

Cheddleton Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN CHEDDLETON
COMMUNITY CENTRE, ROOM 1, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON
TUESDAY, 19th. OCTOBER 2021**

ATTENDANCE Chairman - Councillor H.R. Jennings.
Vice-Chair - Councillor Mrs. L.M. Salt

Councillor - M. Ahmad, M.T. Bowen, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley, Mrs. J. C. Parkes,
G.W. Salt, S. Scalise & H.J. Tunna

Clerk - Ms. L. J. Eyre.

133. **APOLOGIES** - Councillors I. Dakin, Mr. T. James, Mrs. C.A. Lovatt & M.P. Worthington it was resolved to accept these.
134. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Councillor Bowen as a member of Staffordshire Wildlife.
135. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written requests for dispensation were received.
136. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - The Clerk announced that a flower arrangement is being sent to Mrs C. Beardmore because of the sad death of her mother and all the work she has done on the Creche cleaning it up. No Planning applications to consider.
137. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - There were no questions from the public.
138. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 21st. SEPTEMBER 2021** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
139. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** : -
Re. Min 112. Update Street Light Ashcombe Road, Cheddleton - The Clerk reported that no further information has been received as to when works might commence after the meeting with EON in September.
Re. Min 113. Village Gateway Signs - Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that this had been discussed at the meeting with SCC Highways and that Metal Gateways would not be allowed because of safety. Confirmation of this will be given.
Re. Min. 115. Quote for Tree Works required Oak Tree next to 12, Cheddleton Park Avenue - The Clerk updated that the works would take place in December.
Re. Min. 119. Community Centre Mobile Structural Survey - Councillor Scalise stated he had read the report and that although the surveyor had stated it is unsafe, he has not calibrated the thickness of the timbers underneath the floor. Councillor Jennings reported that it is not fire safe at all as the walls are not fire retardant and the floor is unsafe in areas. There is a limited lifespan to the structure. Councillor Scalise stated there are no calculations to the weight resistance of the wood. Councillor Jennings repeated that the survey has reported that the numbers would have to be limited for its use. Councillor Mr. Hartley stated that the report states that the specification of the building does not meet with legislation standards if it is being constructed today. Councillor Bowen stated that he

is a professional surveyor who has looked at the mobile and in his professional opinion he has stated that it has outlived its expected lifespan as it is only a temporary structure. When the other mobile was removed it was stated the same and this mobile is older. Councillor Scalise asked why we are not costing to bring it up to standard and would it cost less money than demolishing it. Councillor Jennings stated that the survey has been done and the findings must be followed. Councillor Ahmad suggested maybe a second opinion. The Clerk stated that the survey has been done and we are now aware of its failings and if improvements are costed these will have to meet today's health & safety standards which will inevitably require costly works to do that. This would void the Council's insurance on it if standards were not met and would be very costly to the Council if a claim were made against the Council should something happen now that we are aware that it is not completely safe. Councillor Ahmad stated a point of order that the Clerk should speak through the Chairman.

Re. Min. 120. Update on St Johns Drive Housing Development - Councillor Bowen reported that he had spoken at length to Sammons Architects who has tried to blame Ameys & SCC but that the bond has now been signed and keys to the houses are due to be handed over this month to residents now finally.

Re. Min. 121. Update on Basford Green, Cheddleton - Road/Verge Damage - Councillor Bowen reported that he is still awaiting the Police to update him.

Re. Min. 125. Non-Consecrated Area in St. Edward's Lawn Cemetery - Councillor Scalise asked that the photograph showing the area what is the actual area of non-consecrated land. Councillor Jennings reported that it is 20 feet from the roadside boundary in all the way down the cemetery. Councillor Scalise asked if there is a map of the area as he is under the impression that the area is only 10 feet from the boundary and all the way around. He has spoken to the previous Clerk. Councillor Jennings stated that Councillor Bowen was present also and he is still a member of the Council. Councillor Ahmad asked why is it not been marked out to show the non-consecrated part of the cemetery? He asked if the Burial stone must be on the same side as all the others as a Muslim the grave has to face the correct way. Councillor Jennings stated that as it is non-consecrated ground it would not matter but that the plot next to it could be someone from a completely different religion or non-religious belief. Councillor Ahmad stated that he has a legal right to be buried in Wetley Rocks as his family lives there.

Re. Min. 128. Reports of Committees and Outside Bodies d. Finance Committee - (Confidential)

140. **ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR VARIOUS COMMITTEES** - The Clerk reported that there are still vacancies on Cheddleton Playing Field and Footpath & Countryside. The Chairman stated if anyone else was interested to please let the Clerk know.

141. **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN WORKS/BUILDING WORKS** - The Clerk reported Steve Billings has checked the swing seats on Bridge Eye as requested and reported that they are all good and are checked weekly. The missing football posts were the crossbars and posts have been removed from the Community Centre. The parts still on the playing field are the bottom rollers. So, we now have not got a full set. The Clerk reported that Mrs. Hine asked for them to be moved and that is why they were moved to the Community Centre.

