

Cheddleton Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON
TUESDAY 20th. APRIL 2021**

ATTENDANCE Chairman - Councillor M.T. Bowen.
Vice-Chairman - Councillor H.R. Jennings.

Councillor - Ms. C.Y. Ball, N. Belson I. Dakin, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R. J. Hartley,
K. Harvey, Mrs. C. A. Lovatt, G. W. Salt, Mrs. L. M. Salt, S. Scalise, H. J. Tunna, and
M.P. Worthington.

Clerk - Ms. L. J. Eyre.

201. **APOLOGIES** - Apologies for absence were received from Councillor - M. Ahmad, and J. Carr, it was resolved to accept these. Councillor Worthington joined the meeting later.
202. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Councillor Bowen declared that he is member of Staffordshire Wildlife and Councillors Mr. & Mrs. Salt are members of CPRE.
203. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written requests for dispensation were received.
204. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - The Chairman asked the members of the Planning committee to stay behind at the end of the meeting to consider 4 planning applications. The date change of the Annual Council Meeting from 18th to 4th. May 2021 and a further two emergency agenda items. He also announced the sad passing of David Fielden a previous Councillor and Eric Willshaw who was a lifelong resident of Cheddleton. The Chair also, announced that Councillor Ms. Lucas has resigned as she has found that since starting her master's degree is unable to commit enough time to being a Councillor that the position requires alongside her other commitments. The Clerk will notify District Council of the vacancy as soon as possible.
205. **PUBLIC QUESTION** - No members of public were in attendance.
206. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 16th. MARCH 2021** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
207. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** : -
Re. Min 85. Update on photographs for website - Councillor Mrs. Hartley commented on the old website that the late David Fielden had designed and that the photographs are incredibly good, and it is difficult to do any better. The Clerk reported that all photos received have been passed onto the company and will be added to the new website and we can assess if any more are required. Councillor Mrs. Hartley stated that David did put a lot of work into creating it.
208. **REMOTE MEETINGS CALL FOR EVIDENCE** - The Clerk reported that SLCC have contacted with regards to the end of the legislation to be able to hold virtual meetings after 6th. May which the government have not reviewed so they are asking all Councils to complete a call for evidence as to the unsatisfactory action not to extend this further until the end of restrictions laid down. We have also received correspondence from Rt. Hon. Karen Bradley M.P. asking for the Council's opinion on being left to hold face-to-face meetings.

208. REMOTE MEETINGS CALL FOR EVIDENCE (Cont'd...)

Councillor Dakin stated that we have been told to work from home where possible but to get to work when there is no alternative, but Zoom has worked, so it seems strange that Parish Council's are being forced to meet face-to-face. The Clerk reported that there is a court case tomorrow to take action against this. Councillor Harvey stated that he is reasonably happy with Zoom but there are alternative rooms to meet in if our meeting room is not adequate under current restrictions for space. Councillor Mrs. Lovatt stated that as a Parish Council who have declared a climate emergency and the situation that we are in to travel to an alternative venue when we have Zoom even if we do some of the meetings via Zoom makes more sense. A majority of Councillors would continue to use Zoom if we could. This will be passed on through the survey and to Rt. Hon. Karen Bradley M.P.

209. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN WORKS/BUILDING

WORKS - Councillor Mrs. Lovatt reported that a patch of grass on the bend on Heath Avenue the grass is quite long even though The Oval has been cut and looks tidy. The Clerk reported that it is cut by Staffordshire County and not by Jim.

The Clerk reported that the handyman has done some further works along the pavement in Wetley Rocks as instructed. He has pointed up the Community Centre gatepost which had been reported. There was a question about the repairs at Tollbar Playing Field and the handyman confirmed that he has paired the timbers together with a centre bar that is resin and anchor bolted and used biscuits to form a bond together so it will hold the weight of a grown man never mind a child. There has also been some damage to one of the posts which needed to be dealt with straight away as it was dangerous. He has replaced it.

The tarmac at Cheddleton Playing Field has been completed at Rennie Crescent entrance which a resident had contacted us about and is pleased that his wall will receive no further water damage. The Clerk reported that the sign at the entrance via Jenny's Way she contacted Rob Beresford and he had the sign so has replaced the post and put it back up.

