

Cheddleton Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN WETLEY ROCKS VILLAGE HALL, MILL LANE, WETLEY ROCKS ON TUESDAY, 19th. APRIL 2022

ATTENDANCE Chairman - Councillor H.R. Jennings.
Vice-Chairman - Councillor 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 and H. J. Tunna.

Clerk - Ms. L. J. Eyre. 1 Member of the public.

- 554. APOLOGIES** - Apologies for absence were received from Councillor - D. Boden, D. Kari and Mrs. J.C. Parkes. These were accepted.
- 555. NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING** - The Clerk reported that the Meeting was advertised on all Notice Boards and as agreed at Planning & Amenities Committee Meeting to advertise on Facebook pages Cheddleton Chat and Cheddleton Gossip plus the Council Website.
- 556. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 20th. APRIL 2021** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
- 557. MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** - No items were raised.
- 558. ATTENDANCE RECORDS** - The Clerk read out the list of attendance by Councillors to the 11 Meetings of the Parish Council. Being Councillors Ahmad 8, Boden 3 of 4, Bowen 11, Dakin 10, Mr. Hartley 10, Mrs. Hartley 10, Jennings 10, Kari 2 of 2, Mrs. Lovatt 9, Mrs. Parkes 4 of 6, Mr. Salt 9, Mrs. Salt 9, Scalise 8, Mrs. Shaw 3 of 4, Tunna 11, and Worthington 8. Members who resigned Mrs. Ball 2 of 2, Belson, 2 of 2, Carr 1 of 2, Harvey 2 of 2 and James 3 of 6.
- 559. CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW OF THE YEAR** - Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to this year's Annual Parish Meeting and thanked Vice-Chair Mrs. L.M. Salt. Since Councillor Bowen gave his report at the last Parish Meeting last April, 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.
He stated that you will appreciate that to maintain the Council's assets committees are appointed to oversee these assets and during the last year the following meetings have been held. At the start of the year via zoom but then back in person thankfully: -
- During the year, from April 2021 to March 2022 the Council has held: -
- 11 Meetings of the Parish Council.
 - 10 Meetings of the Planning & Amenities Committee.
 - 3 Meetings of the Community/Craft Centre Management Committee.
 - 3 Meetings of the Burial Ground Committee.
 - 1 Meetings of the Cheddleton Playing Field Committee.
 - 1 Meetings of the Footpaths & Countryside Committee.
 - 2 Meetings after merger Cheddleton PF & F&C Committee. (New)
 - 2 Meetings of the Wetley Rocks Playing Field Committee.

- 3 Meetings of the Finance Committee.
- 1 Meeting of the HR Committee. (New)
- 2 Meetings with Highways Liaison Officer Paula Lees. (New)
- 2 Meetings with Cheddleton Playing Field Volunteers Meeting.

He thanked the respective Chairpersons - Councillors' - M.T. Bowen, H.J. Tunna, Mrs. L.M. Salt, G.W. Salt, and I. Dakin for chairing the meetings so well during their time in office.

Councillors have also represented the Council on various committees such as Advanced Protein Liaison Committee, Parish Assembly, Cautionary Lands Charity & Wetley Rocks Village Hall Committee and raised issues for residents.

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

Potholes/Drainage/Street Lighting 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.

Further Defibrillators around the Parish led by Councillor Mrs. Lisa Salt.

Parking issues in various locations around the Parish.

Tree Works and establishing responsibility of land ownership.

Damage to the Heritage Bridges on Basford Bridge Lane and continued chasing of Police Authority/ Staffordshire County Highways to make improvements.

Residents' issues with Road Safety/Harassment/Damage etc.

Refurbishment of Bus Shelters/ New Bench Seats around the Parish.

Occupation of affordable housing in Wetley Rocks – St Johns Drive.

Community Orchards/Commitment to supporting SMDC's Climate Emergency.

Since March 2021, the Council has considered and made observations on 46 Planning Applications.

During the year we have received guest visits from: -

Alison Nowiki - PCSO

Paula Lowndes - PCSO

Ian Bogges - Canal & River Trust

Tom Sylger-Jones - Hut on the Hill Ltd - Planning Application Solar Farm.

Dan Elvin, Nick Davis & one other - Sirius Renewable Energy - Planning Application Battery Storage.