- 142. UPDATE ON RENOVATIONS CRAFT CENTRE/ ADDITIONAL INSURANCE CHARGE** - The Clerk reported that works have started last week and that the insurance company have been notified and an additional premium of £168.00 to cover the building whilst works are being carried out. Councillor Tunna proposed that this be paid and was seconded by Councillor Bowen. All Agreed.
- 143. CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD INSPECTION REPORT** - The Clerk reported that Inspection Report has been circulated and this will be picked up by the Handyman any improvements that can be made but all items reported are low risk so nothing of great concern. She also reported that at the SLCC Conference she was chatting to a play equipment company and with regards to shrinkage of the safety surface they recommend removing the boarders and Shaffer into the grass and then no trip hazard. Councillor Scalise reported it is the gaps and holes in the middle that there are issues.
- 144. UPDATE ON SCC DIRECTIONS FOR FOOTPATHMODIFICATIONS/LE614G REAR OF OX PASTURE, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that the latest meeting of the ROW Panel was 8th. October 2021 and the list is still growing for those that still need to be dealt with. Our application LE614G has been granted and now await the order to be made to add it to the definitive map.
- 145. STAFFORDSHIRE WILDLIFE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL £42** - The Clerk reported that the membership is due for renewal, so this was proposed by Councillor Ahmad and seconded by Councillor Mr. Salt to pay the membership of £42 for the year. Councillor Bowen declared interest so did not vote but members agreed.
- 146. CAR PARK - FIELD BY WETLEY ROCKS VILLAGE HALL** - Councillor Mrs. Hartley reported that this had been brought up at the Village Hall Committee Meeting as an alternative use for the field. Councillor Jennings reported that to tarmac the area would be in the region of £101k. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that the access is not ideal via the Village Hall Car Park and residents will have to be satisfied that it would be too expensive. Councillor Jennings also stated it is a greenbelt area too. Councillor Ahmad stated that we can not just dismiss the idea as carparking is essential in this area as there is a lack of it. Councillor Scalise stated that it would need to be prepared seriously to become a carpark. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that the residents that back onto the carpark would not be happy. Councillor Bowen stated it would be too expensive and difficult access so it would not be worth pursuing. Councillor Tunna stated that the Carpark already on Mill Lane where the garages are would make more sense, but residents will not use it because it is not very well lit. This is owned by Your Housing and the bushes need to be cut back and space for 10-15 cars which could be used. The garages are not in full use. Could we arrange for additional streetlight to help encourage the use of it. Councillor Ahmad has been trying to contact them to ascertain ownership without success. Councillor Bowen will contact Your Housing and establish ownership and get it tidied up. Councillor Ahmad stated that garages are empty but that residents would rent them if they could contact the owners. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated it would be irresponsible to not pursue this before tarmacking a field at great cost if this could be used. Councillor Scalise stated that if the garages were removed it would be better use as a carpark. It could be an asset that the Parish could maybe acquire. This needs to be a future agenda item.

- 147. UPDATE BASFORD BRIDGE LANE BRIDGES/CCTV** - The Clerk reported that after last months meeting Ian Bogges who attended did have a look at the stones overhanging and reported that there is no health & safety issue and that the structures team are making regular checks on the whole bridge. Also, the repair works are hopefully scheduled for 23rd. November dependant on permission for a road closure. There was a traffic diversion put in place due to Station Road being closed for urgent works by Western Power which directed all traffic down Basford Bridge Lane to access Station Road via the Weight Restricted Bridge. Paula Lees was contacted and got this shut down quickly, but a couple of large vehicles had issues and got stuck but she had not received notification until after being contacted by the Clerk. A further email has been sent to the Police Crime Commissioner Mr. Adams for a response and an update has been received that John Henderson has responded to him from SCC but that he will report back to us as soon as he has digested his response. A further road closure for Basford Bridge Lane on 8th. November from Brittain Road junction 200m up the road. Councillor Scalise stated that the last road closure was not necessary as they were only working on one side of the road. He also updated that last week at 6.50am he came across a large artic reversing back into Cheddleton Park Avenue and into Kingsley View churning all the verges up. He then drove up Basford Bridge Lane to another 18-wheel artic coming down the road. It is not going to stop.
- 148. UPDATE ON CRECHE, COMMUNITY CENTRE/BOILER SERVICE** - The Clerk reported that the Creche has now been cleared out and classes taking place in the mobile have been moved to there or accommodated in other rooms in the Community Centre. Jobs 22 have made enquiries asking when will the Community Centre be closed at Christmas so are looking to continue using the room for 2 days a week now as they are struggling to find accommodation in Leek where they would prefer to be situated. The Boilers are due for service so the Clerk will arrange for this on the two boilers in the centre at £50 per boiler.
- 149. FUTURE OF COMMUNITY CENTRE MOBILE** - As this had already been discussed as part of the minutes no further discussion took place.
- 150. UPDATE ON ST. JOHNS DRIVE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT** - Councillor Scalise asked if there had been an issue with flooding and was it the actual houses. It was suggested it had just been the land not he houses. Councillor Bowen updated that the Well will be re-instated as soon as possible.
- 151. UPDATE ON BASFORD GREEN, CHEDDLETON – ROAD/VERGE DAMAGE** - Already reported on as part of minutes.
- 152. UPDATE ON PARK LANE, CHEDDLETON ROAD ISSUES/WORKS** - The Clerk Already reported on as part of the minutes.
- 153. CHEDDLETON CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL** - Councillor Jennings reported that we need to have a public consultation to get the residents to make an input. Councillor Bowen stated that the suggestion is to include from the Craft Centre on to Beresford's Farm where a more sensible approach would be to include Ox Pasture as the is Local Green Space. Councillor Ahmad agreed. Councillor Scalise stated it will help with the area to include historic buildings to stop too many changes from taking place to buildings even down to the colour of the door. They will then have to apply to permission to make changes. Councillor Bowen stated that when it comes to replacing things it can be replaced with UPVC if it is like for like. Councillor Bowen proposed setting up a public consultation meeting and this was seconded by Councillor Ahmad, and all agreed.

