

**Cheddleton Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN CHEDDLETON  
COMMUNITY CENTRE, MAIN HALL, HOLLOW LANE, CHEDDLETON ON  
TUESDAY, 20<sup>th</sup>. JULY 2021.**

**ATTENDANCE** Chairman - Councillor H.R. Jennings.  
Vice-Chairman - Councillor Mrs. L.M. Salt,  
Councillor - M. Ahmad, M.T. Bowen, I. Dakin, Mrs. D.A. Hartley, R.J. Hartley,  
Mr. T. James, Mrs. C.A. Lovatt, G.W. Salt, S. Scalise, H.J. Tunna & M.P. Worthington.

Clerk - Ms. L. J. Eyre & 2 members of the public.

64. **APOLOGIES** - Councillor Worthington had another meeting to attend and would be late.
65. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS FOR 4 VACANCIES - 3 CHEDDLETON WARD & 1 SOUTHWOLD WARD** - The Chairman introduced Mr. Thomas James, and all were agreed to co-opt him officially as a Councillor. Mr. Daniel Klucznik is still interested and will remain as a candidate. The Clerk explained that Mr. David Higgins had withdrawn his application.
66. **CO-OPTED COUNCILLORS TO SIGN DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE** - Mr. Thomas James signed his acceptance of Office and was invited to take part in the rest of the meeting.
67. **ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR VARIOUS COMMITTEES** - The Chairman stated that there are still vacancies for The Parish Assembly, Footpath & Countryside, Planning & Amenities and Cheddleton Playing Fields Committees. Councillor Dakin put himself forward as representative on The Parish Assembly. Councillor James also agreed to become a member of Footpath & Countryside and Planning & Amenities Committees. The Chairman stated if anyone else was interested to please let the Clerk know.
68. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Councillor Dakin had been approached by the Planning applicant for SMD/2021/0436. Councillor Scalise has a right of way access to the field agenda item 88. Councillors Worthington, Tunna, and Ahmad as Trustees of Wetley Rocks Village Hall.
69. **MEMBERS' SEC. 33 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** - No written requests for dispensation were received.
70. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - 3 Planning Applications to be considered by planning committee members at the end. Defibrillator donation of £30 from Pamela Malkin and the Clerk will write and thank her c/o 2, Ostlers Lane. Himalayan Balsam pull on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>. July meeting at 11am at area next to 18, Cheddleton Park Avenue, training and Risk Assessment been done. CPRE Raffle donations mentioned at Planning & Amenities donations the Chairman has donated £50 from Chairman's allowance.
71. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** - There were no questions from the public.

72. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING 15<sup>th</sup>. JUNE 2021** - It was resolved to accept these as a true record.
73. **MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM** : -  
**Re. Min 45. Grounds Maintenance Issues/ Handyman Works/ Building Works** -  
Councillor Scalise asked if the Creche has been advertised yet? The Clerk reported that the Finance Committee needed to meet to decide on a rental amount. Councillor Mrs. Hartley asked if the company that was interested in using it for 2 days a week had hired it. The Clerk confirmed that they have been using it. The Clerk confirmed it will be advertised after this meeting.
74. **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE ISSUES/HANDYMAN WORKS/BUILDING WORKS** - The Clerk raised that the areas being checked needs someone to check Bridge Eye as it was Carole. Councillors Mr & Mrs. Salt volunteered.  
Councillor Mrs. Hartley reported on the sundial at Wetley Rocks needs to be cut. The Clerk stated she would ask James who cut it last time.  
The Clerk reported that Steve our handyman has done some more hours on the pavement at Wetley Rocks with weedkiller. He has been instructed to clear the steps up onto the Playing Fields at Cheddleton from the main road and to check the other entrances and clear them. The Clerk has purchased the anti-climb paint and signs for the roof on Cheddleton Playing Field equipment as discussed. She reported that Mr. Bagnall has cleaned the swings as promised at Wetley Rocks to remove the bird droppings and Steve is having a look at what can be done to deter the birds.  
The Clerk reported that she had thanked James Barber for sprucing up the planters he put in last year on Mill Lane, Wetley Rocks. They have been done by his neighbour this year.
97. **PLANNING APPLICATION** - Agreed to discuss as member of the public present.  
c. **SMD/2021/0436** - The Barn, Ringe Hay Farm, Basford Green Road, Basford -  
Erection of side extension to provide kitchen extension.  
**No Objection.**
75. **BASFORD BRIDGE LANE BRIDGES/CCTV** - The Clerk reported that not much has been reported until Friday with huge silage tractors going up and down and today that the bridge has been hit again by a large tractor and trailer going to Goodwin's Farm via Cheddleton Park Avenue. Councillor Scalise stated that he is still unable to grasp why a witness statement is not good enough for the Police to prosecute. Councillor Bowen stated that Inspector Thorley had said without photographic evidence it is regarded as hearsay and not evidence. Councillor Scalise followed the vehicle to F. Balls and spoke to the driver and an employee of the company it does not make sense. Councillor Jennings stated that we have provided visual evidence and no prosecutions have been made. Councillor Bowen stated the Police Crime Commissioner needs to be made aware of the situation. Councillor Scalise proposed a letter to him and give details of incidents for them to follow this up and if no response contact the media. Councillor Dakin stated they do not have to act, but they can talk to the offenders especially the haulage businesses. Councillor Scalise stated can we legally reduce the width by approaching Fire & Ambulance Authorities to push it forward then to County. Councillor Bowen stated that Staffs County Councillor David Williams had agreed that a width restriction was the best idea when he met with him. Councillor Dakin suggested inviting him to the next meeting. Councillor Mr. Salt seconded Councillor Scalise proposal and all agreed to write to the Police Crime Commissioner.

