

Cheddleton Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN
CHEDDLETON COMMUNITY CENTRE, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLTON
ON TUESDAY, 22nd. OCTOBER 2024.**

ATTENDANCE Chairman - M. Ahmad.

Councillor - D.S. Bagnall, Mrs. V.B. Cornes, Mrs. A. Grocott, Miss. G. Grocott, K. Grocott, K. Harvey, Mrs. C. A. Lovatt, O.C. Pointon, Miss. S.J. Rogers, Mrs. L. Shaw, and M.P. Worthington.

Rev. Henry Hope & a member of the public.

Clerk - Mrs. L.J. Green.

136. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received from Councillor M.F. Cunningham, Miss. V.L. Salt, M.J. Sidley, and T.G. Williamson it was resolved to accept these.
137. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no declarations of interest.
138. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written applications for dispensations received.
139. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - The Clerk reported that the vacancy for Cheddleton Ward no confirmation has been received from SMDC that we can officially co-opt a new member. As soon as this has been confirmed the vacancy will be advertised.
We have a vacancy CCMC if anyone is interested in joining that Committee. The Clerk also raised that members had asked about holding two committee meetings on the same night so suggested that the CCMC & Footpath/Cheddleton Playing Field could be held on the same night in November & May. Councillor Worthington proposed this was a good idea, seconded by Councillor Miss. Rogers. Also, Councillor Mrs. Shaw agreed to join the CCMC as it is on the same night.
There is an Open Water Safety Day at Rudyard Lake 31st October 2024. Sad passing of Elyse Foster 22 years of age from Wetley Rocks.
The Chairman attended SMDC Chairmans Charity Night 26/9/24 from SMDC & waved off Beatrice 16/10/24 as requested by the Charity.
140. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - No questions from the public.
141. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 17th. SEPTEMBER 2024** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
142. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:** -
Re. Min. Update Community Centre Parking Permit Review - Councillor Miss. Rogers asked if this could be deferred to December Meeting rather than November as she is unable to attend that meeting. Noted that this will be on December's agenda.
143. **BARNEY WILLIAMS - ADVANCED PROTEINS** - Councillor Worthington reported that he will not be attending tonight's meeting.
144. **PLOUGH BANK PARKING RESTRICTIONS** - Councillor Worthington reported that the quote for restrictions given by Advanced Proteins would need a Traffic Restriction Order on

top of that quote. This must be applied for to the secretary of state and would therefore cost twice as much for them to do. SCC Highways would be able to do the whole thing in the region of £7,500. Councillor Miss. Rogers stated that with the cost of this project with one complaint is that maybe some education of the residents would alleviate the problem. Councillor Ahmad stated that pulling out is dangerous because of the parked cars. Councillor Bagnall agreed with Councillor Miss. Rogers that it is not dangerous. Councillor Mr. Grocott pointed out that the A522 onto A520 is more dangerous. Councillor Mrs. Lovatt stated that parking next to the junction is enforceable. There has been traffic regulation implemented on Southlowe Avenue and along past Moorside School but they still park. Councillor Worthington in the interest of highway safety when coming down Plough Bank in a car you have to leave the junction on the wrong side of the road due to parked vehicles and highway safety agreed that this would be a good reason to put in restrictions. Councillor Pointon suggested that the local PCSO could put polite letters on the vehicles and members keep a close eye on it over the next few months. Councillor Ahmad proposed the consultation should go ahead. Councillor Worthington suggested that this would just come back as the residents would want to leave it as it is. The Police if they could support it would add weight. After some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Shaw to defer for the next few months, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Cornes and ask the local PCSO to monitor.

