

**Cheddleton Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN  
CRAFT CENTRE MEETING ROOM, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON  
TUESDAY, 28<sup>th</sup>. NOVEMBER 2023**

**ATTENDANCE** Chairman - M. Ahmad.  
Vice-Chairman - Miss. V.L. Salt.

Councillor - D.S. Bagnall, M.F. Cunningham, Mrs. A. Grocott, K. Grocott,  
Mrs. C. A. Lovatt, O.C. Pointon, C.A. Ramos & M.P. Worthington.  
Co-opted Councillor - Miss. G. Grocott.

Clerk - Ms. L.J. Eyre.

185. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs. V.B. Cornes, M.J. Leeder, Mrs. L. Shaw, & Miss. S.J. Rogers, it was resolved to accept these. Also, Councillor Mrs. V.L. Salt will be late.
186. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS FOR 3 VACANCIES** - The Clerk reported that one application for Cheddleton Ward - Georgia Grocott. All agreed so she was co-opted.
187. **CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE** - This was completed by Councillor Miss G. Grocott.
188. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no declarations of interest.
189. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written applications for dispensations received.
190. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - The Clerk read out letter of thanks from Mr. John Tunna for the gift for his 80<sup>th</sup>. Birthday.
191. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - No members of the public were present.
192. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 24<sup>th</sup>. OCTOBER 2023** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.
193. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** - No matters were raised.
194. **GROUND MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN/BUILDING WORKS** - Councillor Mrs. Lovatt reported that the fire hydrant sign on the corner of Southlowe Avenue, the clerk will report it.  
The Clerk reported that she had made up a sign to be put on people's cars on Mill Lane for Jim Gibson to ask the owners not to park their vehicles on a certain day and time. This was circulated and members agreed it was a good idea which the chair suggested to aid him in the cutting. Unable to report on the schedule of works as Jim has not let her know. The hedges are due to be cut and tidy up and grange pond. Councillor Grocott suggested a WhatsApp group that Jim could upload works as he performs them with photos for members to see but the Clerk explained he has not got a mobile phone. Councillor Pointon stated as a matter of health & safety and lone working he should give us details of where he is working. Issue him with a copy of the policy.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Pointon has obtained a free Christmas Tree supplied by Jacksons being the third tree for outside the Community Centre as the first two have died off in the last couple of years. Chairman thanked him.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Cunningham has obtained a quote for sanding and sealing the floor of the main hall in the Community Centre for £1950 from Mr. D. Birch, and he could start the works commencing 29<sup>th</sup>. January which will take 5 to 6 days. He has also done Wetley Rocks Village Hall and comes recommended. It was proposed by Councillor Worthington, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Lovatt to proceed with the works. All agreed it was a very good price for everything including materials.

The Clerk has had Unite Fire & Security has been to look at the Fire Alarm in the Community Centre to replace the Intruder Alarm Control Panel and Keypad without replacing the sensors which would cost £1057.14 + VAT but if the sensors need to be replaced it will cost more. He also looked at the Craft Centre Alarm and isolated the Meeting Room because the sensors may be broken. Councillor Pointon suggested another contractor to give a price. The Clerk will co-ordinate this with the Clerk.

The Clerk reported that the photographs and Chairmans board have been put back on the walls in the meeting room by Steve and Stan. The Queen's Tree (A birch tree) at Wetley Rocks next to the Remembrance Bench, which was gifted in 2018 as part of the Queens Commonwealth Canopy has been snapped off deliberately.

The Clerk reported that the two noticeboards at Wetley Rocks Village Hall & The Oval have had the locks changed and are fully functional again which Steve, the handyman has done. New notices at either end of the Asylum Burial Ground about uneven surface have been put on the gates. The new sign on the Memorial Garden at Cheddleton Playing Fields has only lasted a week before it has disappeared. Agreed to get another sign and fix it on a post to replace it.

**195. SIGN OFF ON CRAFT CENTRE RENOVATIONS** - The Clerk reported that there were a few things highlighted on the snags list which has been completed and the final Certificate has been issued signing the job off so the final retained fee can be paid if agreed of £1142.02 + VAT. This was recommended to pay in full as works completed.

**196. QUOTES FOR REPLACEMENT FOUR WAY SPRINGER - CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD** - The Clerk reported that she had two quotes from Proludic to replace the whole thing being £2524.12 excluding VAT or £1096.40 which is for replacement of the top so using the existing spring. It was agreed to ask their expert advice as to if the spring is still viable before deciding.

