

Cheddleton Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON
TUESDAY 20th. APRIL 2021**

ATTENDANCE Chairman - Councillor M.T. Bowen.
Vice-Chairman - Councillor H.R. Jennings.

Councillor - Mrs. C.A. Ball, N. Belson, I. Dakin, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R. J. Hartley,
K. Harvey, Mrs. C. A. Lovatt, G. W. Salt, Mrs. L. M. Salt, S. Scalise, and H. J. Tunna.

Clerk - Ms. L. J. Eyre.

547. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies for absence were received from Councillor - M. Ahmad, J. Carr, and M.P. Worthington. These were accepted.
548. **NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING** - The Clerk read out the advert that was in the Leek Post & Times on Wednesday 14th. April 2021.
549. **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 16th. APRIL 2019** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
550. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** - No items were raised.
551. **ATTENDANCE RECORDS** - The Clerk had issued the attendance prior to the meeting but read out the attendance for the two years and these will be reported in the Leek Post & Times.
552. **CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW OF THE YEAR** - Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to this year's Annual Parish Meeting.
Since Councillor Worthington gave his report at the last Parish Meeting two years ago, we have as a Council, County, Country, and entire World had a great deal to endure, to adapt to all changes due the COVID-19 and the Council has continued to work hard in all sectors of the community. You will appreciate that to maintain the Council's assets committees are appointed to oversee these assets and during the last two years the following meetings have been held:

During the year, from April 2019 to March 2020 the Council has held: -

11 Meetings of the Parish Council and 1 Extraordinary Meeting.

11 Meetings of the Planning & Amenities Committee.

4 Meetings of the Community/Craft Centre Management Committee.

4 Meetings of the Footpaths & Countryside Committee.

3 Meetings of the Burial Ground Committee.

3 Meetings of the Cheddleton Playing Field Committee.

2 Meetings of the Wetley Rocks Playing Field Committee.

1 Finance Committee Meeting.

During the year, from April 2020 to March 2021 the Council has held: -

9 Meetings of the Parish Council.

7 Meetings of the Planning & Amenities Committee.

4 Meetings of the Community/Craft Centre Management Committee.

2 Meetings of the Footpaths & Countryside Committee.

2 Meetings of the Burial Ground Committee.
2 Meetings of the Cheddleton Playing Field Committee.
1 Meeting of the Wetley Rocks Playing Field Committee.
5 Meetings of the HR Committee.
1 Finance Committee Meeting.

He thanked the respective Chairpersons - Councillors' - H. R. Jennings, Mrs. D. A. Hartley, K. Harvey, S. Scalise, G. W. Salt and H. J. Tunna for chairing the meetings so well during their time in office.

During the two years the Council has taken up many issues on behalf of the residents, including: -

Potholes/Drainage and the condition of some roads and footpaths in the Parish.

Dog Fouling on our streets, footpaths and playing fields in the Parish.

Litter & Fly Tipping.

2 New Defibrillators and looking to get another one funded thanks to Councillors Mr. & Mrs. Salt.

Parking issues in various locations around the Parish.

The Council has also funded removal and cutting back of trees on several sites such as Open Space and Grange Banks.

Leek Moorlands Hospital and its threat of closure.

Re-opening of the Railway line to Stoke.

Damage to the Bridges on Basford Bridge Lane and looked at keeping residents safe and is on-going.

Provided a new Telephone Book exchange in Wetley Rocks. Thanks to Councillors Mr. & Mrs. Hartley.

Bus Shelters and New Seats around the Parish.

Since March 2019, the Council has considered and made observations on 59 Planning Applications and from March 2020 a further 58 Planning Applications. Including some major developments affecting the residents.

During the two years we have received guest visits from: -

Mel Dyer – RSPB Site Manager of Consall Forge Nature Park.

Councillor Joe Porter – SMDC Climate Emergency.

Alison Clamp – Peak District/Midlands Rural Housing – New houses St Johns Drive.

Shaun Hulin – Office of National Statistics – Census 2021.

Nigel Williams & Alison McCrea - Moorlands Climate Action.

Police Sgt Andy Bland – Bridge 44/Parking issues.

The Council has continued to look at and fund the refurbishment of the Buttercross with assistance from Historic England, SCC, and our own Footpath Volunteers.

