

Cheddleton Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE WETLEY ROCKS VILLAGE HALL, WETLEY ROCKS ON TUESDAY, 18th. SEPTEMBER 2018.

ATTENDANCE Chairman – Councillor M.P. Worthington.

Vice-Chairman – Councillor M.T. Bowen.

Councillor – Ms. C.Y. Ball, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, K. Harvey, Mrs. B. Hine, H.R. Jennings, Mrs. A. Oakden, S. Scalise and H.J. Tunna.

APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor – M. Ahmad, J. Carr, G.J.R Furnival and Mrs. C.M. Meyrick.

5221 **MINUTES** The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the 21st. August 2018, taken as read and were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

5222 **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5223 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** The Chairman asked the members of the Planning committee to stay behind at the end of the meeting to consider two planning applications. Councillor Tunna reported, the manhole cover which was reported for the noise in Wetley Rocks stating that Helen Fisher had got involved but it is not the County Council who is responsible as the grid does not belong to them. Another announcement was that it is Councillor Mrs. Hartley's birthday tomorrow so she was wished a Happy Birthday.

5224 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were two members of the public present, also two PCSO's Steve Sherratt and a colleague who were present. Several questions were raised the first being about the Parish Council having a Facebook page. In considering the suggestion of an official Parish Facebook page, to disseminate information, boost two-way communication and encourage more residents to become active in the community, will councilors take into account the following? These were The Cheddleton Chat Facebook group recently set up by Andrew Molloy is a closed group and therefore content cannot be seen by the public, only members who join the group. This limits its use as a means of communication. Posts to closed groups cannot be shared outside the group. Andrew has stated that his preferred option is that he Parish Council sets up its own Facebook page which does not require membership and that Cheddleton Chat can complement an official page. If the Parish does not set up its own page, Andrew has offered that you may take over the Cheddleton village page, which is open to the public. However, this has not been used since 2015. This was noted and will be discussed under agenda item 8.

Next question was The County Council is proposing to end funding to school crossing patrols; what do the Parish Council think the impact of this be on Cheddleton and Wetley Rocks? Do you feel this may put children's safety at risk? What representations can you make to the County Council? Councillor Worthington reported that the County has to make cuts so some services have got to be removed and unfortunately it is very hard to decide what to lose and what not to. It's a difficult one as was the same issue when School Transport was cut but there is a possibility that some businesses may take up the issue and fund the Crossing patrols. He personally does not agree with the cuts and his priority is the safety of the children but parents have to take some responsibility. Councillor Bowen raised that he had spoken to the crossing

5224 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME cont'd

patrol lady in Cheddleton himself about it and that there is no certainty as to which services will be cut but that it appears that maybe the urban patrols will go first. Maybe sponsorship is the answer. Councillor Harvey expressed that he disagreed to private companies being the answer as it will just be the start of Councils having an excuse to cut many more services. He felt that something significant needed to be done whether that be a petition, sit in or something to show how people feel.

Next Question was recently Leek Town Council held a public session and the council agreed to issue a public statement that recognizes the value of the hospital. They also resolved to engage with the Parish Councils in the Moorlands – as we are also affected by any service closures at Leek Hospital. Can the Parish Council support the public statement from Leek Town Council and seek to engage with them in voicing support for continuing to have full services at Leek Hospital? Councillor Bowen reported that there have been several Public Consultation Meetings each attended by over 100 people from all areas health care, doctors and Councillors. The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) offered proposals which were met with much opposition. The thing is its not just Leek that will be affected its hospitals all over the country. At these meetings counter proposals were raised and through this a report is due out in the next week or two. This will be shown to an independent panel for discussion but the CCG will ultimately make the decision along with NHS England. The people who attended the meetings made the feelings of the public known. We as a Council fully support that Leek Hospital shouldn't be closed or any of its services and have had Marcus Warnes attend our Council Meetings in the past to let our feelings be known. The CCG have to sell off some of the land to build houses as they are 7 million in debt and are employing someone to meet the budget.

