

**Cheddleton Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN WETLEY  
ROCKS VILLAGE HALL, MILL LANE, WETLEY ROCKS  
TUESDAY, 19<sup>th</sup>. APRIL 2022**

**ATTENDANCE** Chairman - H.R. Jennings.  
Vice-Chairman - Mrs. L.M. Salt

Councillor - M. Ahmad, M.T. Bowen, I. Dakin, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley,  
Mrs. C.A. Lovatt, G.W. Salt, S. Scalise, Mrs. L. Shaw, & H.J. Tunna.

Clerk - Ms. L. J. Eyre & 1 member of the public.

292. **APOLOGIES** - Councillors D. Boden, D. Kari, Mrs. J. Parkes, and it was resolved to accept these.
293. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS FOR 1 VACANCY - CHEDDLETON WARD** - No applications were received so will be re-advertised.
294. **CO-OPTED COUNCILLORS TO SIGN DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE** - Not required.
295. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Councillors Mr & Mrs. Salt and Bowen members of Staffordshire Wildlife.
296. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written requests for dispensation were received.
297. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - The chairman announced that there is 1 planning application for Planning Members at the end of the meeting. He also, reported that he had been invited to Leek Rugby Club along with The Chair of Leek Town Council and Councillor Ben Emery on Saturday as they have received promotion. He was delighted to represent the Parish Council at the game.
298. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - James Barber asked about the planting request on the Oval on Mill Lane. The Clerk reported that she is still waiting for Highways to report back on this. He also asked if the Council has considered a Council Newsletter as there are some people who do not have internet would the Council consider this to be delivered door to door. Councillor Mrs. Salt stated there is a church magazine and Councillor Ahmad stated that Werrington do a quarterly magazine which includes Wetley Rocks for information. The Clerk will add it to next months agenda and get details of what is already being produced.
299. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 15<sup>th</sup>. MARCH 2021** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record, but Councillor Scalise stated he wanted to query some of the items not being included.

**300. MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:**

**Re. Min. 279. NJC National Salary Award - 1/4/2021** - Councillor Scalise stated that he did not agree to the item and the Clerk suggested that she listen back to the recording and report back. He wanted it noting he did not agree although he cannot do anything about it. Additional minute from the recording - After the item had been discussed Councillor Scalise commented that this had already been addressed last year and the Clerks salary increased. Councillor Worthington commented is this backdated. The Clerk stated that it has been in negotiations all year and just agreed so it will be backdated. Councillor Jennings stated that we agreed to the Clerks Salary and NJC have negotiated this for all Council employees, so we must pay it based on the Clerks agreed salary.

**Re. Min. 288. Accounts/Earmarked Funds** - Councillor Scalise stated he had not agreed, and nothing was mentioned in the minutes about why he disagreed. The Clerk stated that the minutes do not need to include verbatim just to record the outcomes.

**301. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN WORKS/BUILDING**

**WORKS** - Councillor Tunna stated that with the up coming visit could we chase up Jim to plant up the hedge which he was asked to do it last year. Or can we fence it before the visit. The Clerk reported that Steve could fence it. Councillor Dakin stated that its too late to get hedging for free. The Clerk suggested that we use wood that the Council already has and ask Steve to put up a temporary fence until we can plant it. If not, the footpath volunteers may have wood that could be used and then we re-visit hedging next year when we can acquire them free through Woodlands Trust as an example. The Clerk reported that there had been an issue with the door on the disabled toilet at the Craft Centre which Steve has planed and is ok now. The Curtains have been taken down in our meeting room so these will be cleaned, and he has sorted the lock on the front door and will paint the ceiling before putting the curtains back up. The guttering at the Community Centre has been done. There has been an issue with the main boiler in the Community Centre which has been looked at as a matter of emergency and the expansion vessel needs to be replaced and is being done this week by a local plumber Liam Hall.

