. Councillor Bowen thanked the residents for coming as they all left the meeting.

**5476 COMMITTEE MEMBER VACANCIES/ PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The Chairman raised that it may be an idea to co-opt some members to the Planning Committee bearing in mind that there have been so many recent applications which the residents have been very interested in the process and have gone to the Planning Committee Meetings at SMDC and have spoken extremely well with a good sound knowledge of the Planning Laws. After some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Scalise and seconded by Councillor Tunna that the Planning & Amenities Committee co-opt informed and interested members to join the Committee. This was agreed by a majority. Then Councillor Tunna proposed that it be 2 members and this was seconded by Councillor Scalise. This was also agreed by a majority vote. Therefore, the Clerk will advertise for 2 members to apply to be co-opted onto the Planning & Amenities Committee.

The Clerk stated that as Kate Green had resigned, they required an addition member on the Cheddleton Playing Fields Committee and that Councillor Mrs. Salt had offered to become a member. It was discussed and agreed that she would join the Committee. Also, Kate had agreed to be the Churnet Valley Railway representative so it was discussed and agreed that Councillor Jennings become the representative with Councillor I. G. Salt as a reserve.

**5477 EXTRA SIGNATORIES FOR NATWEST BANK ACCOUNT**

The Chairman explained that further signatories were needed to sign cheques so it was agreed that Councillors' Dakin, Scalise and Jennings be added. The Clerk explained that the form would need to be completed electronically and then printed so all 3 new signatories along with the current 3 signatories would need to sign the forms at the next meeting.

**5478 FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE OLD BOILER ROOM PROJECT**

The Clerk reported that she had now made enquiries through Support Staffordshire and there is a possibility of obtaining maybe two grants towards the costs. The first being Tarmac Landfill Grant which is administered through Derbyshire County Council and the second being The Nationally Lottery Awards for All which is for projects up to £10k and that she had spoken to Tom Pine who had explained it was quite an easy application to complete but that there maybe further funding for the rest of the project and he was happy to meet at the Community Centre to discuss it further. The Clerk stated she had forwarded the details to The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillor Harvey as he is experienced at completing Grant Applications but that Support Staffordshire were also happy to look over the applications prior to submission. It was agreed that this was the best way forward. Councillor Scalise also stated that another Parish Clerk - Carmen Worthington had just recently been successful in applying for a Lottery Grant so she would be a good person to get advice from.

**5479 SMDC – LENGTHSMAN’S SCHEME 2019-20**

The Clerk reported she had received a letter from Jon Sowerby – Business Support Officer for Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (SMDC) confirming the continuation of the Council’s Lengthsman’s Scheme being an allowance of £400 for the year. The Clerk went on to explain that she was not aware that there was a scheme so had contacted him and he confirmed that he had now raised a Purchase Order for Cheddleton to claim the £400. The duties it covers are mowing grass verges, planting bulbs, litter picking, cleaning signage and general highways-related activities. It is supplementary to the normal highway’s activities of the County & District Councils. He also, confirmed that the Parish Council had not participated in the Scheme recently so he was unable to backdate any funds but they could apply this year. Councillor Bowen stated he was not aware of the Scheme as he thought that since Staffordshire County Council did not make any contribution any more that there weren’t any funds available. The Clerk will apply an invoice to claim for the Scheme in September and March.

**5480 MEMORIAL SEAT ST. EDWARDS LAWN CEMETERY**

Councillor Jennings reported that the bench is broken and probably beyond repair and the Clerk showed members a photograph. It was discussed and agreed that the Clerk try to contact the family who had donated the bench to ask what they would like to be done and also price up a replacement resin seat which would last longer.

**5481 HEDGE OVERHANGING THE PAVEMENT ON FOLLY FIELDS, CHEDDLETON.**

Councillor Scalise had been approached about a particular property which the hedge is blocking the pavement. The Clerk showed a photograph of the hedge and it was discussed and the Clerk would write to the resident.

**5482 MONITORING OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE DIVISION OF THE AREA**

The Clerk reported that it had been discussed that each Councillor be responsible for monitoring areas of the contract so it was divided up and the Clerk will confirm back with a full list of their individual responsibilities. She also raised that she had been asked about the grass areas on Hazelhurst Road and who should be cutting them as currently the residents keep them mown and tidy. It was discussed and felt that it is the responsibility of Staffordshire County Highways. The Clerk would report back to the resident.

**5483 CLERK'S ANNUAL APPRAISAL**

Councillor Bowen stated that next month this was due to be completed and proposed that he as Chairman and the Vice-Chairman should perform this and that to be the case going forward whoever is in the role this was seconded by Councillor Tunna. After discussion this was agreed.

**5484 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. 3049. Examination of Compliance of Electrical/Gas Safety Certificates – Community Centre** Councillor Dakin stated that this should be for fixed wiring for electrical appliances and all gas appliances.

**Re. Min. 3060. Fire Risk Assessment – Community Centre** The Clerk reported that Councillor Dakin had performed the Assessment and that as a result there were some things to rectify but that she would report on this at the next meeting.