145. **GROUND MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN/BUILDING WORKS** - The Clerk reported the latest meeting with Jim Gibson and Councillor Williamson who has since met with him to produce the tender document for mowing & lengthsman duties. The only things raised was the piece of ground on Woodlands Avenue which has now become quite overgrown. Councillor Worthington offered to call and speak to the owner. There are some moles on both Bridge Eye and Cheddleton Playing Fields so these have been reported to AJ Environmental to treat them. Your Housing have paid the invoice for Jim mowing the Oval on Mill Lane and the piece of grass on Beech Avenue which is owned by them. The Clerk has also reported the trees on the garages on Mill Lane to Your Housing to cut them back as it is difficult to see when pulling onto Mill Lane. The Clerk will give them a couple of weeks to get the works done and if they do not, we will trim them and charge them. We have received the £400 grant from SMDC. Councillor Worthington stated it has stayed the same amount for many years, so it has been raised to increase the amount as £400 hardly pays for anything. Leek Radio have moved out of the Meeting Room and paid everything apart from the bill for electricity for September. The Clerk had booked the Community Centre tonight as we have been having quite a few residents turn up to the meeting and it is easier to accommodate them in the Community Centre. So going forward the Committee Meetings will be held in our room. After some discussion it was agreed for Planning & Full Council to use the Community Centre unless it has been previously booked.
146. **UPDATE TENDER PROCESS FOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE/ LENGTHSMAN DUTIES FROM 1/4/25** - The Clerk reported that Councillor Williamson is writing the schedule of works, and this will be checked over with Jim at our next meeting before inviting tenders.
147. **LEEK HOSPITAL CLOSURE** - Councillor Ahmad stated that we as a Parish Council can send a letter to support it staying open and so can each member. After some discussion it was agreed. Councillor Harvey stated is that all we are proposing to do. Councillor Worthington stated that it will not close just loss of Emergency services. Councillor Bagnall suggested that we all do something individually.
148. **POTENTIAL DOCTORS SURGERY** - Councillor Ahmad has spoken to a GP surgery and they would be prepared to set up a surgery in Cheddleton if we can survey residents and

produce statistics that there is a need. If the Council also back them to bring the services to Cheddleton. They would of course need premises, but a need must be established by consulting with residents. Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Shaw, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Cornes to survey the residents. Agreed by members.

149. **STAFFORDSHIRE DEVOLUTION** - Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Leader has sent the letter signed by Staffordshire Leaders Board which had been circulated for members to read and noted.
150. **CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD INSPECTION REPORT** - The Clerk had circulated the report to members and requested that our handyman work through any items raised. There was an issue raised with the zipwire before the report was received and this has been rectified already. Requested that this be referred to the Playing Field Committee. There has been a complaint received from a neighbour with regards to trees so Charles Piggott is going to look at them to see what works are required and, in the report, it stated about trees overhanging the zipwire so he will have a look at those at the same time.
151. **SUPPORT STAFFORDSHIRE - RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN STAFFORDSHIRE - HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY** - The Clerk reported that we had a quick teams meeting with Paul Keats about a Housing Needs Survey which they could provide help with and would be funded by them. We would then have a better understanding of what residents want and need in the future. We have a meeting with Paul on 24th at 11am if members wish to attend. Funding is available for communities under a certain threshold so might be able to split into wards to accommodate this. The Chairman will report back after the meeting.
152. **UPDATE ON THE RESTORATION OF THE BUTTERCROSS - HERITAGE ENGLAND FUNDING GRANTED** - Councillor Harvey reported that the three quotes have been obtained and have been circulated to members and shared with Historic England who are happy for us to employ any of the three specialists. Councillor Worthington suggested delegated powers for Councillor Harvey & The Clerk to award the works to the most suitable specialists. After further discussion it was proposed by Councillor Miss. Rogers on Councillor Harvey's recommendation that we award it to Staffordshire Restoration & Conservation, seconded by Councillor Pointon and agreed.
153. **FUNDING FOR FUTURE PROJECTS - CHeddLETON PLAYING FIELD/ COMMUNITY CENTRE** - The Clerk reported that she has a meeting with the other lady this week who will start to look for grants on our behalf. SMDC have further funding available for open spaces. We will split it down between the two grantees to look at the separate projects and can do this with no charge to the Council. Councillor Ahmad confirmed that the Deed of Transfer is here to be signed tonight for Cheddleton Playing Fields. The Clerk also raised that the volunteers who look after the memorial garden have no funds left for general expenses. Councillor Ahmad suggested £500 to be given to them. Councillor Mr. Grocott seconded this proposal.
154. **EVENTS - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY & VE DAY 80** - Reverend Hope stated there will be a service at 10am at St Edwards approximately 40 minutes followed by the laying of Wreaths at the Memorial at 11am. Then refreshments in the Community Centre after. The Clerk reported that the Chief Inspector of Police Mark Barlow had sent an email asking the times of services. The vicar at Wetley Rocks has also contacted that the service will start at 10.45am at St. Johns. Councillor Worthington reported that Leekbrook are holding a service at 9am at the memorial. Councillor Pointon, Ahmad, Cunningham & Williamson will lay the

wreath at Wetley Rocks; Councillor Miss. Rogers will lay the wreath at Cheddleton, and all represent the Council. Reverend Hope extended the invitation to everyone to come for refreshments after the two services from both churches. The Clerk reported that we have started to make plans for the VE Day 80 and made enquiries about funding to SMDC but yet have no decision.