Final question raised was about the speed that vehicles travel along Mill Lane is there anything that can be done to slow them down. The resident is new to the area and although there are humps in the road the larger vehicles just ride straight over them at speed. Councillor Mrs. Hartley also raised that on her sat nav it states that the speed limit on Mill Lane is 60 mph. He wanted to know if there was anything that can be done so it was agreed to raise an agenda item at the next meeting to discuss it further.

5225 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Harvey declared an interest in Agenda item 35 - Gardening Club.

5226 MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None had been received.

5227 PARISH COUNCIL FACEBOOK PAGE

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Clerk of Barlaston Parish Council who stated that she purely uses Facebook as a promotional tool and information platform for road closures etc. On researching the 3 Facebook pages of the Councils highlighted that Barlaston has 347 followers out of a population of 2858, Forsbrook has 320 out of a population of 5095 and Dilhorne has 100 out of 497. She also provided copies for the Councillors of the posts on these 3 Facebook pages for them to see an example. After the questions raised during public question time Councillor Jennings stated that he had joined Cheddleton chat which he felt was a better forum than the Cheddleton Memories page. The issues with Facebook are that the Councillors can't really discuss anything as its really just a platform for people to moan and groan. Councillor Bowen raised that the information is on the website, although the website needs an update it does contain the correct information. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that the Clerk is posting information on Cheddleton Chat about the public meetings etc., so there is

5227 PARISH COUNCIL FACEBOOK PAGE cont'd

no reason why this shouldn't continue. Councillor Scalise suggested that the Calendar of Council Meeting be posted so that members of the group can see when, where and what meetings are taking place for them to attend should they wish to raise anything with the Council. The Clerk is available for all residents to raise issues with her. It was also agreed to post a link to the website on Cheddleton Chat Facebook page.

5228 PCSO USE OF THE MOBILE – COMMUNITY CENTRE

The PCSO Steve Sherratt explained that they would like the use of the facilities mainly in the evenings to use as a stop off point to meet with the public and be able to hold surgeries in the evenings to all more people to access them. He also suggested that maybe Councillors may wish to be there along with the PCSO's. His idea is to hold one or two a month and maybe with it coming up to Halloween and Bonfire Night arrange for a Fire safety officer to attend also. He explained that there are 3 PCSO's for the area and the use of the Community Centre is going to be a big help to them. It was agreed to place a diary in the mobile so that they can sign in and out when they use it to keep a record for the Council.

5229 COMPLETION OF THE AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st. MARCH 2018

The Clerk circulated Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate 2017/18 completed by Mazars on 13th. August 2018. Councillor Bowen explained that there was an issue which Mrs. Pilarczyk the previous Clerk, had explained to him and had been highlighted on the report. This will be corrected on the return for 2018/19.

5230 WALKING MOVEMENT – CHILDREN WALK TO SCHOOL

The Clerk had received an email from a grandmother whose grandchildren live on St. Edwards Park and attend St. Edwards School in the village. She explained that they have walked to school on many occasions, but you can imagine her concerns about pollution along the main road that they have to take to get to school. Her main point being with anting children to get more exercise and parents to reduce pollution by not taking cars to school, the problem being how to get children o school without them breathing in the pollution. She wanted to know what comments the Parish Councillors had on this matter. She had attached a Join the Walking Movement from living streets who support communities to make it safer to walk to school. Councillor Bowen explained that there used to be a walking bus to the school but he was unsure what the Council could do to help. He stated that he too had concerns as there is far more traffic through the village now more than ever but that it would be very difficult do actually, do anything about the pollution. As for making the route safer it is very difficult to do anything on the main road especially over the bridge. In the past Batemans had discussed about making a walkway over the bridge but that would be on the station road side of the road which would mean that the children would need to cross over the road to use it and then back again which is really just as unsafe. Councillor Worthington stated that although the Council shares the grandmothers concerns he felt there was very little that the Council could do to help.

