

Cheddleton Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
MEETING ROOM, CRAFT CENTRE, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON
TUESDAY, 18th. OCTOBER 2022**

ATTENDANCE Chairman - H.R. Jennings.
Vice-Chairman - Mrs. C.A. Lovatt

Councillor - M. Ahmad, M.T. Bowen, I. Dakin, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley, D. Kari,
S. Scalise, Mrs. L. Shaw, H.J. Tunna, and M.P. Worthington.
Co-opted Councillor - Mrs. V.B. Cornes and Mrs. V. Salt.

Clerk - Ms. L. J. Eyre.
PCSO - Paula Lowndes
2 Members of the public.

113. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs. J. Parkes and A.P. Worthington will be joining the meeting later, it was resolved to accept these.
114. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS FOR 2 VACANCIES - CHEDDLETON WARD** - The Clerk had circulated the application for 3 candidates Val Cornes, Victoria Salt & Andrea Grocott. Councillor Ahmad proposed that each candidate to speak about themselves, so they were invited to do so. Councillor Ahmad proposed a ballot, seconded by Councillor Dakin. The ballot took place, and most votes were for Val Cornes & Victoria Salt so were duly invited to join the Council. The Clerk thanked Andrea Grocott.
115. **CO-OPTED COUNCILLORS TO SIGN DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE** - the 2 Co-opted members completed the Declaration of Acceptance, and they joined the meeting.
116. **RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLORS/ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR & COMMITTEE MEMBERS** - The Clerk read out the letter of resignation received from Vice-Chair, Mrs. L.M. Salt. This means we have a further vacancy and no Vice-Chair until the end of term, so proposals invited for her replacement. This also leaves a further vacancy for the Ward of Cheddleton so this will have to be formally advertised. Councillor Mr. Salt has also removed himself from all Committees that he is a member due to work commitments, so we have vacancies due to this. Councillor Worthington joined the meeting. Councillor Ahmad proposed Councillor Worthington for Vice-Chair, Councillor Bowen proposed Councillor Mrs. Lovatt. Councillor Worthington declined to stand in favour of Councillor Mrs. Lovatt. Councillor Tuna seconded Councillor Bowen's proposal for Councillor Mrs. Lovatt, and it was agreed by her to stand, and all members agreed. The Clerk congratulated her on taking on Vice-Chair and explained that she now becomes a member of all Committees. There are now vacancies of various Committees. Firstly, Planning & Amenities there are 2 seats. After discussion Councillor Kari & Mrs. V. Salt agreed to accept those seats. Next Burial Grounds had 2 seats so Councillor Worthington & Mrs. Cornes agreed to accept the seats. Next Footpath & Countryside/Cheddleton Playing Field Committee had 1 seat which Mrs. Cornes agreed to join. Next HR Committee had 1 seat which Mrs. V. Salt agreed to join. Lastly the Parish Assembly which Councillor Kari agreed to attend as the Council Representative.

117. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Councillor Mrs. Lovatt in planning application SMD/2022/0500 because she lives in close proximity.
118. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written requests for dispensations received.
119. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - The Clerk announced that the Cellarhead & District Horticultural Society meeting 1/11/2022. Boogie Mites starting classes on Wednesdays so I will put posters up. The Chairman presented flowers to Councillor Mrs. Hartley on her 80th. Birthday & Beryl Fleming on her 90th. Birthday. Thanks were received from both. The Clerk sent a letter of condolence for the Queen. The Chairman stated that there are 9 planning applications to discuss at the end. The Clerk has a meeting with Fields in Trust tomorrow should anyone wish to attend at Cheddleton Playing Fields. Further Police Surgery Saturday 5th. November at Community Centre. Councillor Training arranged for Friday 4th. November 2022 from 10.30-12 and Forsbrook PC & Leek Town Council have been invited and please contact me with your attendance by this Friday.
120. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - No questions from members of the public present.
121. **MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING 16th. AUGUST 2022** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
122. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** - No matters were raised.
123. **COMPLETION OF THE AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022** - The Clerk reported that there were no issues with the Audit, so the Notice of Completion has been issued 24th. August 2022 and advertised on Notice Boards and our website.
124. **APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR/BUDGET TRAINING/INTERIM AUDIT** - The Clerk stated that we need to formally appoint our internal auditor. Councillor Bowen proposed Alan Toplis Associates on the recommendation of the Clerk, seconded by Councillor Tunna, all agreed. Budget training will take place prior to the next Council Meeting commencing at 7pm which was agreed that all members should be trained on. The internal interim audit is booked for Tuesday, 25th. October for this year.
125. **SMALLER AUTHORITIES AUDIT APPOINTMENTS OPTION TO OPT OUT OF EXTERNAL AUDIT APOINTMENT WEF 1/4/22 ENDING 31/3/27** - The Clerk reported that as an Authority we have received a letter which offers us the option to opt out of the appointed external Auditor by the Smaller Authorities Audit. Last year was Mazars and the decision will be made who is appointed for the next 5 years but we can appoint our own but will need to opt out by 28th. October and then have 8 weeks to appoint one. Councillor Worthington proposed that we stay with whoever is appointed, seconded by Councillor Scalise. All agreed after some discussion.
126. **GROUND MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN/BUILDING WORKS** - Councillor Jennings reported that there has been reports that our handyman has taken on some other Councils so his response time will be monitored. The Clerk reported that James Barber has cut the sundial hedge at Wetley Rocks after being asked to do it for us. The tree works agreed at Cheddleton Playing fields have been done by Charles Piggott, but the wood left has disappeared. Councillor Dakin reported that he took away the die

