

**Cheddleton Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN  
CRAFT ON CENTRE MEETING ROOM, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON  
TUESDAY, 23<sup>rd</sup>. JANUARY 2024.**

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

Councillor - D.S. Bagnall, Mrs. V.B. Cornes, M.F. Cunningham, Mrs. A. Grocott,  
Miss. G. Grocott, K. Grocott, Mrs. C. A. Lovatt, Miss. S.J. Rogers, and Mrs. L. Shaw.  
Co-opted Councillor - K. Harvey & T.G. Williamson.  
Clerk - Ms. L.J. Eyre.

243. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies were received from Councillor, O.C. Pointon, M.J. Leeder, and M.P. Worthington it was resolved to accept these.
244. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS FOR 2 VACANCIES - 1 SOUTHWLOWE WARD & 1 WETLEY ROCKS WARD** - The Clerk reported that one application for Southlowe Ward - Keith Harvey and one application for Wetley Rocks Ward - Tom Williamson. After some discussion Councillor Ahmad proposed Keith to be co-opted, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Lovatt. And Tom proposed by Councillor Ahmad, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Cornes. All agreed so they were both co-opted.
245. **CO-OPTED COUNCILLORS TO SIGN DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE** - This was completed by both new co-opted Councillors Harvey & Williamson.
246. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no declarations of interest.
247. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written applications for dispensations received.
248. **ANNOUNCEMENTS - COUNCIL DINNER 2<sup>nd</sup>. FEBRUARY 2024 & BARNEY WILLIAMS - ADVANCED PROTEINS ATTENDING NEXT MEETING** - 27 stated they are coming so far. Councillor Ahmad explained that Barney Williams will be attending next month's meeting if anyone has any questions.
249. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - No members of the public were present.
250. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 19<sup>th</sup>. DECEMBER 2023** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.
251. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:** - No matters were raised.
252. **GROUND MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN/BUILDING WORKS** - The Clerk reported that she has spoken to Jim Gibson and have arranged to meet twice a month and quarterly with the Chairman. Any recommendations for future maintenance. The Clerk reported that the hedges have been cut at the Asylum Burial Ground and the leaf removal by Pip. The trees have been dealt with by Charles Piggott as agreed. Steve has put the fence in as agreed. Other jobs completed are re-set steps at Community Centre and clearing of both sets of steps on Cheddleton Playing Fields by the handyman. The Clerk reported a few items have been removed from St. Edwards Lawn Cemetery and reported to her that they have possibly been stolen, but the rules and regulations stipulate

that ornaments should not be placed on graves. After some discussion Councillor Harvey asked is there a sign stating what is allowed so Councillor Mrs. Lovatt proposed a sign referring to the rules and regulations be erected for visitors seconded by Councillor Cunningham.

- 253. PUMP SERVICE - CRAFT CENTRE** - The Clerk reported that he 6 monthly service of the Pumps is due, and the price has increased from £95 to £125 which has not been increased for many years. It was proposed that Pisces Pumps conduct the service by Councillor Mrs. Shaw, seconded by Councillor Miss. Rogers so the Clerk will arrange to get this done.
- 254. UPDATE FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT - COMMUNITY/CRAFT CENTRE** - The Clerk reported that she is meeting on Thursday with Paul who is going to go through the action plan of requirements. A few things already reported the Fire Panel/sensors and alarm have been tested. The detectors in the Craft Centre are too low as they have been fixed on the beams and not the ceiling. The installers have been asked to come back to look at them. Signs missing and PAT Testing is required but he will give us a plan of actions. We also need to extend the Fire Alarm into the tearooms and an evacuation plan and a few other issues, but all will be reported back once we have the action plan.
- 255. UPDATE REPLACEMENT LED LIGHTING - COMMUNITY CENTRE** - The Clerk gave details of the quote, but further quotes will need to be obtained as it is over £1700 and look at funding to do the works.
- 256. EON ANNUAL STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE 2023/24** - The Clerk reported that the invoice has arrived for the annual charges being £1746.94 plus V.A.T. for our streetlights owned by the Parish Council. The Clerk will ask about changing them to LED and the cost to convert them.
- 257. MERGING COMMITTEE/CALENDAR COMMITTEES FOR THE SAME DATE** - The Clerk explained that this has been discussed previously would cutting the number of meetings per committee and starting the meeting earlier than 7.30pm. It was discussed and suggested that this should be implemented from May's Annual Council Meeting. Planning has been moved to the same night as Full Council Meeting which was a trial. After some discussion it was agreed that it remains on the agenda for next month, so Councillor Miss. Salt proposed that Councillors produce proposals for changes for the next meeting, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Cornes and agreed to email the Clerk.
- 258. UPDATE COMPLAINT REGARDING SIGNAGE - CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD** - The Clerk reported that she has fed back to the resident the suggestions raised at last month's meeting. SLCC responded by stating that unless there is an order in place, we cannot enforce to keep dogs on leads. SMDC responded they are reviewing the PSPO and where further signage is required. The Clerk will speak to District Councillors to speak to SMDC officers.
- 259. UPDATE PROJECTS/DEED OF DEDICATION - CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD - MEMBERS WORKING GROUP** - The Clerk reported she has met with several suppliers and is still in the process of obtaining quotes. The Deed of Dedication is still in process.
- 260. QUOTES FOR TOLL BAR PLAY EQUIPMENT** - The Clerk has met with several play equipment suppliers and has now got two quotes for consideration but will have further details for the next meeting.