5231 POWDER COAT GATES – ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY

The Clerk had no further update still not been started.

**5232 SITING OF SIGNS OPENING HOURS/ MEMORIAL MR. SUTTON
– ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY**

The Clerk had now got both signs and showed them to the Councillors who were very pleased with them. Councillor Jennings proposed to get them put on sight at the cemetery either side of the gates. This was seconded by Councillor Scalise. This would be arranged by the Clerk.

- 5233 BANNERS ON THE RAILINGS -COMMUNITY CENTRE**
The Clerk has issued letters to all hirers about the banners but there are still a couple on the front of the Community Centre. It was discussed and agreed to send a second letter giving a set time to remove them or they will be removed. The Clerk will send letters.
- 5234 BLINDS – CRECHE & ROOM 1 – COMMUNITY CENTRE**
The Clerk reported that the deposit has been received by Amanda for Blinds and so they have ordered the manufacture and should be ready to fit in the next two weeks.
- 5235 UPGRADING OF THE GENT AND LADIES TOILETS – COMMUNITY CENTRE**
Councillor Scalise reported that everything has been removed and the tiles have been done and look great. The plumber is now making a start on installing new toilets etc., and should then be ready to paint. Stan the caretaker has agreed to paint the ceiling and doors then it will just be a matter of the new flooring. He also reported that the splash backs of tiles had been fitted in the Craft Centre toilets as agreed so they were also looking much better.
- 5236 REMOVAL OF THE OLD BOILER - COMMUNITY CENTRE** Councillor Scalise said he had spoken to Enza who will let Barney know at Pointon’s so Councillor Bowen and Worthington could speak to him at the Pointon’s Liaison Meeting on Thursday.
- 5237 REFURBISHMENT OF NOTICE BOARD – COMMUNITY CENTRE**
Councillor Scalise will obtain the Perspex as promised but is concentrating on the Toilets to get that project completed first.
- 5238 NEW HEAD AT ST. EDWARDS SCHOOL PARKING ON THE COMMUNITY CENTRE** Councillor Bowen had composed a letter to be sent to Mrs. Machin. He read the letter welcoming her to the school and explaining about parking around the School and on the Community Centre Car Park. Councillors agreed it was to be sent to her by the Clerk.
- 5239 ELECTRIC HEATERS GENTS AND LADIES TOILETS – CRAFT CENTRE**
The Clerk had no update as yet on prices to replace the heaters.
- 5240 HIRERS ROOM - CRAFT CENTRE**
Confidential item to be discussed at the end of the meeting.
- 5241 REPAIR SAFETY SURFACE – CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD**
Councillor Scalise had taken a look at the surface and suggested cutting it down slightly and fixing it to the ground somehow. Maybe a job that Rob & Ken could look at doing. He went on to say that there are various other issues with other parts of the play areas where the surface is cracking and wearing out. The main problem is the cost of replacing it because its so expensive. Councillor Jennings said it was all well and good to make our own repairs but was it safe to do so. Councillor Scalise asked how long the surface has been down for that might it be more cost effect to replace it with wood chippings even if it means to keep topping it up every year. This was felt that maybe it would get moved about too easily so prove another issue. It was agreed to get a price on what the cost would be and present it at the Public Meeting to see what residents felt.

5242 INSURANCE ZIP WIRE – CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD

The Clerk updated that she had forwarded the quotes to Zurich the Insurers to replace the platform and had now received an email stating that they would agree the cost of replacing it with the estimate from Ludus of £5535 being the cheapest quote but stated that they understand that we may be looking to upgrade to a steel version which would therefore have to be funded by the Council. This would be £7664 so a difference of over £2000. Councillors felt it be a good idea again to discuss this at the Public Meeting next week with the residents.