**197. UPDATE PROJECTS/DEED OF DEDICATION - CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD - MEMBERS WORKING GROUP** - The Clerk reported discussions took place at Cheddleton Playing Field Committee and the main areas were raised being fencing off the plantation to protect it, football pitch and lighting, enclosed dog space, tennis court /multi use games area, bike/skate area and previous quote for Gym Equipment. District Council Matt Swindlehurst has written asking on our progress to apply for funding. Councillor Ahmad stated we have a plan, and we need to display the ideas to consult residents. The Clerk reported that there must be some consultation to obtain funding. After some discussion it was decided to get a working group organised as soon as possible. Councillor Miss. Salt, Cunningham, Pointon, Worthington, Bagnall & Ahmad. Councillor Cunningham stated that he had met with Staffordshire Football Association about the Football Pitch today and they will fill in the Pitch Power application on our behalf. The Clerk suggested a Saturday at the Playing Field on Saturday 2/12/2023 at 9am in the car park with a tarmac contractor to look at the tennis court to see if it needs to be replaced.

198. **NJC NATIONAL SALARY AWARD - 1/4/2023** - The Clerk has circulated the new salary scale. Councillor Worthington proposed and seconded by Councillor Pointon all agreed.
199. **THE SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERK (SLCC) ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - £298** - The Clerk recommended membership and agreed to subscribe again.
200. **CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND (CPRE) ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - £36/£60** - The Clerk reported that we are currently a member and they have requested different contributions. Agreed to continue to pay £36.
201. **STAFFORDSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - £42** - The Clerk reported that we are currently a member and agreed to subscribe again.
202. **QUOTES FOR FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS - COMMUNITY/CRAFT CENTRE** - The Clerk has obtained 2 quotes for full fire risk assessments. Unite Fire & Security have quoted £793.33 + VAT for each building to be assessed. Also, Safety Assessment Solutions quoted £750 for Community Centre and £500 for Craft Centre. Proposed by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Pointon to award Safety Assessment Solutions the job to perform the assessments. Resolved to go ahead.
203. **QUOTES FOR FIRE EXTINGUISHERS - COMMUNITY/CRAFT CENTRE** - The Clerk stated that we have had the extinguishers checked as an annual contract to do this. In the Community Centre we require 3 replacement extinguishers at the Community Centre 2 x 2kg CO2 in the kitchen & 1 x 6kg Water, Total cost of £205. In the Craft Centre we need 3x 2kg CO2 & 2 x 6kg Water, Total Cost £375 which we need to purchase. Proposed by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Pointon. Resolved to go ahead.
204. **LEGIONELLA RISK ASSESSMENTS - COMMUNITY/CRAFT CENTRE - COMPLETED 13/11/23** - The Clerk circulated the reports from the completed assessments which highlights some issues with high risks which some can be elevated by documenting areas of checks will solve the risks. But it has highlighted that some water temperatures are too low, so we need to get these issues solved. The Clerk will investigate expert advice as to what is required. We have 3 months to solve the issues raised.
205. **UPDATE ARTS GROUP - FUNDING FOR HIRE OF COMMUNITY CENTRE - AUTUMN/SPRING TERM** - The Clerk reported that the District Councillors Community Initiative Fund has been agreed to fund this just awaiting the receipt of the grant from our 3 District Councillors.
206. **UPDATE REPLACEMENT LED LIGHTING - COMMUNITY CENTRE** - The Clerk reported that the works are completed and the grant towards it was obtained through County Council. A few lights remain which could also be upgraded to LED's so a further quote will be obtained to replace the last few. These could be potentially funded by SMDC. Future agenda item.
207. **CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION/ COUNCIL DINNER** - The Clerk reported that Spice Merchant would cater for £20 per head in January for a minimum of 20. Councillor Miss. Salt suggested £25 per head which will give a donation to the chairman's charity. It was decided that the date would be Friday 26<sup>th</sup>. January 2024 at 7pm. The Clerk suggested a photograph of Council.