261. **AMEY REPORT 4360490 & 4360507 PARK LANE, CHEDDLETON - GRIT BIN & FLOODING** - The Clerk reported that this is a long outstanding issue on Park Lane near to Deep Hayes Country Park since 2018. New reports have been logged with SCC Highways and County Councillor Williams and shared videos with County Councillor Worthington but no update.
262. **UPDATE AMEY REPORT 4337430 ROAD SAFETY PARKING ON PLOUGH BANK** - The Clerk reported that a quote has been estimated to cost for double yellow lines on plough bank of £7000 so we can now look at gaining funds from local businesses.
263. **UPDATE AMEY REPORT 4325805 & 4344412 STATION ROAD - FLOODING/WELL WORKS ON BRIDGE EYE** - The Clerk reported that the grid by the well is clear, but Councillor Miss. Grocott reported that it was still flooded this week. We have not had confirmation from County if works have been carried out, but the grid looks clearer.
264. **FLY TIPPING REPORTS FOR BLACK BANK ROAD & THORNEY EDGE ROAD** - The Clerk reported that two fly tips have been reported to SMDC at both locations. Thorney Edge Road is a regular tipping site so asked if there were any cameras available for this spot to catch the culprit in the act. The response was that it has been cleared.
265. **EMPTY GARAGES - MILL LANE, WETLEY ROCKS** - The Clerk reported that we had received enquiries from Councillors Cunningham & Williamson about re-letting them. The response was that they require works before letting so further enquiries will be made and details of contacts to the Councillors who have asked.
266. **UPDATE ON DEFIBRILLATORS - INSTALLATION COMMUNITY CENTRE/ NEW FIRST AID KITS x 4** - The Clerk reported that the defib has now been installed at the Community Centre and that there is still some more grant funded ones available. Therefore, we should look at acquiring another one in Wetley Rocks. Councillor Miss. Rogers had spoken to the landlord of The Powys Arms and will fund it by contributing £375 plus a further £100 from a resident and our chairman has offered to pay the rest. Ashcombe Park Cricket Club have asked if we would take on the one installed there as it is currently not live on the circuit. It was donated to them from Endon First Responders so further conversations with them to see where we stand.
267. **UPDATE PROPOSAL FOR SOLAR PANELS AT COMMUNITY CENTRE, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that the planning permission has been submitted and await the outcome before progressing any further with the project.
268. **CROW MEETING/APPEALS/FOOTPATH UPDATES** - The appeal against the decision to refuse our application from Deep Haye to Crown Point made 27/6/23 ref 3325911 has been allowed so this modification will be processed to make the addition to the definitive map. This is happening regularly after refusal that the appeals process overturns the decision as Waterhouses Parish Council & Biddulph Town Council have also been successful.
269. **DOUGIEMAC HOSPICE REQUEST FOR FUNDING** - The Parish Council have previously made donations being £200 in 2022. Councillor Cunningham proposed a donation of £200, seconded by Councillor Mr. Grocott. All agreed.

- 270. NEW MODEL CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS - NALC/SLCC** - The Clerk explained that this has been recommended so refer it to the HR Committee. Councillor Mrs. Lovatt stated that it is important that it is reviewed.
- 271. HP PRINTER CHARGES INCREASE TO £49.49 w.e.f. 24/1/24** - The Clerk reported that the agreement is being increased. Noted by members.
- 272. WATERPLUS - CRAFT CENTRE BURST ALLOWANCE CLAIM** - The Clerk reported that since the leak the bill received was £4429 which we normally pay £100 per month but an application has already been made for the burst allowance and the direct debit has been cancelled until this has been resolved.
- 273. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES** -
- a. Planning & Amenities Committee**
  - b. Community/Craft Centre Management Committee**
  - c. Reports of Outside Bodies - SMDC, Cautionary Lands Charity Meeting 18/1/24** –  
No reports.
- 274. 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. Bradleys who produce the payroll for the Clerks salary there is an overpayment of £126.62 which dates to before 2017 which will be off set against what we need to pay this quarter to HMRC.
- \*Authorised under Sec. 137 of the L.G.A. 1972 'Free Resource'\***
- 275. PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR** - The Clerk circulated all details prior to the meeting as the tax base has increased to 2260 properties an increase of 4 from 2023/24. The Finance Committee have looked at the income and expenditure so proposed an increase in the precept from £81,000 to £82,000 which will increase a band D equivalent by 38 pence per year being 1.058%. Councillor Miss. Rogers proposed the Precept of £82,000, seconded by Councillor Cunningham. All agreed.
- 276. CORRESPONDENCE** -
- a.** Full Electoral Register for Cheddleton as at 1/12/23 - Staffordshire Moorlands District Council.
  - b.** Traffic Restrictions - Road Closures planned by Staffordshire County Council. Coming up for Huntley Road, Denford Road, Blank Bank Road, Knowsley Common, Knowsley Road, Park Lane, and Plough Bank.
- 277. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - No members of the public were present.

Chairman  
27<sup>th</sup>. February 2024.