Councillor Jennings stated that all ideas need to be considered and put forward. This is just for Cheddleton now as it is already a Conservation area which is under review. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that we need a leaflet produced to inform people and invite SMDC officers to answer residents' questions. Councillor Bowen will speak to SMDC to see what the process is and report back at the next meeting.

154. **CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION** - Councillor Jennings stated that he wants to donate it to Royal British Legion as it is 100-year anniversary so seems fitting to make donations to them. We will collect at the November Meeting.

155. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES: -**

a. **Planning & Amenities Committee**

b. **Burial Grounds Committee**

c. **Outside Bodies :- SMDC Committees, AP Liaison Group, SMDC Parish Assembly, SLCC Branch Meeting, SLCC Conference & SCC Highways Meeting -**

Councillor Mrs. Hartley asked was anything discussed at AP Liaison with regards to the smell issues? Councillor Jennings raised it and they will investigate it, and Councillor Bowen stated that someone had been burning tyres which may have contributed to the issues. There are now monitors in place to monitor the smells. If they are going to do any works, could they leaflet the residents to keep them informed. Councillor Jennings stated they are looking to build a new building and asked them to consult with residents before moving forward. Confidential discussions took place. Concerns were raised that the residents need to be consulted and full details given of any future for expansion. SMDC Parish Assembly covered SCC Highways no confidence which was the main issue. Councillor Mr. Salt reported that there has been no reply from SCC. The Clerk read out the response to the Parish Assembly from SCC from John Henderson(CEO) in response to the letter dated 12 March 2020. Councillor Scalise stated that roadworks is causing major delays being caused and works are not happening just coned out and lights for much longer than is necessary.

SLCC Branch Meeting - Time Management Training Course. Information received from other Councils such as leaflets and details of which Council is responsible for which service as Clerks waste a tremendous amount of time re-directing people to the correct service provider. The Clerk suggested that this be looked at and added to our website. SLCC Conference was highly informative of new information and good to talk to other Clerks. Helping Communities to help themselves.

SCC Highways Meeting which the Clerk took minutes and circulated those to Councillors to inform them of issues raised and circulated the responsibility information of SCC Highways which is very clear to who is responsible for what on the Highways. The Clerk reported on the responses already received from Paula in response to the meeting and items brought up. Next meeting scheduled for 14th. January 2022.

156. **ACCOUNTS** - See attached report for accounts authorised for payment. All members received Bank Reconciliation, payments, receipts, and budgets as spent to date. The Chairman and The Clerk signed the Balance Sheet as at 19th. October 2021 also attached. Councillor Tunna proposed payment, and all agreed.

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

157. CORRESPONDENCE: -

- a.** SMD/2021/0354 - 68, Willow Drive, Cheddleton - Proposed Ground Floor Extension to form Study. No Objection - Granted 8/10/21.
- b.** Active Places updates.
- c.** Cyber Crime updates. COVID Pass related fraud, Mail and Cyber awareness month.
- d.** JR Landscaping. Keep on file for future contracts.
- e.** 111 Kiosks. New project in Emergency Departments & Minor Injuries are being swamped by patients who are unable to get to see a doctor.
- f.** My Staffordshire Newsletter.
- g.** Action Fraud Alerts. Keyless Van thefts.
- h.** Residents letter with regards to dogs on Cheddleton Playing Field especially in the toddlers play area. Future Agenda for Cheddleton Playing Field Committee.
- i.** Temporary Traffic Order Folly Lane commencing 15th. November to 3rd. December 2021.

158. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - No members of the public were present at this point.

Chairman

16th. November 2021.