5243 PUBLIC MEETING – CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD

The next meeting is planned for Friday 28th. September starting at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. The Clerk has put notices up on all the Parish Notice Boards, shared it on Facebook and emailed St. Edwards Academy who have spread the date to parents. She also emailed all those who left contact details at the first meeting.

5244 QUEEN’S COMMONWEALTH CANOPY – SITING OF TREE PLANTING

The Clerk reported that Parish Council’s tree which was to be planted in the Parish as part of the Queen’s Commonwealth Canopy and a ceremony to take place on 26th October. There were several suggestions made including the Lawn Cemetery but was proposed by Councillor Harvey to be planted at Wetley Rocks at the side of the road under the Rocks that way it was in a more prominent place. It was seconded by Councillor Mrs. Hine. It was agreed that the Chairman plant it.

5245 OBSCURED ROAD SIGNS - TREES/HEDGES

Councillor Bowen reported that the 40-mph speed sign as you drive up the bank passed Wall Lane Terrace is obscured opposite to The Hollies. There is another sign in Williamsons hollow by Rock End Drive which is not visible. James Barber who was present at the meeting said he would be happy to cut back to make the signs visible again.

5246 TWINNED WITH MITTERTEICH ROAD SIGNS STILL BEING DISPLAYED

Councillor Bowen stated that although officially we are still twinned we are not actively still doing anything so it was a good idea to remove the signs. Again, James Barber volunteered to do the job as the signs should be kept as they belong to the Parish and maybe stored in the Meeting Room. So, it was agreed to remove all three signs.

5247 DAMAGED ROAD SIGN – CROSS ROADS MILL LANE/ROWNALL/ LONGSDON

The Clerk reported that she had reported the sign to SCC Highways. Report reference 4135372 as it has been hit by something as is pointing the wrong way. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that it had been bent back but wasn’t exactly in good order.

5248 SIGN FOR WEIGHT RESTRICTION AT THE TOP OF BASFORD BRIDGE LANE, CHEDDLETON The Clerk has reported the need for a second sign at the entrance to Basford Bridge Lane as vehicles that approach from Wetley Rocks can’t see the weight restriction sign until they enter the road and it’s too late. SCC Highways report reference 4136321.

5249 BASFORD BRIDGE LANE THE DAMAGE TO THE BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER CHURNET

The Clerk reported that she has chased it up with Canal and River Trust who state that they do not own the bridge. She has now reported the damage to SCC Highways. Report reference 4136323. Councillor Jennings stated that something needs to be done about large vehicles using it as it will continue to happen maybe some kind of physical restriction height or width to stop over weight vehicles using it. The Highways Safety Team need to be involved. Councillor Worthington would follow this up.

5250 DAMAGED MANHOLE – 7, LEEK ROAD, CELLARHEAD

Item already discussed as part of Announcements.

5251 REINSTATEMENT OF GREENBELT LAND OFF STATION ROAD

Councillor Ms. Ball reported that nothing has happened and that we discussed this in April/May about it being put back but Western Power have not been near. Councillor Bowen had previously looked into it so would follow it up again with Staffordshire Moorlands.

5252 ADOPT A KIOSK – MILL LANE, WETLEY ROCKS

The Clerk had received completion that the Council now have legal ownership of the Telephone Kiosk and should now display a notice in it with this information. Councillor Mrs. Hartley will display it in the Kiosk. They also sent a maintenance guide for future use.

5253 REPORT FROM SMDC, STEVE MASSEY – TREES GRANGE BANKS/ASYLUM BURIAL GROUND/PLAYING FIELDS & STATION ROAD, CHEDDLETON

Councillor Bowen stated that Steve has done a very good report and without going into all detail that the works be done so he proposed it and Councillor Mrs. Hartley seconded it.