- 155. UPDATE HIGHWAYS ISSUES WITH SCC - PARK LANE & STATION ROAD, CHEDDLETON - FLOOD ISSUES - CHEADLE ROAD, CHEDDLETON - ROAD MARKINGS/ ZEBRA CROSSING - SPEED CAMERAS IN THE PARISH - BRIDGE, BASFORD BRIDGE LANE, POLICE REPORTS - BRUND LANE SAFETY ISSUE** - The Clerk reported that the works have been carried out on Park Lane to the drains, so we await to see if it has solved the issues reported. The Clerk reported that there is another road closure on Station Road coming up. Councillor Worthington again reported that the flooding should now have been sorted as works have been carried out. The Clerk asked if Cautionary Lands will now get the works done on the Well? Unfortunately, Councillor Worthington did not attend the meeting in September so it will be raised at the next meeting. He asked if Jim could bill Cautionary Lands Charity for cutting the sundial. The Clerk reported that the Zebra Crossing has now had the new beleasha beacon installed. The Clerk reported that the speed cameras is under the remit of Safer Roads Partnership, so they have been made aware of all the locations of them. The signs outside the school on Hollow Lane needs to be reported to them too. The Clerk reported that a report had been sent to the Police because a resident witnessed to low loaders with caravans on go over Bridge 44. The Police have been furnished with the evidence. Councillor Worthington stated they had apologised because of all the road closures they were not aware of how to get to the caravan park without going over the bridges. The Clerk reported it to SCC and Canal & RT. The Clerk also reported the damage on the other bridge over the river churnet and SCC have stated it will be inspected by a structural engineer and any repairs required will take place after the inspection. The Clerk has also reported damage to Bridge 45 to Canal & RT sent to her by Councillor Mrs. Shaw which looks like it has been hit by the contractor working at the sewage works. This again is a 7.5t bridge. The Clerk had reported a van on Hollow Lane which was left for over a week with no MOT. Further damage at Cheddleton Playing Fields has been reported to PCSO of the seats being damaged and also at Tabletop picnic area on Knowsley Common lots of empty alcohol and evidence of drug use. There has been further fly tips on Cheddleton Playing Fields. The report on Brund Lane that there is a safety issue just by the bridge and closed by SCC as would have to be funded by Highways DHP.
- 156. UPDATE LAND BEHIND CHEDDLETON PARK AVENUE** - The Clerk reported that another request has been received bout ownership of the land behind the end houses. This has been investigated and a Land Registry obtained which proves the Parish Council do not own it.
- 157. BASFORD BRIDGE TERRACE PARKING ISSUE** - The Clerk reported that a vehicle is parked which is SORN with no MOT and reported to our PCSO on an unadopted road so there is nothing that they can do because it is not a highway. His advice was to contact the DVLA to see if they will act on it. It would be difficult to prove ownership of the road so would be a civil matter.
- 158. RURAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS ON PARISH/ TOWN COUNCILS CARPARKS** - The Clerk explained the details and asked if members would like to invite them to discuss. It was suggested that once the Community Centre Carpark has been through the process of discussion, we could invite them along so left for a future meeting.