Councillor Harvey asked that because the handyman is doing a lot more jobs we need to budget for the extra costs. The Clerk reported that she is allocating costs to the relevant committees rather than just to the handyman general hours for his weekly litter removal and checking at Playing Fields and Burial Grounds. Its not that we are doing extra works its just that more items are being dealt with by him and not contracted out because he can deal with it. For example, he is doing the job of the Highways department by weeding and clearing the pavement at Wetley Rocks which we will not have budgeted for. The Clerk stated that we do receive a grant from SMDC for Lengthsman duties which it will be offset against that. She agreed that the maintenance budgets do need to be looked at. Councillor Scalise asked what the limit on costs is that we need to get quotes/tenders for as we need to be looking at this. The Clerk reported for tender it over £3,000. He has not been asked to do any major works and will not be without quotes. Councillor Ms. Ball reported that The Well on Station Road is flooded and not going to the normal levels. The Clerk has reported this to both Staffordshire County Council and Severn Trent as the Handyman has reported it several times. Councillor Jennings suggested that any maintenance jobs maybe the costs could be reported to Council for each Committee. Councillor Tunna reminded that he has 4 seats still in his yard which the Clerk stated she had not forgotten.

Councillor Harvey reported that it is two or three years since the walls on A520 at Wetley Rocks were damaged by vehicle accidents and that the walls are still down. Councillor Bowen reported that SCC are responsible for the safety. The Clerk will report.

- 210. LAND NEXT TO ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY** - The Clerk reported that she has contacted Anne James as asked to increase the rent based on the recent valuation. Anne James came back stating that the land was sold to the Parish Council by her dad, Stan Winterton and it was agreed that they could continue to rent the land at a peppercorn rent until it was needed for the cemetery. Councillor Tunna reported that he remembered that it was agreed. Councillor Worthington stated that this was a few years ago and as its taxpayer's money maybe half yield on the commercial rent would not be unreasonable. Councillor Scalise & Councillor Jennings agreed that it should be increased. Councillor Jennings proposed £50 per annum and that was seconded by Councillor Worthington. Councillor Tunna stated that we have paid the same for bridge eye for many years and it was an agreement so it should be stuck to. The Clerk explained that they have only been paying £10 for previous years and have paid £20 to bring them up to date for last year because of now using two fields and they paid for and erected the dividing fence. Councillor Jennings withdrew his proposal and Councillor Tunna proposed to keep it at £20 per annum, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Hartley and agreed.
- 211. BASFORD BRIDGE LANE BRIDGES/CCTV** - The Clerk explained that all incidents are still being reported. Councillor Scalise reported that an HGV who he tried to stop went over the bridge and went to F. Ball and he complained to them. No matter how many signs they are still going to use the route because Satnav's direct you that way. The only way is for a physical width restriction, but this would need to be signposted too. Council Dakin stated an axel width restriction would be appropriate and he reported that he has emailed 3 companies that he has got details for and only one has come back to him. Councillor Bowen reported that the road to willow cottage along the Canalside has been witnessed being used regularly by tractor & trailer and it will continue to happen. Councillor Scalise stated he notified the Clerk of the incident that he witnessed, and this was over a month ago. Is it just a complete waste of the Clerk's time to keep reporting it if the Police do not respond? The Clerk stated that she did get a response and PC David Davies who was going to contact Councillor Scalise. He confirmed that he contacted him to ask for any photos or video, but Councillor Scalise stated he had witnessed the incident and was willing to give evidence. Councillor Bowen stated that every incident is being passed on and nothing is being done. Councillor Jennings stated it needs to be taken further with the Police and pushing hard to force them into action. Councillor Worthington stated that if the Canal & River Trust want to protect the bridge, they should be asking for a width restriction and so should the Police then something would have to be done. Councillor Bowen stated that we will go to the press again and make it a national article. Councillor Scalise suggested that the Police Chief be approached and quickly. Council Bowen's concerned that the parapet is moving and is dangerous which Councillor Jennings stated that the Clerk has reported this to Canal & River Trust who are not concerned. Councillor Bowen stated we all seem to know we must push on and embarrass them all to get something done.
- 212. BUS SHELTER WETLEY ROCKS/CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk stated the Bus Shelter has been painted finally. The Floor has been painted and the exterior has also been painted. Councillor Worthington asked what it had cost? He also added that they have not changed the Perspex. The Clerk reported that the main pane to see has been replaced. Councillor Worthington had been approached by a resident stating if it has cost £1300 which was previously quoted that they have not made a particularly good job.