back tree because we did not want it left. He then made wildlife habitats out of others and left too big logs to make seats out of which have been removed by someone. A fly tip has been left of wood which needs to be removed. The Clerk reported that she has had a catch up with Steve and gone through outstanding items being the moving of the Britains Paper Mill sign, painting of the ceiling in the meeting room. Council Jennings reported the new heater which has been installed in our meeting room. The Clerk reported that Cheddleton Playing Fields safety surface is still a big issue with it lifting and shrinking back. Councillor Shaw reported that there are holes appearing in the middle. The Clerk reported that the replacement is extremely costly, but Steve has suggested pinning it down around the edge and concrete being filled in between the outer edge and filling in the gap. Fields in Trust meeting tomorrow may be willing to advise and SMDC for funding. The Clerk reported on the tarmac which needs to be patched at the removal of the mobile. The handyman has asked Wrights to quote. Approaching Darren Sutton another firm have quoted between £45 - £65 per square meter and Steve can quote to do the works so the Clerk will bring back all options for the Council to decide on. Councillor Worthington recommended another contractor Wayne Riley. The tree works behind 4, Kingsley View have been completed by Charles Piggott as instructed. The covering up with topsoil of the old safety surface at Wetley Rocks playing field has been done by Steve. The Clerk reported that the Fire Station had approached her to obtain a combination lock for the barrier at Cheddleton Playing Fields because they have had to cut off the padlock on various occasions when fires have happened so if we shared the combination, they would have access. This would be the best approach for all 3 play areas if members agree to purchasing 3 locks, then it would reduce costs in future. It was proposed by Councillor Bowen for the Clerk to purchase 3 and seconded by Councillor Mr. Hartley, all agreed. The Clerk reported that Mrs. Amanda Kari has now withdrawn her proposal for a community hub in the community centre, so we need to look at future use and works. Support Staffordshire will help to produce a consultation with residents as to what they want from the community centre before moving forward with any building works and funding which can be discussed on the Management Committee. The plumbing works has been done because of removing the mobile so all safe and the tap to the cemetery has been reinstated. The wall now exposed which was behind the mobile needs to be pointed so quotes will be obtained. The pumps at the craft centre have been serviced. The tree stump has been ground out at the Asylum Burial Ground as agreed. The maintenance is now being carried out by Pip and he is making an extremely good job. He has re-defined the path as agreed and looks much better but his quote for £50 was not enough for the work completed. The Clerk suggested £80 as agreed with him. He has also quoted to remove the leaves off the pathway for £50. It was agreed to pay him £80 and ask him to clear the leaves once they have all come off the trees. The Clerk reported that Your Housing have not put the boulders in yet on Mill Lane so she will chase this up with Dave Lovatt. Councillor Bowen stated that Cheddleton Lawn Cemetery hedge needs cutting can this be reported to Jim. Councillor Jennings asked could the Clerk ask for the hedge behind Wall Lane Terrace and between St. Edwards Lawn Cemetery by the owners.

127. **UPDATE ON RENOVATIONS CRAFT CENTRE/BEAUTY ROOM** - The Clerk reported that it has been stripped out and first fix of electrics have been done and after speaking to the electrician he has suggested in the back room to replace the false ceiling in the massage room but to insulate as planned the whole of the room so should the use of the room ever change it could be removed. After speaking to Emily, she had requested that the heater in the massage room be more controllable as the heaters in the new room are too powerful. The windows last 3 are arriving this week. Building Control have inspected.