159. **REPORTED BT CABLE - CHEADLE ROAD, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that a low-level cable was reported to her, so she had contacted BT to alert them as it crossed over Cheadle Road from the bottom of Grange Road to Ox Pasture. No further information received.
160. **CHEDDLETON SENIOR CITIZENS ARCHIVE** - The Clerk reported that Bryan Forrester's daughter contacted her to ask if we would be happy to have them for safe keeping.
161. **STAFFORDSHIRE WILDLIFE MEMBERSHIP** - The Clerk reported that the annual membership is £42 and is due should members wish to re-join. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Shaw and agreed.
162. **INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE DATA PROTECTION RENEWAL** - The Clerk reported that the Renewal is due at a cost of £40 but we get a £5 discount for paying by Direct Debit and it is a statutory requirement. This may be increased next year.
163. **AMEY REPORT 4409833 - COALPITFORD LANE, CHEDDLETON - MUD ON THE ROAD** - The Clerk reported this issue having been notified by Councillor Miss. Rogers of the dangerous road conditions and now has been cleared. Councillor Miss. Grocott reported that it continues to happen because of the embankment keeps slipping into the road.
164. **AMEY REPORT 4410517 - CHEDDLETON HEATH ROAD/BASFORD GREEN LANE, CHEDDLETON - SIGNS DAMAGED** - The Clerk has reported the damaged road signs.
165. **FLY TIP - FOLLY LANE, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported to SMDC.
166. **UPDATE ON DEFIBRILLATORS** - Councillor Miss. Rogers reported that they are all present and correct. The Clerk reported that there is further funding to obtain another one for Southlowe area. It was mentioned that we could approach the new approved sheltered housing when they are built in Cellarhead. Councillor Rogers will check with AEDdonate with regards to the one at Moorside School which has limited access because it is inside the school.
167. **FOOTPATH UPDATES** - The Clerk reported that SCC have confirmed that ROW will inspect and see what improvements can be made to Footpath 38. The last meeting for modifications took place 11th. October and 4 were on the agenda but continue to be an ever-increasing backlog with those agreed becoming a backlog of orders to be made to add them to the definitive map.
The Clerk reported that Footpath 55 has been visited by Councillor Harvey and SCC but were unable to gain access to assess it properly to look at solving the issue of it being waterlogged. Needs to be reported as inaccessible to County. The Clerk has reported the bull signs to County as previously discussed. They have closed one of the reports. A list of jobs required has been collated by volunteers after the completion of the inspections and the volunteers are working their way through the list. The Clerk has contacted the new potential volunteer today and she has posted her the forms to complete.
168. **CANAL & RIVER TRUST REPORTS /UPDATE ON ISSUES - ROAD LEADING TO WILLOW COTTAGE/ STRADDLE WAREHOUSE** - Councillor Pointon reported that there have been no further complaints. The Clerk reported that she had an update on the Straddle Warehouse that it is deteriorating but is being monitored.

- 169. UPDATE HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY / SAFEGUARDING FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN POLICIES** - The Clerk had circulated the policies, and it was agreed to adopt these, and they will be displayed on our website.
- 170. UPDATE COUNCIL WEBSITE/EMAIL ADDRESSES (.gov.uk)** - The Clerk reported that the new domain has been purchased and will go live Monday 28th. October and then on 31st all email addresses will start to be used. Councillor Worthington asked why have we changed to this? The Clerk reported that it was recommended by Audit that all Councils use .gov.uk website and email addresses for data protection. The Clerk will also be using one going forward.
- 171. CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION/COUNCIL DINNER** - The Clerk asked the chairman who he would like to support this year, and he stated that he would like it to be kept locally and donated to the churches of the Parish. Councillor Ahmad suggested he would like to hold a dinner in January. Councillor Miss. Rogers suggested our tearoom to support locally. The Clerk stated we can re-visit with ideas next month for a date in January.
- 172. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES** -
- a. **Footpath & Countryside/Cheddleton Playing Field Committee**
 - b. **Planning & Amenities Committee**
 - c. **Wetley Rocks/Toll Bar Playing Field Committee.**
 - d. **Reports of Outside Bodies** - SMDC, Working Groups (Strengthening Relationships with Town & Parish Council's) on 16/10/2024 Councillor Miss. Rogers reported on the progress and new newsletter to be released. SMDC negotiating with SPCA for all Councils to have discounted membership. Next meeting of the Clerks is 12/11/2024 and the Councillors will meet again 3/12/2024. Grant Training attended by Councillor Mrs. Cornes 17/9/2024, Wetley Rocks Village Committee, Scribe Conference attended by the Clerk and an asset register will be used going forward, and Cautionary Lands Charity Meeting do need further members from the Parish Council.
- 173. ACCOUNTS** - See attached reports of accounts authorised for payment. All members received Bank Reconciliation, payments, receipts, ear-marked reserves, and budgets as spent to date. The Clerk reported that the budgeting process has started to set the precept. The interim audit took place 1/10/2024 which was confirmed all in order. The latest VAT submission has been completed and payment received to September. The 2nd payment of the precept has been received from SMDC.

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

- 174. CORRESPONDENCE** -
- a. Advanced Proteins Liaison Meeting 8/11/24.
 - b. Pheonix Concert in aid of Cancer Research 19/10 & 14/12
 - c. Policing and Fire & Rescue - Have your say.
 - d. Clear Councils Insurance Policy - confirmation of our insurance.
 - e. Candidate Open Day Staffordshire County Council 4/11 & 26/11/24 Election 1/5/25.

- 175. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - No members of the public were present.

Chairman

26th. November 2024.