**Re. Min 3051. Creche Room – Community Centre** Councillor Tunna asked if the balance owed by Little Stars had been paid yet. The Clerk reported that they had made a payment of £250 towards the outstanding balance of March but the whole of April is still outstanding. A future agenda item to be discussed. The Clerk also reported that she had compiled an advert for the Leek Post which had been agreed by The Chairman so it was agreed to advertise the empty room. A blown-up version of the advert would also be put on the Notice Boards.

**Re. Min 3056. Refurbishment of the empty room – Craft Centre** The Clerk reported that Rob & Ken had made a start on the room and that a skip was now required which she will order for next Monday to avoid affecting the Tea Rooms. She also reported that she had spoken to Mr. Laverick about the cellar and he had agreed that if Rob & Ken could empty the cellar he would pay for a skip and their time as he was too busy to organise this. The Clerk would organise a second skip once Rob & Ken had emptied the old Pottery Room but if there was any space left would fill it with the stuff out of the cellar that belongs to the Council. Councillor Salt volunteered the use of a bag truck along with Councillor Bowen.

**b. Planning & Amenities Committee Meeting.**

**Re. Min. 2613. Gridlock of HGV's Station Road, Cheddleton** The Clerk reported that she had written back to the resident and had no further response.

**Re. Min. 2615. Refurbishment of Notice Board Map of Village – Bottom of Hollow Lane, Cheddleton** Councillor Scalise had tried to source the correct Perspex but was struggling to know which was best. Councillor Hartley would enquire with Strata Windows and report back.

**c. Footpaths & Countryside Committee Meeting.**

**Re. Min. 1920. Tree Thinning Open Space – Cheddleton – Meeting with Steve Massey Update** The Clerk suggested that maybe Staffordshire Wildlife Trust could be approached to help with a working party as they send invitations to the Parish Council for other projects so she would follow this up.

**Re. Min. 1924. Japanese Knotweed – Footpath 38 Reported** The Clerk confirmed that Paul Rochfort had informed her that this has now been treated by injecting but requires a further treatment next year so she would remind him to do so and that there appeared to be no charge to the Council.

**d. Reports of Outside Bodies**

None to report.

**5485 ACCOUNTS**

**5486 CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. NatWest Online Banking Activated. The Clerk now has access to online banking which gives more control of the accounts.
- b. SLCC Website accessibility guidelines. The Clerk explained that there is new legislation coming into effect which means that the Parish Council Website will have to be reviewed to make sure that it is compliant. Future Agenda item.
- c. Wetley Moor Common Consultative Panel next meeting Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>. June 2019. Councillor Harvey will be attending as the Parish Council representative.
- d. Schoolscapes – Outdoor Play equipment & planning.
- e. Mazar – Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19. Confirmation that the Auditors have received the return. This will now be reviewed between 15<sup>th</sup>. July and 30<sup>th</sup>. September 2019. The Clerk also reported that the details of which are available on the website and that she has put notices up on all 5 notice boards for the period of inspection 3<sup>rd</sup>. June 2019 until 12<sup>th</sup>. July 2019 as required in the legislation.
- f. SLCC – Update The Information Commissioners Office (ICO). The Clerk confirmed that since 1<sup>st</sup>. April 2019 all local councillors have been exempt from paying data protection registration fees but that all town, parish or community councils should be paying as failure to pay could lead to a fine of up to £4000. The Clerk confirmed they have paid for this year.
- g. Marsden Group – Baby/Toddler/ Adult Weighing Scales – Community Centre. The Clerk had contacted the manufacturers of the scales to see if they would buy them back but unfortunately, that isn't something that they do. No other interest has been received so it was suggested to offer them for free.
- h. Support Staffordshire - Staffordshire Moorlands Network & Funding Event. 26<sup>th</sup>. June 2019. The Clerk reported that she will attend the event and will feed back what there is on offer.
- i. Amey Report 4160599 Road Sign Damaged Leek Road, Cheddleton. The Clerk had noticed that the sign outside the Red Lion was coming off and they weren't pointing in the right direction up Hollow Lane. The report has been closed and she had checked and the sign about No Access to A53 via Park Lane has been removed. It was suggested to contact Helen Fisher to find out why it had been removed?
- j. Little Stars Childcare – Hire of Community Centre. Already been discussed.
- k. Support Staffordshire – Nationwide Community Grants programme – Closing Date 5<sup>th</sup>. July 2019. Preventing people from losing their home.
- l. Leek RUFC – Volunteers Weekend 22nd & 23rd June 2019. Tidy up of the grounds should anyone want to volunteer.
- m. Douglas MacMillan Hospice Donation Request. Future Agenda item.

**5486 CORRESPONDENCE Cont'd...**

n. Defibrillator Appeal for Parish Councils. The Clerk reported about the appeal and funding available of £200 grant towards a defibrillator per installation. After discussion it was agreed that Councillors' Dakin, Salt and Mrs. Salt would investigate possible locations and report back at the next meeting.

**5487 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public remaining.

**5488 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – PUBLIC SECTOR DEPOSIT FUND INVESTMENT**

This was discussed and resolved to open a public sector deposit fund investment.

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

Chairman  
16<sup>th</sup>. July 2019.