The Clerk reported that it is now the best time to acquire the topsoil required to cover the safety surface at Wetley Rocks Playing Field and the ruts in the Football pitch at Cheddleton Playing field. Steve stated that 3 tons would be needed at £55 per ton. Councillor Scalise stated that he could investigate a cheaper option and would give the Clerk details to get this done. Councillor Bowen proposed and Councillor Tunna seconded that this be organised and completed. The Clerk reported that Steve has come up with a solution of transporting the Britains sign from Footpath 38 to the Community Centre as it is extremely heavy.

**302. UPDATE ON RENOVATIONS CRAFT CENTRE/BEAUTY ROOM** - The Clerk reported that the specification has been discussed at Planning & Amenities Committee but agreed to let all members have a look to see if anything needs amending. The Clerk has also sent a copy to Emily who is more than happy with the plan. She explained that she had two quotes for the windows and awaiting a third quote which will then be put to the Council at the next meeting. The original renovation snags have been reported back to Jonathan Cornes which were agreed. Councillor Jennings asked when the time is up on the snag list. The Clerk stated 29<sup>th</sup> July which should be achievable, and she will continue to chase those up. So, it was proposed that the specification is detailed enough to move forward by Councillor Mrs. Salt and seconded by Councillor Bowen to enable the tender process to begin for works.

- 303. UPDATE BASFORD BRIDGE LANE BRIDGES/CCTV** - The Clerk reported that she had sent email to Councillor David Williams & Police Inspector Mark Thorley requesting a meeting with them. Yet no response from the Police but receipt of the mail sent to Councillor Williams. Councillor Scalise stated it was the idea to get the Police involved on grounds of safety to make restrictions to the bridge. He stated that Councillor Worthington stated that if the Police are involved then can push highways to do something. Councillor Ahmad stated that Councillor Worthington is our County Councillor so should be getting involved. Councillor Bowen will speak to Police Chief Constable. Councillor Dakin asked if there is any come back on Ameys for the gritters. The Clerk reported that she had not had a response and neither have Councillor Jennings or Bowen from County highways. The Clerk will inform Councillor Worthington of the follow up.
- 304. COUNCIL EMAIL ADDRESSES** - Councillor Jennings stated he had received a scam email from Councillor Worthington. Various other emails have been received. The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Email provider and they stated that there is no way to stop them, and the only major issue is if the emails are coming from that person's actual real email address. As the Councillors' email addresses are new there is no spam settings, but these need to be set up and as you receive them, and they will start to be blocked. This will be sent to all Councillors to set up. The Clerk also reported that she has investigated with My Parish Council as to why emails are not showing until days later. And will report back and Councillor Ahmad still needs to set himself up as he has not done so yet so the Clerk will send instructions through again to him.
- 305. UPDATE FUNDING FOR ART GROUP, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that the group were struggling with funding and have applied to SMDC through Councillor Bowens Councillors' Community Initiative Fund and obtained £150 to continue the group and this has been paid directly to the Parish Council and will be used to fund the use of the Community Centre going forward. They were very grateful for the funding and thanks were received from the group. Councillor Bowen added that they will have the opportunity to apply should they need any assistance going forward from May this year.
- 306. FOOTPATH UPDATES/VOLUNTEERS** - The Clerk reported that Footpath 18 had an issue with a tree that had fallen over and was in the grounds of Cicely Haughton School, so they were extremely helpful and have had the tree dealt with freeing up the footpath again. The Clerk also reported that expenses claim form for £32.40 had been received from one of the volunteers for mileage and it was discussed previously that the Parish Council pay him and then claim it back from SCC. Councillor Scalise proposed that be done and that was seconded by Councillor Dakin and all agreed. The Clerk reported that Norman Antrobus one of the volunteers has injured his back and is therefore out of action currently so an email thanking him and wishing him well to get better soon has been sent.
- 307. THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS/COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS** - The Clerk reported the next meeting is on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>. April 2022 @ 3pm in the Community Centre. Councillor Mrs. Salt stated that a further request for the nurseries to be included for the mugs, but it was confirmed previously it has just been schools.

