

Cheddleton Parish Council

MINUTES OF FOOTPATH & COUNTRYSIDE/CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CRAFT CENTRE MEETING ROOM, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON TUESDAY, 12th. MARCH 2024.

ATTENDANCE Chairman - M.P. Worthington

Vice-Chairman - Mrs. L. Shaw

Councillors - M. Ahmad, M.F. Cunningham, C. Ramos, and Miss. S.J. Rogers.

Members - Mr. R. Beresford, Mrs. G. Higginson & Mr. P. Green.

Clerk - Ms. L.J. Eyre.

Councillor - K. Harvey.

1 member of the public.

58. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs. A. Grocott, and Miss. V.L. Salt, and it was resolved to accept these. Councillor Worthington welcomed Councillor Harvey and thanked the volunteers for everything they do.
59. **MINUTES OF THE FOOTPATH & COUNTRYSIDE/CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING OF 14th. NOVEMBER 2023** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.
60. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** - No items were raised.
61. **CORRESPONDENCE:** - Keep Britain Tidy - Great British Spring Clean 15th - 31st March - Councillor Miss. Rogers has signed up and pledged 10 bags. Litter pickers and high vis vests which are with Ian Dakin the Clerk will contact him and post the litter pick on Facebook.
65. **HIMALAYAN BALSAM/JAPANESE KNOTWEED** - Agenda item brought forward. A member of the public had contacted and was in attendance and making residents more aware of the Himalayan Balsam and make it a group activity. The Clerk explained that the Canal & River Trust had a suggested date of 15th. May for a Himalayan Pull Event. If we could also co-ordinate with landowners and place more signs along the canal. Make people aware on Facebook and that they can help by taking part in the removal of it.
62. **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PATHS INITIATIVE FUNDING PROJECT** - Mr. Green reported that Churnet Valley Railway (CVR) have walked all the footpaths again and one of them has been closed due to a landslide at Booth's and Crowgutter Woods on RSPB land. CVR will approach Staffordshire County Council for the funding once they have a price for the finished leaflet.
63. **UPDATE ON THE RESTORATION OF THE BUTTERCROSS** - The Clerk reported that since the meeting with Historic England in December 2023 we have made some progress thanks to Councillor Harvey. The plan is coming together for around the Buttercross which will be done in conjunction with the farmers locally and our volunteers and Staffordshire County Council. Historic England has pledged funding for the works required on the Buttercross and we await their help and that we cannot move forward without funding in place. But a lot of the preparation is coming together finally since the project commenced in 2019.

64. **UPDATE/SURVEY OF PATHS IN THE PARISH - VOLUNTEERS** - The updated spreadsheet has been circulated of any works and issues outstanding and completed. Councillor Harvey reported that there are quite a few outstanding items because of the constant wet weather and lack of free supplies from Staffordshire County Council. Also, works have concentrated in the woods along Footpath 38. Mrs. Higginson reported Footpath 46 large stone been placed blocking it, which Councillor Harvey will investigate on Wednesday by the fishing pools in Wetley Rocks. Mrs. Higginson mentioned Footpath 67 which is with ROW which has been built on and only they have the authority to do something about it. The Clerk will chase all the outstanding reports with SCC. Councillor Rogers reported Bull signs on Footpath 14 & Footpath 17 where there are no bulls. Mr. Green mention Footpath 32 and a new stile which is away from the actual footpath. Councillor Harvey stated this has been temporarily re-rooted. Footpath 24 needs a new stile as reported by Mr. Green.
65. **HIMALAYAN BALSAM/JAPANESE KNOTWEED** - Already discussed.
66. **UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING FOOTPATH MODIFICATIONS/ APPEALS/ DISCREPENCIES** - The Clerk reported that the next CROW Panel for SCC is 15th. March and scheduled to discuss one modification. Councillor Worthington stated he could not understand why they are only dealing with one a meeting when there are so many outstanding.
67. **ANY NOTED FOOTPATH OBSTRUCTIONS/REPORTS WITH ROW** - The Clerk reported we have several Fingerposts reported missing. The only one resolved is Footpath 77. Councillor Harvey stated that they are not replacing the old metal ones, they are only using wooden ones and the volunteers will more than likely be installing them when they are available. A further report has been sent through this week to ROW on Footpath 52.
68. **WAYMARKING** - All Waymarkers are constantly being checked and put up to help with directing walkers. Councillor Miss. Rogers stated Footpath 19 keep being removed.
69. **DEEP HAYES/COUNTRYSIDE/CANALS** - Mrs. Higginson reported that they have had 3 seats vandalized. The Clerk reported a broken branch over the canal towpath by the Flint mill which was dealt with very quickly by Canal & Rivers Trust.
70. **UPDATE PROJECTS/WORK PARTY/DEED OF DEDICATION - CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD** - Councillor Worthington asked the Deed of Dedication. The Clerk reported that there has been no progress from Fields in Trust. We need this sorted as soon as possible so he will chase it up on our behalf as County Councillor. We cannot start to apply for funding until this has been done. The Clerk stated that we have 5 quotes now for works on the tennis courts so we can approach Matt Swindlehurst for help with funding so we will approach him. The Awards for All application has been submitted to install the Trim Trail at Toll Bar and a further application will be submitted to Leek United Building Society for the Springer at Cheddleton. Support Staffordshire have assisted.
71. **GENERAL CONDITION OF PLAYING FIELD** - Wet but in good condition.
72. **CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD - ANY WORKS REQUIRED/VOLUNTEERS** - The Clerk reported that there has been some damage to the larger tower climbing frame with slide last week. Several people contacted and sent photographs of the damage to the rope walk and that it was dangerous. This was made safe the same day and fixed by Steve the following day. This needs reporting to the Police which the Clerk will report it. Mr. Beresford reported further damage to the seats overlooking the canal. A lot of moles have

started to come up so need treating. Councillor Mrs. Shaw reported some large holes had been dug on the football pitch which Steve will fill.

73. **GRANGE POND** - The Clerk reported that the annual maintenance has been completed.
74. **BRIDGE EYE** - The Clerk reported that the well is still flooded so no further works can be done on Bridge Eye because of collapsed drains on Station Road. There has been no update from Councillor Williams or our Liaison Officer Paula Lees from Staffordshire County Highways. Councillor Worthington will discuss this with them as to what work is required and when they will be done. The Clerk reported that we have Tom Neale waiting to sort out the issues with the Well, but it is pointless until the road is fixed, and it stops flooding.
75. **FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS** - No agenda items raised.

14th. May 2024.
Chairman