

Cheddleton Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE WETLEY ROCKS
VILLAGE HALL, WETLEY ROCKS ON TUESDAY, 16th. JULY 2019.**

ATTENDANCE Chairman – Councillor M.T. Bowen.

Vice-Chairman – Councillor H.R. Jennings.

Councillor – Ms. C.Y. Ball, 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 and M.P. Worthington.

There were 2 members of the public present.

APOLOGIES Councillor - M. Ahmad, J. Carr and M.P. Worthington arriving late.

Councillor Ms. C.Y. Ball would have to leave early.

5488 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the 18th. June 2019, taken as read and were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

5489 MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM

Re. Min 5476 – Committee Member Vacancies/ Planning Committee Members

Councillor Harvey felt that the minutes did not truly reflect what was discussed and that he felt that the residents should be qualified in some way even though they would not have the right to vote on any issues. He felt that as an advisory role they should have planning experience. The Chairman explained that it would be very difficult to get somebody qualified and experienced and along with Councillor Scalise wanted to encourage as some residents had already shown that they have fought some applications successfully without qualifications but they have researched and learned as they went along as does anyone who sits on the Planning & Amenities Committee even at District Council. The idea is to give someone a chance who maybe doesn't want to be a Councillor but would be willing to contribute and gain experience.

5490 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR FOR VACANCY - SOUTHWLOWE WARD

The Chairman reported that there was a candidate for the position and her details were circulated for members to read. The candidate spoke about herself and it was proposed by Councillor Jennings to Co-opt Mrs. C.A. Lovatt as a Councillor for the Southlowe Ward, seconded by Councillor Scalise she was duly elected.

5491 CO-OPTED COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor Mrs. Lovatt signed a Declaration of Office and signed in as in attendance in the book and invited to sit at the table by the Chairman to take part in the rest of the meeting.

5492 CO-OPTION OF 2 RESIDENTS ONTO PLANNING & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The Clerk circulated details of the one applicant Mrs. J. Hogan and Councillor Tunna Proposed that she be co-opted onto the Planning & Amenities Committee, seconded by Councillor Worthington with one vote against she was duly co-opted onto the Committee.

5493 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.

Councillor Dakin announced that he would like to raise a motion about climate crisis for the September Meeting.

5494 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5495 MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None had been received.

5496 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public raised the matter of an item of correspondence on the agenda a letter he had written to the Parish Council on behalf of the North Staffordshire Railway Company with regards to the cost of replacement septic tank for the public toilets at Cheddleton Station. As a charity they request some assistance as they have limited available funds and the cost is £6740 + V.A.T. for the pumped sewage system. The Chairman stated that it will have to be raised as an agenda item on the next available meeting to be discussed. He did also mention the Councillors' Community Initiative Fund which they could apply to for District Councillors.

5497 DEFIBRILLATOR – ST EDWARDS CHURCH - CHEDDLETON

Councillor Mrs. Salt reported that the Church needed written approval to site a defibrillator in the Lych Gate of the Church from the Arch Deacon and investigate a source of electricity to supply the box that houses the defibrillator. The Black Lion could be an alternative site who had already given permission. They had also approached St Andrews but that it would have to be discussed by its Committee. Councillor Dakin felt that it was a good idea as there isn't one located in this part of the village and if funding was available. Councillor Jennings proposed that the Black Lion was the best location to site it, seconded by Councillor Worthington. Councillor Mrs. Salt went on to state that she had already been able to source a couple of people to train people to use the defibrillator but the next stage would be insurance and if it would be covered by the NHS. The Clerk would investigate if the Parish Council's insurance would cover it.

5498 DOUGLAS MACMILLAN HOSPICE DONATION REQUEST

The Clerk reported that they had requested a donation and Councillor Mrs. Hartley proposed £100 donation, seconded by Councillor Worthington.

5499 FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT – COMMUNITY CENTRE, CHEDDLETON

Councillor Dakin had completed a Fire Risk Assessment which all members had been issued with a copy. Councillor Tunna stated that it was a really good assessment and thanked him for doing it. The Clerk reported that she had made a start on some of the issues raised. A full service of the 3 Gas Boilers had taken place on Monday by Gas Fixed and there was a couple of issues raised which the plumber would need to do to make the Boiler in the Portacabin compliant. He needed access to the underneath of the building to check the flow into the boiler was adequately fixed in place. The installation of an ECV on the pipe to allow it to be isolated and the relocation of an outlet pipe which was situated at face height on the fire escape. The Clerk would liaise with the plumber to get these things done to make them compliant. Then each 12 months he will re-inspect the boilers. Councillor Dakin stated that he would work through the list of actions to provide additional signage testing of fire alarm and a fire pack to go by the fire panel. Once this has been concluded he would move onto the Craft Centre but that this would be the responsibility of the occupiers as businesses.