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 although this has taken a backseat this year due to restrictions it is still an ongoing project.

St. Edward's Lawn Cemetery

Creation of new Cremated Remains plots to ensure the residents of the Parish have a lovely cemetery to continue to use & visit. Portioning off a non-consecrated area for other religions/ non-religious believes. Installation of new signs.

Cheddleton Lawn Cemetery

Risk Assessed to make sure all is safe and tidy.

The Asylum Burial Ground

Looking to make further improvements to provide a tranquil place and highlight its existence. Installation of a seat.

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

Major renovation of the Craft Centre with building works done to provide a lovely new room which will be occupied temporarily to allow further renovations in the coming year to the rest of the building. Renovations to our own meeting room providing a better space for meetings and bringing the building up to date providing disabled access also meeting health & safety regulations as one of the Council's assets. The Tea Rooms continues to be occupied by Mrs. Jane Edwards which provides the income from the use of the building and provides a fabulous service to Cheddleton along with the Beauty Room occupied by Emily.

Unfortunately, our Community Centre, we have had to forfeit the use of the mobile due to it not being fit for purpose after a structural survey but plans going forward to remove it and make use of the space to expand the Community Centre/Car Park in the future. Re-introduced the use of the Creche Room as another room for hire and classes and hirers are coming back to make use of the facilities after a strange time after all the lockdowns during the pandemic.

Established a permanent Christmas Tree after two years of having a cut tree via Jacksons Nurseries ready for this Christmas.

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

A big thank you to all who are looking out for Cheddleton playing field and especially our group of volunteers for all the work they have done and continue to do litter picking and wildlife enhancements going forward making it a lovely place to visit and use.

Toll Bar Playing Field - Maintenance of playground equipment and grounds to keep it tidy.

Wetley Rocks Playing Field - Continued maintenance of the playground equipment and working to secure the future of it going forward.

Bridge Eye - Still a lovely space but works required to improve the Well and eliminate flooding in the future working with Cautionary Lands Charity.

Inspections of all footpaths and way markers have continue to be looked after by our group of volunteers whom I take this opportunity to thank for their help and assistance in looking after the footpaths.

Also, our volunteers have done a tremendous job on Footpath 38 and Grange Banks to open and thin out the area of too many trees to allow better access. The funding of new nesting boxes to encourage birds to come and nest. 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: -	
In Memory of Jackie Pilarczyk -	
Guide Dogs for the Blind & British Heart Foundation (£50 each)	£100
Douglas Macmillan Hospice	£200
Royal British Legion - Poppy Wreaths	£175
Cancer Research - Pudding Run	£49
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust - Membership	£42
CPRE - Membership	£36

Council's Christmas Card Collection in 2021 the Parish Council again held its own Christmas Card Collection for the Royal British Legion and raised £150 for the Cheddleton Branch.

Despite the resignation of 6 Members of the Council being Olivia Lucas, Carole Ball, Nigel Belson, John Carr, Keith Harvey and more recently Tom James who was co-opted this year. We have managed to co-opt new members Councillors D. Boden; D. Kari, Mrs. J. Parkes and Mrs. L. Shaw leaving us still one member short for Cheddleton Ward.

He concluded that it had been an honour to be the Chairman during the past year and commit to being chair for the next year in the hope that he can continue to work with all to serve and provide the answers for residents of Cheddleton, Wetley Rocks and South Lowe Wards. It has been a wonderful experience to represent the Council on several civic events during the year, including laying a wreath on Remembrance Sunday.

He concluded by thanking the members and the Clerk for their support, and our brilliant handyman Steve Billings who joined us in December 2019 as he has proved to be a brilliant asset with no job too much trouble or beyond his capabilities. He also thanked the public and the press for the interest they have shown throughout the last year. He stated that many of you will not appreciate that all the work carried out by the members' is unpaid unlike District and County Councillors who are paid an allowance and expenses - their duties are performed purely for the good of the parish, for this he commended all who serve and have served on the Parish Council.

- 560. ANY OTHER BUSINESS** - Councillor Ahmad asked about the Chairmanship for two years as it is normally decided at the AGM. The Clerk explained that this forms part of the Standing Orders for our Council, but this will be re-affirmed at the AGM.

Chairman