128. **UPDATE ON BASFORD BRIDGE LANE BRIDGES/CCTV** - The Clerk had another report from residents of an overweight vehicle, but the works had not even been completed. Councillor Dakin stated he was informed of it by the resident.
129. **RENEWAL OF COUNCIL INSURANCE** - The Clerk reported that the insurance was due for renewal 1st. October 2022 and as there was no meeting in September, she had approached Zurich who quoted £3812.91 for the year and £3447.27 for a 3-year term even with the removal of the Mobile. BHIB who we have been insured with for the last 3 years quoted £2434.12 for 3-year term so the Clerk consulted with the Chairman and in order to not leave the Council uninsured agreed to go with BHIB which is cheaper than the premium for this year. Councillor Worthington stated that Leek Town's insurance has gone up dramatically so that is really good. The Clerk did state that the buildings do need to be revalued which may affect the premium going forward but needs to be done this year as it is several years since this has been done and we will have to re-look at the cover.
130. **RENEWAL OF SOFTWARE PACKAGES - NORTON/MICROSOFT/NEW PRINTER PURCHASE** - The Clerk reported that these ran out in September, and she took the initiative to renew them gaining a discount for Norton from £64.99 costing £19.99 for the year. Microsoft was £59.99 and the printer needed to be replaced at a cost of £185 but includes free ink for the next 8 months which is the most cost effective.
131. **LEGACY FROM LATE VERA HEATH - £500** - The Clerk reported that Tinsdills Solicitors contacted with the legacy left in her will which has been received and will be discussed on the Burial Grounds Committee.
132. **UPDATE ON DEFIBRILLATORS** - Councillor Kari reported that a lot of defibs are not registered and are not made available for use by people contacting the emergency services as they are not aware of them. They all need to be registered and maintained regularly or else they are useless. Maybe we have funding available for replacement batteries and pads. Councillor Kari stated that addresses need to be put on them too so that they get returned when they are used. Councillor Scalise stated this is important to keep them checked and registered. Councillor John Jones at SMDC maybe a contact to speak to so Councillor Bowen will give Councillor Kari details for him to contact him. Training for people needs to be organised and Councillor Kari is willing to organise this.
133. **UPDATE GREEN SPACE BOTTOM OF GRANGE ROAD/VERGE SPRAYING PROGRAMME/PARKING** - Councillor Dakin stated that the drainage issue has been resolved and the drains have been re-directed. There has been a digger parked. The Clerk reported that the verge spraying has been completed but the weeds are still growing and lifting the tarmac.
134. **CANCELLATION OF WESTWOOD SCHOOL BUS** - Councillor Dakin reported that at the beginning of the new school year about a third of the village 13-year-olds have been allocated the 16 -16a have rather than the Robin Hood coach and not running efficiently so parents have been complaining. He had spoken to the head at Westwood and there is not enough room on the service bus, so children are standing. Councillor Dakin will take it up with County Council and report back.
135. **OVERGROWN HEDGE - A520 NEXT TO BRIDGE - CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported it to Ann James, and it has been cut.

136. **DRINKING & DRUGS KNOWSLEY COMMON PICNIC AREA** - The Clerk reported that this has been reported regularly to her by Steve the handyman as it is being used regularly for drinking and drugs with evidence provided and passed onto Paula Lowndes PCSO present. It has been reported to the Police and Councillor Bowen has contacted David Smith at SMDC who responded by stating he will raise it at the next meeting with the Police.
137. **UPDATE ON MEMORIAL BENCHES** - The Clerk reported that Steve has installed all but one of the benches purchased just one remaining for Jackie the previous Clerk and agreed with the Flint mill to site it there and meet with the family to sort this out. There is space at St Edwards Lawn Cemetery for 3 more only and there are 3 people interested in having them for relatives, so we need to order some more benches. Councillor Mrs. Hartley proposed that we order 5 to gain a better discount, seconded by Councillor Mr. Hartley all agreed.
138. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW POLICIES/ SLCC CIVILITY & RESPECT PLEDGE - METAL DETECTING POLICY/ EYE TEST AND GLASSES POLICY/ EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY & DIGNITY AT WORK POLICY** - The Clerk reported that these have all been circulated to Councillors. Councillor Bowen proposed that we sign up to the SLCC Civility & Respect Pledge, seconded by Councillor Tunna and all agreed with the statements. The Metal Detecting Policy is instead of signs as the Clerk suggested is a better way of dealing with it after some research. Amendment to state it comes before the Council for discussion if asked by anyone to detect on Parish Council land as added by Councillor Dakin. Proposed by Councillor Bowen, seconded Councillor Dakin all approved. The Clerk circulated a new version of Eye Test Policy as amended by Councillor Dakin with the latest legislation and self-assessment of workstation. The other two policies it was agreed to adopt them.
139. **SLCC NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2nd & 3rd NOVEMBER 2022** - The Clerk reported that Conference is fully booked but that she could attend virtually at a cost of £125 + VAT for the 2 days. Councillor Bowen proposed the Clerk attend, seconded by Councillor Tunna and members agreed.
140. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES: -**
- a. **Community/Craft Centre Management Committee**
 - b. **Planning & Amenities Committee**
 - c. **Reports from Outside Bodies - SMDC Committees, SCC Highways Liaison Meeting, Cautionary Lands Charity Meeting, SMDC Parish Assembly, SLCC Staffordshire Branch Meeting, Police/Council Surgery** - The Clerk reported that Cautionary Lands met and thanked for the new bench installation. The wall by the bus stop has been repaired but the drainage still needs to be done. The swing seats are £60 each so the Clerk will report to the secretary and see if they want to pay for them. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that they have funds available for grants. The Clerk attended the SLCC Branch Meeting & the Police Surgery only had one couple attend who raised the issue of speeding traffic on the Cheadle Road in Wetley Rocks up to Plough Bank wanting speed signs which is a Highways issue.