5500 PARKING RESTRICTIONS/ PARKING ISSUES IN THE PARISH

The Clerk reported that Clear Streets had stated in a reply she had received that the Council could make requests to review restrictions to Staffordshire Highways but that each request is then prioritized and considered for inclusion in the local Divisional Highway Programme. The review of highway and transportation issues in our area will be conducted on a bi-annual basis to agree a work programme. Councillor Bowen stated the main issues are at Schools so it may well be worth sending a letter to all schools at the start of term in September to remind parents about parking outside the schools. At St Edwards there are single yellow lines with restrictions but that the times are not long enough so it was agreed that the Clerk report this to Highways and that Councillor Bowen would speak to enforcement at SMDC to see if they couldn't pay more visits at school opening and closing times. Councillor Mrs. Lovatt stated that she had much experience in parking issues in and around schools and that unfortunately parents insist on ignoring any kind of common sense if they could drive right up to the class room to drop the children off they would.

5501 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE/ ADDITIONAL WORKS – FULL UPDATE OF AREAS AND ANY ISSUES

The Clerk reported that all areas had now been divided up for Members to monitor and feed-back any issues so she suggested that this be a regular agenda item. After the Wetley Rocks/Toll Bar Playing Field Committee she had spoken to Jim and showed him details of areas of concern like not strimming, weed killing etc. Other areas that were looking in need of maintenance such as Wetley Rocks had been done and were looking much better. Everyone agreed this would help going forward. Councillor Hartley had repaired the broken tree on Wetley Rocks Playing Field.

5502 QUOTE FOR TREE WORKS CHEDDLETON OPEN SPACE

The Clerk had obtained two quotes the first being Moorlands Tree & Groundcare (Charles Piggott) who quoted £520 + V.A.T. and ARB Tree Care Ltd who quoted £390 for the works suggested by Steve Massey and a further £440 for the trees along Footpath 38 plus V.A.T. The Clerk explained that she had approached Tree Heritage but they were now only doing tree surveys. Councillor Scalise proposed that Moorlands Tree & Groundcare do the works, seconded by Councillor Tunna. The Clerk would arrange the works be completed.

5503 WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR PARISH COUNCILS

The Clerk reported that new legislation had come into force The Public Sector Bodies (Websites & Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. For websites published on or after 23rd September 2018 they need to comply with the regulations by 23rd September 2019 but for our Council's website we have to comply by 23rd September 2020. The key points are about accessibility and making it able to be used by as many people as possible including impaired vision, motor difficulties, learning disabilities etc. Navigation and inaccessible PDF forms are the common cause for failure to comply. The website needs to be reviewed and I am not qualified to do this and may require to be a new one. Councillor Miss. Lucas suggested that maybe a Staffordshire University Student could do this as a project for free towards their degree. Also, Councillor Mrs. Lovatt suggested Assist in Staffordshire could be able to help. The Clerk would liaise with them to progress this forward.