5254 GARDENING CLUB Councillor Tunna raised that the club had recently lost a couple of sponsors and asked if the Council would fund them some prize money. As previously there was some money set aside per year which they had never had. The Chairman asked a bit about the club and was told by Councillor Harvey it has at least 40 members. It was agreed to ask for the request in writing with a bit more background. It was also suggested by Councillor Bowen that they apply through the Community Initiative Fund. Also, they could apply to the Cautionary Lands Charity.

5255 GRANT TO MARK THE CENTENARY OF WW1

The Clerk reported that the grant had been received and Councillor Tunna had agreed that St Johns Church will invoice us for the cost of organizing the event. Councillor Worthington also raised that the RBL had asked to place a bench in the Churchyard at St Edwards and that this had been refused. It was suggested to ask at the next RBL meeting if the Parish could have it and site it next to the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy tree at Wetley Rocks.

5256 DIRECT DEBITS FOR WATER RATES The Clerk had received details about paying by Direct Debit and it was agreed it would be easier to pay by Direct Debit so it was proposed to go ahead and set them up for the Community Centre and the Craft Centre by Councillor Scalise and seconded by Councillor Jennings.

5257 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 2485. – Estate Agent for Sale Signs The Clerk reported that she had contacted Samuel Makepeace by telephone to remove the sign at the approach to Cellarhead but that it is still there at the moment.

Re. Min 2492. – Business Cards for the Clerk The Clerk reported that she now has Business Cards.

b. Footpaths & Countryside Committee Meeting

c. Reports of Outside Bodies There were no reports issued.

5258 ACCOUNTS

5259 CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Staffordshire Moorlands D.C. – Chairman’s Charity Ball – Saturday, 6th. October 2018 at Alton Towers Hotel should any of the Councillors wish to attend.
- b. Councillor Helen Fisher – Email Park Lane, Cheddleton. No statutory intervention is required with regards to road safety but there is a community concern so the use of County Councillor’s Divisional Highway Programme (DHP). Therefore, the need for signs on the bend and the bridge have been added to Councillor Worthington’s DHP as a New Issue for further discussion in the future. In addition, the missing ‘Pedestrians in Road’ signs will be considered. The annual DHP fund is limited so those issues classed as higher priority will take precedence. Also, the quality of repairs will be investigated. With regards to the water on Park Lane please raise a report on the website. With regards to Coalpitford Lane issue that will also be investigated.
- c. Amey Staffordshire – Report 4135179 – Blocked Drains – Park Lane, Cheddleton. As per Helen Fisher report made about water on Park Lane.
- d. NHS – AGM Tuesday 25th. September 2018. Should any Councillor wish to attend.
- e. Ordnance Survey – PSMA (Public Sector Mapping Agreement). Details of Geospatial Commission and PSMA regional events 2018.
- f. SPCA – Budgets, Precepts & Annual Returns Training Course. Thursday 1st. November.
- g. Playdale Playgrounds – New Equipment.
- h. SLCC – Branch Meeting Tuesday 11th. September. Copy of the agenda but the clerk was unable to attend as it was on a Tuesday. Next Meeting Thursday 13th December she will attend.
- i. Earth Anchors – WW1 Memorial Seat. With free inscription.
- j. Amey Staffordshire – Report 4098680 – Tree Overgrown, Armshead Road. Completed.
- k. SLCC Cheshire Branch Conference – Invoice. The Clerk has booked to attend Thursday, 27th September 2018.
- l. Fields in Trust – September Update. WW1 Commemorations, future proofing parks etc.
- m. Pointon’s Liaison Group Meeting – changed to Thursday 20th. September @ 3pm.
- n. CPRE – Campaign Updates. Join your local green clean this September, do you love British Food, etc.
- o. Earth Anchors – Picnic Tables. Prices for Heavy duty Picnic & Tri-Tables.
- p. EDF Energy – Community Centre, Hollow Lane – Reduction of Direct Debit payment from £148 to £10 each month as starting meter reading estimated and was too high so not actually used any gas yet.

5260 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

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

Chairman

16th. October 2018.