

Cheddleton Parish Council

MINUTES OF FOOTPATH & COUNTRYSIDE/ CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CRAFT CENTRE MEETING ROOM, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON TUESDAY, 22nd. NOVEMBER 2022.

ATTENDANCE Vice-Chair - Councillor M.P. Worthington (CPF) - Chaired the meeting.
Councillors - M.T. Bowen, Mrs. V. B. Cornes, H.R. Jennings, D. Kari & Mrs. L. Shaw.
Members - Mr. R. Beresford, P. Green & Mrs. G. Higginson.

Clerk - Ms. L.J. Eyre.

38. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received from Councillor I. Dakin, and Mrs. C.A. Lovatt, it was resolved to accept these.
39. **MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATH & COUNTRYSIDE / CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING OF 27th. SEPTEMBER 2022** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
40. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**
Re. Min. 21. Matters arising therefrom - Councillor Jennings asked if the dog warden has been out. Councillor Worthington will chase him up.
41. **CORRESPONDENCE:** -
42. **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PATHS INITIATIVE FUNDING PROJECT** - Mr. P. Green updated that CVR are still very interested in collaborating to get the leaflets done to promote walks including the buttercross but since we last discussed it, they have done some work but will need updating with photos so could do with being walked again and updated. Mrs. Higginson stated she was more than happy to do that. The Clerk explained that we want an information stand at the Railway Station to encourage people interested in walking the footpaths locally. CVR would help with the printing and housing a stand. If we work to getting the leaflets refined and costings for printing to apply for the funding. Mr. Green explained that Cheddleton Station is not being used as a station as such, during Polar Express and will open again in new season 2023, It will be a living museum and the ticket facility will be in the former Station Masters living room, with a small refreshment facility and waiting rooms which could house the leaflets. It was discussed about interest in CVR and meeting up so suggested that we get in touch with them direct and invite to our meeting. The Clerk will contact Greg Wilson.
43. **UPDATE ON THE RESTORATION OF THE BUTTERCROSS** - The Clerk reported that Historic England have visited both Nick Carter (Inspector) & Marie Twomey (Risk Project Officer) to assess the current state of the buttercross. Councillor Mrs. Cornes reported as she met with them and completed the walk to the cross. The monument needs fencing off and better access than the sheep stile. The Clerk gave a quick overview for new members and if they place it at risk as to the priority for funding. Councillor Mrs. Cornes reported further that there may be a requirement for archeology report which could prove expensive. The Clerk will arrange a meeting now with Historic England to gain an update and plan of action going forward and include the volunteers and owner for their permission to fence it off. Mrs. Higginson reported that the fields have cows grazing which is an issue when walking to the cross.

44. **UPDATE/SURVEY OF PATHS IN THE PARISH - VOLUNTEERS** - The Clerk reported that Mrs. Higginson and Jan have completed the surveys and will swop areas and repeat again and the current spreadsheet of works was handed to all members and Mick had reported that they are on top of most works. The Clerk reported that the volunteers have started to work on FP 38 now again and are working at the Basford Bridge Terrace end near the entrance and have cleared an area down to the canal which has opened an area which they are going to make some benches for as a picnic area. All wood donated by Staffordshire County Council. Kissing gates, stiles and steps made safe and without the volunteers keeping on top of these works the footpaths would not be passable. Councillor Worthington asked the Clerk to pass on the Councils thanks.
45. **HIMALAYAN BALSAM/JAPANESE KNOTWEED** - Councillor Bowen reported that the Himalayan Balsam is spreading along the canal & river and needs urgent attention. Councillor Worthington asked it to be reported to Canal & River Trust. No reports of Japanese Knotweed.
46. **UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING FOOTPATH MODIFICATIONS/APPEALS** - The Clerk reported that the ROW Panel met and dealt with one modification. 13 applications this year and 25 new applications with a total of 288 outstanding. So, the backlog keeps growing. A couple of cases have been taken to the ombudsman. The records on the County Councils website are not up to date. We have 11 showing in our area as outstanding. With the oldest being 1990 and that's one that we raised but they have looked at it and sent information through. The modifications that have been agreed by the ROW panel there is still no orders made to include these on the definitive map. The latest modification is dated January 2020.
47. **ANY NOTED FOOTPATH OBSTRUCTIONS/REPORTS WITH ROW** - FP 62 is logged with ROW at SCC as an issue and remains as a report outstanding as obstructed by a building at both ends. Councillor Worthington will take it up on our behalf. The Clerk reported a road sign missing at Wetley Rocks which still hasn't appeared yet. Councillor Worthington asked the Clerk to send him the details and he will take it up with SCC. Councillor Jennings mentioned FP 39 which runs from the Boat Inn as someone had put up a sign saying private property. Mrs. Higginson stated she had removed the sign and waymarked the path and cut back the trees. The Clerk reported that FP47 & FP48 she had contacted Mari Lewis from Daclour Maclaren who aids non-operational land on behalf of the National Grid as these are around the substation and she has agreed that works be raised and completed. Mrs. Higginson reported an issue with badgers causing a huge hole in the footpath. The Clerk will give an update on the progress next time. The Clerk reported FP52 which the owner has stated that they would be agreeable to a diversion but still logged with ROW as a report. FP59 was logged and removed but the Clerk has stated that it is still an outstanding issue. FP70 is logged as obstructed and remains a report with SCC ROW.
48. **WAYMARKING** - Mrs. Higginson reported up to date.
49. **DEEP HAYES/COUNTRYSIDE/CANALS** - Mrs. Higginson reported that some dead geese have been found at Deep Hayes and confirmed as Avian Flu. The Clerk reported that there is a new Ranger Steve Spackman who has not yet made any response, but they have a group of volunteers and we have put one of our volunteers in touch with Adrian Bell to help as he can't work on Wednesdays every week with our volunteers.

50. **UPDATE CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD CHAIRMAN'S IDEAS/SMDC PROJECTS - RESIDENTS SURVEY** - The Clerk reported that Councillor Dakin has managed to get a wildlife shrub pack which he will look at doing a volunteer's day to plant next year. The bird boxes have been a success and encouraged birds to nest. The Clerk is making the survey through Survey Monkey to get feedback from residents about the prospect of making improvements to the tennis courts so that we have evidence to move forward with funding if there is enough interest to make such improvements. The Clerk reported that following the meeting with Fields in Trust they are keen to gift the playing fields to the Parish Council which will be discussed at next full council meeting once they have put forward a proposal. The Clerk also reported that Mr. Beresford has cleared the tennis courts of weeds which is much better. He and Mr. Wheawall continue to look after the memorial gardens and has mentioned that the tiles on the mosaic keep being removed and he has requested adhesive to glue them back on which was agreed. Thanks for their continued works.
51. **GENERAL CONDITION OF THE FIELD** - The Clerk stated that the condition is good.
52. **ANY WORKS REQUIRED/VOLUNTEERS** - Councillor Mrs. Shaw asked about the safety surface and the Clerk reported that Handyman is providing a quote to do the works. Fields in Trust are not an option as they have no funds. The next full inspection is due so will highlight if it is a major issue.
53. **GRANGE POND** - Nothing to update.
54. **BRIDGE EYE** - Councillor Jennings reported that Cautionary Lands have completed the wall repairs, but the drainage is still an issue, but they have a plan to investigate a new solution. Councillor Worthington stated the next meeting is 12th. January 2023. The Clerk reported they will pay for the new swing seats so once ordered they will be billed.
55. **FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS** - No items raised.
56. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS 2023/24** - Members were give the latest figures and discussed this year's budget and suggested provisions for next year.

14th. March 2023
Chairman