- 5504 WEIGHT RESTRICTION BRIDGE – BASFORD BRIDGE LANE, CHEDDLETON**
 The Clerk reported that she had contacted Councillor Mrs. Fisher, David Greatbatch and Bob Allen at Staffs County Council and received a response only from Bob Allen who is the structures engineer who organized the repairs. He stated that the current signage on Basford Bridge Lane needs to be improved, that further investigation is required to identify the appropriate signage. This will necessitate not only the erection of additional signs, but the replacement of the current sign plates which are not to current standard. Unfortunately, there is no budget available for this work. However, the structures team are prepared to fund it from their budget as they feel that the on-going damages to the SCC bridge, for which they can rarely recover the cost would potentially be reduced. Although it will incur costs for the investigation and signage upgrade, in the longer term, it will prove to be of benefit. As they will have to pass on the investigation to the signage team, he could not report on how long this would take. The Clerk had responded and thanked him and offered any assistance required by the Parish Council.
- 5505 UPDATE ON BOLLARD ON MOORLAND ROAD ENTRANCE TO CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD**
 The Clerk reported that it was proving to be difficult to establish who was responsible for the installation of the bollard. The Rights of Way team state it's not a footpath and highways are suggesting its SMDC. The outcome was that maybe a Land Register search on the two properties may help. The Clerk would do this and report the findings.
- 5506 UPDATE ON FOOTPATH WORKS – FOOTPATH 38 & PAVEMENT BELOW THE ENTRANCE TO WETLEY ABBEY NURSING HOME**
 Councillor Harvey explained that all footpaths had been inspected and that the volunteers were now starting again at the beginning. As for Footpath 38 they are half way along in clearing of the vegetation with a slight hiccup as the strimmer was out of action for a short time but now a replacement part had been purchased. Councillor Harvey also mentioned that whilst walking other areas they have put on yellow fence post caps which enables you to see in which direction to walk more easily. SCC have no funds to provide these. The Clerk reported that she had contacted Derbyshire Council who stated that they had not provided them it must be the land owner as their permission is required anyway. Councillor Harvey reported that they are not very much to buy and he would try to get a cost for these. Councillor Mrs. Hartley mentioned the pavement was becoming very difficult to walk on as it is so overgrown with weeds from the entrance of the Nursing Home right the way along the main road into Wetley Rocks. The Clerk would report this to SCC Highways.
- 5507 DAMAGED ROAD SIGN ON MILL LANE/ ROWNALL ROAD, WETLEY ROCKS**
 The Clerk had reported the Longsdon sign pointing in the wrong direction reference number 4164440. Councillor Mrs. Hartley reported that after she had noticed it the sign had been moved back to point the right way but a couple of days later it was again facing the wrong way towards Mill Lane.
- 5508 UPDATE ON THE POTTERY ROOM RENOVATIONS – CRAFT CENTRE**
 The Clerk reported that the Room had now been stripped and a skip hired to remove the rubbish with the works carried out by Rob & Ken. She had contacted Dave Gee who wasn't available for months. Also, Wayne Byatt who couldn't look at doing anything until December so asked for recommendations. Councillor Scalise reported that he had tried to contact the gentleman that does sandblasting without success. She had a quote for the replacement windows but other works were required prior to the windows. It was left awaiting recommendations.

5509 UPDATE ON ZIP WIRE PLATFORM – CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk reported that Bateman had finalized the design drawing which she had sent to the playground inspector for approval prior to manufacture. She would update with the progress.

5510 BENCHES IN THE POUND – HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON

The Clerk showed photographs of the benches which were both donated in 1977 so it was agreed to get prices for replacements as they are beyond repair and also the fence and gate needs to be replaced.

5511 REPORTS OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED/ HIMALAYAN BALSAM

The Clerk reported that there had been reports on Cheddleton Chat of Japanese Knotweed along Shafalong Lane and the rapid growth of the Himalayan Balsam along the canal side which she will report to the correct people.

5512 ASYLUM BURIAL GROUND GATES REFURBISHMENT

The Clerk showed photographs of the refurbished gates to both entrances of the Asylum Burial Ground which everyone agreed looked fantastic. Councillor Jennings stated that now that the gates had been done that the rest of the area should be looked at to improve it so Councillor Scalise suggested a site visit prior to the Burial Grounds Committee Meeting next week. The Chairman also reported that this may be a good photo opportunity to show residents what we have been doing and to promote Ironage Designs who have completed the renovation. The Clerk reported that she would try and get the Leek Post and set up a time to do this for the future and it was mentioned that maybe they could write a little bit about the history of the burial ground.

5513 CRAFT CENTRE – PUMPS AND TEAROOM FLOORING

The Clerk reported that the alarm to the pumps had gone off several times over the last few weeks and that Pisces had been out and suggested that a small tanker was necessary to clean the pumps as they were quite blocked up. The Clerk would arrange this with Pisces as they have been very good and not charged for any callouts so far. The Clerk also showed a photograph of the wooden floor in the tearooms which had developed a small hole and it was agreed to get someone to inspect it and make it safe.

5514 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

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

a. Cheddleton Playing Field Committee Meeting.

Re. Min. 820. Any Works Required Councillor Scalise reported that Rob was going to do a test area on the safety surface as a starting point to see how it dries and if it cures the issue.

Re. Min. 823. Bridge Eye Playing Field – General Condition of the Field and Well The Clerk had no further report from SMDC about the tipping of garden waste but no further reports of more being tipped. She also added that the church had not asked her about the Well Dressing but Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that they had asked permission from the Cautionary Lands Charity who own Bridge Eye.

b. Planning & Amenities Committee Meeting.