308. **INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE** - The Clerk reported that the internal audit meeting is scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup>. June 2022 so will be signed off at the June Council Meeting. He has sent a statement which was read out. 'The internal auditors have reported that they have received queries from 2 councillors regarding the process for setting the 2022/23 precept. They have undertaken to carry out a review of the process and to add specific comments into their report which will accompany the 2021/22 internal audit report section of the AGAR. These comments will also be forwarded to the external auditor.'
309. **SCHOOL BUS LEAVING EARLY FROM CHEDDLETON** - Councillor Dakin reported that the children have been telling parents that since the bus driver has changed the bus has been leaving early and some children have been missing the bus. This will be investigated and reported back to Council.
310. **REQUEST TO METAL DETECT ON CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD** - The Clerk reported that Councillor Dakin had seen someone detecting and they needed to ask for permission and so they have. The Clerk stated that they should have asked as part of the detecting rules. After some discussion it was proposed that the Council does not allow to detect by Councillor Dakin and seconded by Councillor Scalise. All agreed and that it be added to the website and Councillor Scalise suggested signage via advice from the National Metal Detecting Association and signs made. Seconded by Councillor Bowen and all agreed.
311. **SITING OF DONATED BENCH CALDON CANAL - CANAL & RIVER TRUST** - The Clerk reminded members of the donation of a recycled bench to be placed along the canal which had been agreed. She reported that the C&RT have suggested that it be sited near to bridge 44 and showed a photo of the suggested location to members. The C&RT will put in a concrete base to house the bench but awaiting confirmation that they are happy with this location. Councillor Dakin asked who owns the Dock House as a barge is running electricity from it. The Clerk will report to C&RT. Councillor Jennings made a proposal to dedicate it to Mrs. Jackie Pilarczyk the previous Parish Clerk if her husband agrees. This was seconded by Councillor Ahmad, and all agreed that it was a fitting tribute.
312. **UPDATE ON RENT - WETLEY ROCKS PLAYING FIELD/OVERHANGING TREES RANGLES LANE** - The Clerk reported that a meeting is being arranged with the managing agent either 10<sup>th</sup>. Or 11<sup>th</sup>. May on the Playing Field to look at it followed by a sit-down meeting in the Methodist Church to discuss issues raised and the new agreement. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that the sign states Dogs Allowed rather than No Dogs Allowed so the Clerk will look at this. The Clerk will let Rt. Hon. Karen Bradley MP of this developments and the meeting as to when it takes place. Councillor Bowen stated that there is other land that we have issues with in Cheddleton that we have been trying to get answers to so the Clerk will produce an agenda to send to everyone for the meeting.
313. **TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE - 4273225 COALPITFORD LANE, CATSWALL - TREE MAINTENANCE 13&15/6/2022** - The Clerk read out the notice with diversion in place for the duration of works.

**313a. RT. HON. KAREN BRADLEY MP - LINK IN WITH TOWN & VILLAGES IN POLAND** - Councillor Jennings had it mentioned to him by Lyn Swindlehurst from Leek Town Council who have agreed to this, so we need further information to discuss it further. The Clerk will contact Leek Town Councillor for details.

**314. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES: -**

**a. Planning & Amenities Committee**

**Re. Min. 193. Refurbishment Centenary Bench** - The Clerk reported that Steve the handyman has the paint to do the bench.

**Re. Min 195. Update Well on Well Meadow, Wetley Rocks** - Councillor Jennings asked if there was any update. The Clerk has emailed Ben Hayward but as yet no update.