- 213. UPDATE ON ST. JOHN'S DRIVE, WETLEY ROCKS** - The Chairman reported that there was an issue with drainage and has been held up for nearly a year. The poor people who have been waiting to move in who are in desperate need of accommodation it is disgusting how long this has been going on for. Works have now commenced eventually.
- 214. UPDATE AMEY REPORT 4166294 FLOODING, PARK LANE, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that all the information has been sent through to Paula at Staffordshire County Highways as the report is still outstanding and Councillor Worthington has been copied in. Paula stated that she has contacted the Operations Team to see if works are scheduled. The Road has been closed so unsure what they have been doing. Councillor Bowen stated it has been an issue since 2012. The Clerk will follow it up again.
- 215. UPDATE ENTRANCE TO CHEDDLETON PLAYING FIELD VIA JENNY'S WAY** - The Clerk reported that SMDC Enforcement have visited and told the owner he needs to move the fence leaving a path of 1.5m as agreed on the Planning Permission. The Clerk also contacted HSE with regards to the asbestos clearance of the old garage who reported back that as it is only very low-grade content of asbestos there is no need for a licensed company to remove it. Therefore, we have done everything we can to make sure that this is safe other than apply for it to be added to the Footpath's definitive map. Councillor Jennings proposed that this be applied for. Councillor Harvey objected what is the point when it will take SCC 100 years to look at the application and it will cost the Parish Council money to add it. The Clerk confirmed that there is only a cost to modify a footpath not to get it added if there is sufficient evidence of its use as a footpath for the ROW to see if it can be added. The Clerk will investigate.
- 216. NALC STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2021** - The Chairman stated that Olivia had been mentioned for young Councillor but as she has resigned this is no longer applicable. There are other categories should anyone wish to come up with any suggests. It was left for Councillors to contact the Clerk.
- 217. UPDATE ON RENT FOR WETLEY ROCKS PLAYING FIELD** - The Clerk reported that she had consulted with a valuer and he has come back with an estimated figure of £400 for the annual rent. The reminder for the 6-monthly fee of £210 has been received. Councillor Worthington proposed paying it. Councillor Scalise asked is it a written valuation to send to the solicitors. The Clerk stated that the valuation is not official to have it in writing we would have to pay. Councillor Scalise recommended getting the cost of a written valuation. Councillor Bowen seconded paying it as the invoice stands and carry on as we have been until they come back.
- 217a. USE OF MOTORBIKE WETLEY ROCKS PLAYING FIELD** - The Chairman reported that a boy has been riding around on a motorbike and disturbed children playing. This needs to be reported to the Police and parents told to stay off the Playing Field with motorbikes or he will be prosecuted. Councillor Scalise stated there was a boy riding up and down Mill Lane who is underage not sure if it is the same one. Councillor Worthington stated that the Police have the powers to take the bike off him. The Clerk reported that a padlock has been put on the gate to stop him getting in, but he had still managed to get on the playing field. Councillor Bowen stated it needs to be reported to Police Inspector Mark Thorley. Councillor Tunna stated there are track marks where he has ridden on the field.

218. **DROPPED KERB - 79, BASFORD BRIDGE LANE, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that a resident had asked if permission had been granted to remove the kerb. SCC have been contacted and Paula will respond. Councillor Jennings reported that you do need planning permission to put in a dropped kerb. The Clerk reported that SMDC have also been contacted and state it does not always require planning permission but to contact enforcement if a permit has not been granted by SCC. Councillor Scalise reported that a registered person has to complete the works. The Clerk will follow it up.

219. **MAINTENANCE OF GRASS VERGE - 19, BEECH AVENUE, CHEDDLETON** – The Clerk reported that this has been reported previously and it has been difficult to find out who is responsible after contacting SMDC and SCC they have both stated that they are not responsible. A Land Registration has been performed and it looks like it forms part of the Council Estate so suggested we contact Your Housing. Councillor Bowen will give the Clerk details of whom to contact.

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

a. **Planning & Amenities Committee Meeting**

Re. Min 92. Refurbishment Works Old Pottery Room, Craft Centre - Councillor Scalise asked for a copy of the specification. The Clerk agreed to email a copy.

Re. Min 103. Cheddleton Canal Boat Development - Councillor Bowen reported that he has spoken to Ben Haywood at SMDC, and he has asked enforcement to investigate this and get in touch with landowners as Planning Permission is required.

b. **HR Committee Meeting (Confidential)** - End of the meeting.

c. **Community /Craft Centre Management Committee** - Confidential item at the end of the meeting.

d. **Reports of Outside Bodies - SMDC Committees and Parish Assembly** -

Councillor Harvey attended the Parish Assembly. Complaints sent about state of the roads as a member of SCC Highways was invited to the meeting but did not attend. Virtual Meetings were discussed.