- c. **Wetley Rocks/ Toll Bar Playing Field Committee Meeting.**
Re. Min. 400. Wetley Rocks Playing Field – Fisher German – Rent Review Councillor Tunna asked had anything been received and the Clerk reported nothing.
Re. Min. 405. Toll Bar Playing Field – Broken Clatter Bridge The Clerk reported that she had spoken to a representative as she had requested a brochure of the equipment and had explained that the Council were disappointed with the fact that the equipment was not covered by warranty. To which she had received an email offering 20% off the quote that they had made for repairs to items that she had not asked for. She would speak to them but it had already been agreed to remove the clatter bridge.
- d. **Reports of Outside Bodies**
 Councillor Harvey had attended the Wetley Moor Joint Committee which he said was not very productive. They are still trying to get Staffordshire Wildlife to take over the management but there was nothing to report.

5515 **ACCOUNTS**

5516 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Footpath 1R/2248 Cheddleton response from Dominic Ward – SCC Rights of way Officer. The Clerk reported that there was no closure in place on this footpath and that SCC would arrange it to be cleared.
- b. Community Foundation for Staffordshire – Rural Development Fund Grants. Closing date for applications is 27th August 2019. It was suggested that NSRC may be interested in applying so the Clerk would forward details onto them.
- c. Details of Hirer of the Creche – Community Centre. The Clerk confirmed that she had received the £100 deposit from Seux and read out details of her background for members. She also wanted to ask if she could hang a banner up at the front about the new creche opening soon. It would only be temporary until she opened.
- d. North Staffordshire Railway Company (1978) Limited – Request for Assistance. Raised in Public Question time.
- e. Earth Anchors – Heavy Duty Planters.
- f. Fields in Trust – Email Update.
- g. Station Road, Cheddleton Footpath 23 response from SCC. The Clerk reported that she had received a response and that to amend the current listing would require a modification application which the Clerk would complete.
- h. Amey Report 4152702 Blocked Drains Hollow Lane, Cheddleton – Report Closed. The Clerk confirmed that Highways had on the 27th. June, jet and cleaned the gully outside 26, Hollow Lane but no mention of the other grids in the report. The Clerk would advise it was the whole of Hollow Lane not just one.
- i. Little Stars Childcare use of the Creche in the Community Centre. The Clerk read out correspondence and confirmed receipt of the balance of the money owed.

5517 CORRESPONDENCE Cont'd...

- j. SLCC National Conference – 2nd. & 3rd October 2019. Leicestershire. The Clerk would like to attend and would add it to the next agenda.
- k. PCSO Details for Cheddleton Playing Field Patrols. The Clerk had received contact telephone numbers for the 3 PCSO's so if anything needed to be reported the volunteers could contact them direct.
- l. Playdale Play Equipment.
- m. Schoolscapes Outdoor Play Specialist.
- n. Bruno Peek - VE Day 75 Anniversary 8th May 2020. Bell Ringing to take place as part of a tribute to the anniversary.
- o. Wicksteed Play Equipment.
- p. Woodlands Avenue, Cheddleton details of ownership from Roger Brooks Solicitors. The Clerk reported that she had evidence from the owner's solicitors that the piece of land is owned by Mrs. Plant. The Clerk confirmed that a fence had been erected around the land but that this is now obscuring the road sign for Woodlands Avenue. Councillor Worthington asked if he could follow this up with the County Council as it would need to be moved.
- q. Broken Windscreen 12/6/2018 Mill Lane letter from claimant. The Clerk read out what the claimant had sent and stated that she had spoken to Jim who had passed on all the details to his insurance company and he could not say anything else on the matter. The Clerk would respond to the claimant with this information.
- r. Overgrown Hedge 7 Folly Fields, Cheddleton response to letter. The Clerk read out the correspondence received to members.
- s. Cheddleton Residents Group Save Our Green Spaces petition. The Clerk had received details from Janette Barr asking that Members be made aware of the petition and if they could help.
- t. SPACE programme 2019 – Free activities for 8-17-year-olds available 22 July – 30 August 2019. Details would be put in the notice boards around the Parish.
- u. Together We're Better additional sessions for public consultation about health and care services. Details would be put in the notice boards around the Parish.
- v. CCLA – Confirmation of opening the Public Sector Deposit Fund.

5518 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public remaining.

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