**b. Outside Bodies: - SMDC Committees, SLCC Branch meeting, Parish Assembly & Climate Change sub-committee, and Community Engagement Meeting** - The Clerk reported that she had a training session as part of the SLCC Branch Meeting online - Handling difficult people. Councillor Mr. Salt reported on the Parish Assembly with a presentation from the Staffs Fire & Rescue Service and Regeneration Officer from SMDC and Churnet Valley Way by The Ramblers Association. A survey to establish what Parishes want to discuss and try to improve attendance. Councillor Dakin reported on the Climate Change sub-committee which was online. Councillor Bowen reported on the PCC forum that crime is low in Staffordshire, but that domestic violence has increased. Many of the Police Officers are due to retire, and they are looking to recruit which will cause a shortfall in the Police and similar in the Fire Service.

**315. ACCOUNTS** - See attached report for accounts authorised for payment. All members received Bank Reconciliation, payments, receipts, and budgets as spent to date. The Chairman and The Clerk signed the Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup>. March 2022 also attached. Proposed by Councillor Ahmad to pay and all agreed.

**\*Authorised under Sec. 137 of the L.G.A. 1972 'Free Resource'\***

**316. CORRESPONDENCE: -**

- a.** HNT/2022/0007 - 17, Ostlers Lane, Cheddleton - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed single storey rear extension creating an enlarged kitchen, diner and utility room. Extension will extend beyond the rear wall by 5.06m, maximum height of the eaves will be 3.60m and the height if the eaves of the extension will be 2.68m - Comment that Planning Officers look at it - Refusal 31/3/2022.
- b.** SMD/2022/0065 - 112 Heath Avenue, Cellarhead Farm, Leek Road, Wetley Rocks - Proposed two storey extension to side to form bedroom, study, WC and to enlarge existing kitchen - No Objection - Approved 8/4/2022.
- c.** SMDC Regeneration.
- d.** Register of Electors monthly updates.
- e.** Cyber Crime Tips - Easter Egg WhatsApp scam.
- f.** Community Centre PPL Licence request. The Clerk dealt with this via information from SMDC and confirmed that it is not required.
- g.** Utility Aid Energy Prices.
- h.** Community Foundation News.
- i.** PCSO Paula Lowndes - Sheep on Leek Road, Cheddleton. Several incidents of sheep escaping from the field on A520 opposite to St. Edwards Lawn Cemetery.

**316. CORRESPONDENCE (Cont'd...): -**

- j.** Fields In Trust - Duke of Edinburgh legacy.
- k.** Issues in Cheddleton & St. Edward's Lawn Cemetery. Burial Grounds future agenda Christmas Wreaths.
- l.** Staffordshire Wildlife - Magazine & E-news.
- m.** Future Airspace Manchester Airport.
- n.** Zurich Insurance Quote.
- o.** HMRC Updates.
- p.** Fraud Updates.
- q.** Third Revolution Projects - Battery Storage Newfields Farm. A letter with regards to a new application to be submitted so details will be discussed at the Planning & Amenities Committee.
- r.** Enquiry Wooden Bridge - Caldon Canal. Details to try to obtain ownership of this and the Clerk has contacted C&RT to establish and will report back.
- s.** Website enquiry - Allotments. Contact us on the website asking about allotments details of ACRA passed onto the person.
- t.** SPCA Membership. Future agenda item.
- u.** Amey Report 4277314 - 52, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton - Damage around manhole.
- v.** Amey Report 4277739 - Leek Road Road, Cheddleton - Pothole.
- w.** Advanced Proteins Liaison Group Meeting Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. May 2022, 4pm.
- x.** Staffordshire County Council - Why Climate Change Matters Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup>. April 2022, 12 Noon - Online Event.
- y.** Paula Lees - Highway Liaison Meeting Cancelled 22<sup>nd</sup>. April 2022. The Clerk will re-arrange for June 2022.

**317. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - James Barber suggested cyber training available for Councillors online with all issues about cybercrimes, scam emails etc.**

**318. PLANNING APPLICATION**

- a.** **SMD/2022/0140** - 4, Basford View, Cheddleton - Single Storey rear extension.  
**No Objection.**

Chairman  
17<sup>th</sup>. May 2022.