St. Edward's Lawn Cemetery

New replacement signs and Memorial Seat. Fencing off the land to cut down on maintenance costs.

Cheddleton Lawn Cemetery

Looking very tidy and well maintained.

The Asylum Burial Ground

Restoration of both sets of gates by Ironage Design.

Maintenance of all the Burial Grounds and our Thanks to Jim Gibson & Son for carrying out an excellent job.

Our Craft Centre including The Tea Rooms occupied by Mrs. Jane Edwards which continues to provide the income from the use of the building and provides a fabulous service to Cheddleton along with the Beauty Room occupied by Emily. Which during closure due to restrictions has remained a source of income. Maintenance has been carried out to repair the flooring and treatment for woodworm in the Tea Rooms. Restoration works will also be carried out in the Old Pottery Room to become the Council's new Meeting Room with disabled access and meet with Fire Safety. A job specification has been drawn up and the windows have been replaced.

Our Community Centre after a long time of planning the Old Boiler House had works done to remove the old Boiler and the asbestos to look at future works to make use of the space in the future. A complete Risk Assessment was carried out thanks to Councillor Dakin and Fixed Wiring and PAT Testing completed. Used for the Annual Christmas Pudding Race in Cheddleton in 2019 but of course due to the pandemic has been closed for the majority of 2020. He thanked Mr. & Mrs. Wardle for the donation of a Christmas Tree and Charles Piggott for his free services in cutting it down and transporting it. We had a huge Community spirit in what was a difficult Christmas. Thanks also, to Councillors Mr. & Mrs. Salt for their co-ordination of donated decorations and decorating the tree.

At this point he thanked Stan & Chris Beardmore for all their work.

Cheddleton Playing fields, the residents who formed a volunteer group have continued to keep an eye on all activities happening on the playing field and litter pick regularly of which he was incredibly grateful. A New metal platform for the Zip Wire has been installed by Batemans to replace the vandalized wooden one which remains the most used item on the Playing Field. A big thank you to all those who are looking out for the playing field and especially to Rob & Ken for all the work they have done and continue to do.

Toll Bar Playing Fields maintenance of playground equipment and grounds to keep it tidy.

Wetley Rocks Playing Field continued maintenance of the playground equipment and replacement of a damaged picnic bench due to misuse.

Bridge Eye Playing Field tidying of the Well.

Inspections of all footpaths and way markers have been installed by Councillor Harvey and his group of volunteers whom he thanked for their help and assistance in looking after the footpaths.

Also, with the help of Staffordshire Wildlife our volunteers have done a tremendous job on Footpath 38 and Grange Banks to open up and thin out the area after funding the training to qualify to use a Chainsaw. The purchase of equipment and protective clothing by the Council has enabled them to continue with the brilliant work. This has been backed up by the number of people taking advantage of and using it during this difficult year.

Donations made by the Council to: -	
Scouts use of the Community Centre	£170
Douglas Macmillan Hospice 2019	£100
Douglas Macmillan Hospice 2020	£150
Haregate Community Centre	£250
Royal British Legion - Poppy Wreaths in 2019 & 2020	£150

Council's Christmas Card Collection in 2019 the Parish Council again held its own Christmas Card Collection for the Friendship Group. Christmas 2020 raised £130 for the Cheddleton Branch of Cancer Research.

After only receiving 12 candidate proposals there was no election in May 2019 for the New Council and with 6 vacancies Councillors N. Belson, R.J. Hartley, J. Carr, Ms. C. Y. Ball, Miss. O. Lucas, and Mrs. K. Green were co-opted in May 2019. Then in July 2019 Councillor Mrs. C.A. Lovatt was co-opted following the resignation of Mrs. K. Green.

He concluded it has been an honor to be the Chairman during the past two years and wished the new chairman all the best for the next two years.

He thanked the members and especially the Clerk for their support, and our new handyman Steve Billings who joined us in December 2019 as he has proved to be a brilliant asset. He also, thanked the public and the press for the interest they have shown throughout the last two years. He added that the Clerk has done a wonderful job despite some exceedingly difficult personal circumstances and seen us through a difficult period and thanked her heartily for her efforts.

553. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - No other items were raised and therefore the Chairman closed the meeting.

Chairman