221. ACCOUNTS - See attached report for accounts authorised for payment. All members received Bank Reconciliation, payments, receipts, and budgets as spent end of 31st. March 2021. Full accounts were not provided as year end process has not been completed yet. The following accounts were authorised for payment w.e.f 1st. April 2021:-

Travis Perkins	99.10
	V.A.T. 19.82
Staffordshire Moorlands DC – Commercial Waste	529.91
Staffordshire Moorlands DC – Commercial Waste	912.63
Staffordshire Moorlands DC – Commercial Waste	398.61
North Staffs Fire – Extinguishers	407.15
	V.A.T. 81.43
Staffordshire Farm Supplies	40.00
	V.A.T. 8.00
Jim Gibson – O/S	12.52
Jim Gibson – All Areas	372.18
Jim Gibson – Burial Grounds	108.64
Mr. S. Beardmore – Caretaker	1000.00
Mr. S. Billings – Handyman	748.00
Ms. L. Eyre - Salary	1782.56
Ms. L. Eyre – Expenses	49.80
HMRC – PAYE	564.49
Mary Walker	60.00
Lichfield Diocese – WRPf Rent	210.00

Had to re-issue my Salary Cheque for March £1774.82 as it got lost in the post. So original cheque was stopped.

Also, Mary Walker lost the re-issued cheque of £60.00 so will have to re-issue it again.

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

222. CORRESPONDENCE: -

- a. Amey Report 4226568 - Road Damage, Rownall Road, Werrington - Completed 25/3/2021.
- b. Amey Report 4236363 - Stormwater Drain, Park House Farm, A520. Wetley Rocks - Further works required.
- c. Amey Report 4232250 & 4236458 - Blocked Drain, Mill Lane, Wetley Rocks - Gully will be attended but is low priority. Councillor Hartley reported they had a fountain of water coming up through the pavement.
- d. Amey Report 4219669 & 4233373 - Pothole, One Stop, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton. The Clerk reported that this has been completed.
- e. Amey Report 4223486 - Road Damage, Grid, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton. The Clerk reported that this has been completed.
- f. Electoral Role Update.
- g. Church Magazine Cheddleton Addresses - The Clerk was asked to supply a copy, but it is restricted by data protection.
- h. Fields In Trust Update.
- i. Action Fraud Alerts. The Clerk reported that Councillor Mrs. Hartley posts these on Cheddleton Chat Facebook page.
- j. Advanced Protein Liaison Group Meeting 30th. April 2021. The Clerk had a request about lots of lorries on Rownall road over easter weekend would a member report this.
- k. Amey Report 4235816 - Damage Tactile Pavement, Cellarhead Road, Cellarhead. The Clerk reported that this has been passed on to contractor for inspection chamber. Councillor Mrs. Lovatt stated it is adjacent the chamber not the chamber itself.
- l. Cyber Crime Unit Top Tips. Can be circulated to any members on request.
- m. Keep Britain Tidy Spring Clean. Councillor Dakin asked for a copy of the details. Councillor Scalise can provide bin bags if required.
- n. SLCC News Bulletin/Survey. Courses for next agenda.
- o. HMRC - Employer Updates.
- p. Staffordshire Wildlife Spring Magazine. Councillor Mrs. Salt asked for the magazine.
- q. Support Staffordshire News and Information. Any members interested contact the Clerk.
- r. CPRE Newsletter.
- s. Community Foundation grant.

223. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - No members of the public were present.

224. PLANNING APPLICATION

SMD/2021/0194 - 587, Rock Tenement Farm, Cheadle Road, Wetley Rocks - Proposed livestock building.

No Objection - stipulate always used for agricultural use.

SMD/2021/0155 - Land to Rear of Rosedale, 403, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton - Demolition of existing attached garage and erection of 4 detached dwellings.

Objection - Access Road should have enough space for 2 vehicles to pass each other because it is accessed from an A road. Washed over by the greenbelt and looking at the plans will intrude and is overdevelopment.

SMD/2021/0215 - Pasture House, 20, Ox, Pasture, Cheddleton - Single storey rear extension to create improved kitchen and family room and conversion of existing attached garage into home office.

No Objection

SMD/2021/0182 - 39, Rose Hill, The Avenue, Cheddleton - Two storey rear/side extension and single storey lean-to.

Objection - Over development and exceeds the limit with no access to the rear of the property and contravenes space about dwellings.

225. COMMUNITY CENTRE USE (Confidential)

It was discussed and left to The Clerk and Councillor Dakin to decide,

221. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES: -

c. Community /Craft Centre Management Committee

Re. Min. 36. Confidential Item - Valuation of Rents Community Centre/Craft Centre

- It was discussed, and clarification will be sought.

b. HR Committee Meeting (Confidential) - It was agreed to send a copy of the Appraisal training to all members.

Chairman
4th. May 2021.