141. 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 Chairman and The Clerk signed the Balance Sheet as at 18th. October 2022 also attached.

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

142. CORRESPONDENCE: -

- a. Amey Report 4292092 - 20, Woodlands Avenue, Cheddleton - Overgrown Hedge - Unable to action 15/9/22.
- b. Amey Report 4293625 - Leek Road, Wetley Rocks - Noisy Grid - Completed 22/9/22.
- c. Amey Report 4293627 - Heath Avenue, Cellarhead - Missing Bollard.
- d. Amey Reports 4293636, 4293637, 4293638 - Rownall Road, Wetley Rocks - Pot Holes.
- e. Advanced Proteins Liaison Meeting - Friday, 21st October 2022.
- f. Research on Rural Energy.
- g. Reported Fly Tip - Hollow Lane, Cheddleton - Partially removed.
- h. Community Defibrillator Grant.
- i. SMDC Enquiry Dog Bins - St. Edwards Park Estate.
- j. SLCC Updates.
- k. CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund.
- l. Staffordshire County Council News.
- m. Canal & River Trust Update.
- n. Fraud Updates.
- o. CPRE News.
- p. HMRC Updates.
- q. TTRO 4288937 - Ostlers Lane, Cheddleton - Road Closed 24th. October 2022.
- r. Community Foundation Grant.
- s. Correspondence via Website Contact Us - Ownership of a wall on Fold Terrace/ Pointon's Recreational Park/Overgrown Trees, Station Road/Boogie Mites/Family Rogers in Cheddleton/Booking Dog Training Classes in the Community Centre - Councillor Bowen proposed we do not allow, seconded Councillor Tunna, all agreed.
- t. Dyslexia Training.
- u. SMD/2022/0235 - 7, St. Hilda's Avenue, Cheddleton - Detached garage and store - No Objection - Approved 7/9/22.
- v. SMD/2022/0329 - Wayfields Farm, Rownall Road, Wetley Rocks - Removal of condition 4 relating to 13/00448/FUL - Objection - Approved 16/9/22.
- w. SMD/2022/0367 - Holmlea Cottage, Leek Road, Cellarhead - Single storey rear extension with flat roof to replace existing rear extension - No Comment - Approved 31/8/22.
- x. SMD/2022/0264 - Bridge 37, Leek Old Road, Longsdon - Listed building consent for faithful reinstatement of the structure - No Objection - Approved 9/9/22.
- y. SMD/2022/0368 - 3, Fold Terrace, Cheddleton - Small single storey bay extension to front elevation - Approved 31/8/22.
- z. TTRO 4288862 - Mill Lane, Wetley Rocks.

143. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - No questions from members of the public present.

144. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. SMD/2022/0444 - Land East of Cellarhead Substation and West of Rownall Road, Wetley Rocks - Erection of a Flexible Energy Facility.
Strongly Object - Greenbelt.
- b. SMD/2022/0463 - 120, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton - Replacement of existing rear single storey extension with new two storey extension.
No Objection.
- c. SMD/2022/0465 - Land at Basford View, Cheddleton - Proposed erection of a dwelling.
Objection that this is inappropriate development in the green belt, there were no special circumstances exhibited.
- d. SMD/2022/0487 - 83, Lilac Grove Farm, Folly Lane, Cheddleton - Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of 8 dwellings.
No Objection.
- e. SMD/2022/0500 - 43, Big Southlow Farm, Leek Road, Wetley Rocks - Change of use from Agricultural storage building to single dwelling.
No Objection - provided that there is no interference with existing water main in the vicinity.
- f. SMD/2022/0462 - 334, Prospect House, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton - Change of use from bed and breakfast to dwellinghouse.
No Objection.
- g. SMD/2022/0494 - Spring Cottage Farm, Mill Lane, Wetley Rocks - New pitched roof and end gables along with new feature glazed entrance.
No Objection.
- h. SMD/2022/0383 - 48, Heath Avenue, Cellarhead - Replacement single storey extension, proposed front porch, new dropped kerbs.
No Objection.
- i. SMD/2022/0398 - 81, Basford Bridge Lane, Cheddleton - Two storey side extension with single storey rear and demolition of existing garage.
No Objection.

Chairman
15th. November 2022.