- 208. UPDATE REMOVAL OF BUS STOP MAIN ROAD, WETLEY ROCKS BOTTOM OF PLOUGH BANK** - The Clerk reported that she had finally had a response but that it stated the same as previously issued in July that D&G requested it be removed but no details of a risk assessment being carried out. Therefore, a response has been sent again for a copy of the risk assessment from County Councillor David Williams. The Clerk has issued responses to all enquiries from residents.
- 209. UPDATE ROAD SAFETY PARKING ON PLOUGH BANK - AMEY REPORT 4337430** - The Chairman asked Councillor Worthington for a costing to put double yellow lines on Plough Bank so that we could consider getting funding to put them in. Councillor Worthington stated he had been quoted £7500. The chairman asked for it in writing to obtain funds.
- 210. UPDATE ON DEFIBRILLATORS** - The Clerk reported that we had to return a defibrillator from Wetley Rocks Village Hall for a software update so AEDdonate loaned us a replacement. This was returned direct to the Village Hall, so we had two in the box but our original one had no pads but AEDdonate provided them free of charge. We had applied to DHSC Defibrillator Scheme for a further device as there was 100 available free of charge and a further 1900 at the cost of £750 which the 100 have been allocated but the others are being allocated on a first come first served basis once payment is received, they will issue one. There is a possibility that Leek Link Taxis may be willing to sponsor the device if it is put in the Community Centre. Staffordshire Moorlands are looking to take on all defibrillators in Staffordshire Moorlands with AEDdonate to keep all defibrillators registered with West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) and make sure they are all in working order. As there have been issues where the device has been registered for use but there have been deaths through it not being checked and ready for use.
- 211. UPDATE ASYLUM BURIAL GROUND LAND OWNERSHIP** - The Clerk reported the Land Registry shows that the roundabout is not under the Parish Councils ownership. A solicitor would need to be consulted for advice about the issue raised.
- 212. REQUEST FOR PURCHASE OF LAND BEHIND CHEDDLETON PARK AVENUE** - The Clerk reported that we have been approached via Councillor Worthington about purchasing some additional land at the back of 82. The Council own a portion of the open space but the land behind this house is not owned by the Parish Council. The resident would need to contact the owner.
- 213. UPDATE PROPOSAL FOR SOLAR PANELS AT COMMUNITY CENTRE, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that we have now got two quotes from Energy Box £10,986 add additional £10,995 for battery storage. Broadoak have done a like quote of £23,904 for both solar and batteries. 18 years payback. Planning Permission would be required as it is in a conservation area. There is funding available for this type of project. Proposed to gain planning permission prior to moving forward by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Pointon so resolved to apply and then discuss installation.
- 214. CROW MEETING/APPEALS/FOOTPATH UPDATES** - The Clerk reported that the November Meeting of the CROW discussed 2 applications. The list of applications continues to grow, and the deadline is in discussion to extend it to 2030 rather than 2026 because not all applications can be dealt with in that time scale. Also, The Buttercross has been chased up by Rt. Hon Karen Bradley and she has contacted the CEO of Historic England, and we have a meeting with Rachel Boulton on 15<sup>th</sup>. December 2023 at 11am for her and a structural engineer to look at the cross to move the project forward.

214. **a. ANY RESIDENT APPLICATION FOR QUESTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED IN PUBLIC QUESTION TIME APPLY IN WRITING PRIOR TO THE MEETING** -  
Agreed to amend Standing Orders to state this.
215. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES** -
- a. **Planning & Amenities Committee**
  - b. **HR Committee (Confidential)**
  - c. **Community/Craft Centre Management Committee**
  - d. **Footpath & Countryside/Cheddleton Playing Field Committee**
  - e. **Reports of Outside Bodies - SMDC Parish Assembly** - No representative attended.
216. **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 28<sup>th</sup>. November 2023 also attached. S137 Expenditure is limited for 2023/24 is £9.93 per electorate.  
\***Authorised under Sec. 137 of the L.G.A. 1972 'Free Resource'**\*
217. **CORRESPONDENCE** -
- a. Staffs Moorlands Voluntary Community Social Enterprise Locality Forum - Monday, 11/12/23 2-4pm - Zoom Meeting. The Clerk will attend.
  - b. Staffordshire Moorlands DC - New Electoral Register 1/12/23. Applied for new Register.
  - c. Remembrance Service Cheddleton - 12/11/23 - Photos.
  - d. Tree Preservation Order SM331 - Cheadle Road, Wetley Rocks - 15/11/23. Circulated to members.
  - e. Amey Report 4290857 - Morridge View, Cheddleton - Trees overhanging Roadside - Inspected 18/10/23 Enforcement Letter issued.
  - f. Amey Report 4325805 - Station Road, Cheddleton - Flooding/Bridge Eye - Update 11/11/23 not yet able to co-ordinate resources.
  - g. Amey Report 4351506 - Cheadle Road, Cheddleton - Pothole - Reported 16/11/23.
  - h. Amey Reports 4351509, 4351510, 4351511, 4351515, 4351517, 4351518, 4351519, 4351522 & 4351523 - Park Lane, Cheddleton - Potholes.
218. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - No members of the public were present.

Chairman  
28<sup>th</sup>. November 2023.