76. **POLICY & PROCEDURE FOR CO-OPTING A NEW COUNCILLOR** - The Clerk had circulated the Policy before co-option of new Councillors. Councillor Dakin mentioned that the Nolan Principles should be added. The Clerk will add this and advertise the vacancies plus put adverts in One Stop and Morrisons.
77. **QUOTE FOR 4 NEW RECYCLED BENCHES** - The Clerk reported that she had obtained a quote from the Marmax for the same price as last year and no delivery charge being over £100 so it will be £839 for four benches. The Chairman stated that the residents who have been asking for benches will be paying the cost price for them. Councillor Scalise wanted to ask if residents are paying for memorial benches as we are having a few enquiries. The Clerk stated that the purchase of these benches is to replace existing benches that need repair with the recycled ones as they are less maintenance. These will all be used and last considerably longer. Councillor Mrs. Salt proposed the purchase of a further 4 benches and this was seconded by Councillor Bowen, all agreed.
78. **BROKEN FENCE ON LAND BY RAILWAY LINE - CHEDDLETON** - Councillor Jennings reported that this is from Villa Road along by the Railway Line as cattle have been getting onto the Railway Line. The Clerk reported that it is in the ownership of Network Rail and not an official footpath so the Parish Council cannot get involved.
79. **SMDC LENGTHSMAN'S SCHEME 2020/21 & 2021/22** - The Clerk reported we have received £800 for last year and this year from SMDC which has been put in reserves for lengthsmen's costs.
80. **QUOTES FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE MOBILE STRUCTURAL SURVEY** - The Clerk reported that for two types of survey the first being a complete feasibility study would cost £1450 or structural survey £650 by Jonathan Cornes. Councillor Scalise asked what can be checked other than the roof and the floor. The Clerk reported that this would be a report on the structural condition and advisor on recommendations. Councillor Bowen proposed to do the Structural Survey for £650 and seconded by Mrs. Hartley. All agreed but Councillor Dakin & Worthington abstained from voting.
81. **UPDATE WELL ON WELL MEADOW, WETLEY ROCKS** - Councillor Bowen reported that it will be re-instated after works have been completed on the new installation of the road St John's Drive on enquiring with the Planning Department at SMDC.
82. **UPDATE ON ROUNDABOUT A520/BONES LANE, CHEDDLETON** - Councillor Bowen reported that Rt. Hon. Karen Bradley M.P. is organising a meeting with County Councillor David Williams to meet on site about this and Park Lane so he will let the Council know what happens.
83. **FOOTPATH OBSTRUCTION ON FOOTPATH 70 CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk reported that Steve our Handyman has made her aware of this as it has been blocked with a fence and the finger post has been removed and it has been reported to ROW at SCC. This was reported in 2018 by volunteers but has not been followed up. Councillor Worthington suggested Paul Rochfort needs to be informed and copy him in on the email.
84. **UPDATE ON BASFORD GREEN, CHEDDLETON - ROAD/VERGE DAMAGE** - Councillor Bowen reported that an officer has been out to gather evidence from the residents and is looking into the matter finally. The Clerk reported that Sgt Bland has also responded.

85. **SLCC NATIONAL CONFERENCE 13<sup>th</sup>. & 14<sup>th</sup>. OCTOBER 2021** - The Clerk has attended previously and there is an option to attend virtually. Councillor Ahmad proposed that she should go if she wants to for professional development. Seconded by Councillor Bowen and the Clerk to decide if she wishes to attend in person or virtually.
86. **UPDATE ON NEW COUNCIL WEBSITE** - The Clerk requires profile photos for those Councillors who have not provided one could they please so that we can go live. They have updated the Policies and Audit, added agendas and minutes and Councillor Salt is looking at the history to update it. It just needs to go live and for Councillors to have a look at it and move on with making amendments as and when required. We can then set up email addresses for Councillors.
87. **UPDATE ON RENOVATIONS IN CRAFT CENTRE, CHEDDLETON** - The Clerk had issued the new specification by email today which is very comprehensive. Councillor Scalise stated he would like time to read it and give details back to the Clerk by the end of the week. Councillor Jennings gave a summary of the changes and left it for Councillors to feed back to the Clerk. Councillor Ahmad asked for a plan of the proposed changes. This will then be used to send in tenders for the works and that all members are aware of the works required. The Clerk reported there will be additional costs for changing the specification. An asbestos survey has been done at a cost of £370 which has had to be done before tenders can be invited.
88. **PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS WETLEY ROCKS, MILL LANE** - Councillor Jennings suggested to members of the Village Hall Committee for the field next to the Hall. The proposal is to manage this on behalf of them to provide allotments for residents of Wetley Rocks. Councillor Scalise has been asking for a gate to be re-instated to give a right of way to his land for four years. He will supply a gate to allow access. Councillor Dakin agreed that this is a great idea and will reduce carbon emissions which will help us support SMDC declaration of climate emergency. Councillor Worthington asked who the owner of the land and it was explained that it had been donated to the village. Councillor Bowen seconded the proposal, and all agreed. Councillor Mr & Mrs. Salt will investigate as keen allotment holders. Councillor Ahmad made an offer to donate funds to set it up. Once the accesses have been re-instated and the grounds cleared the number of allotments could be worked out. The Clerk has already obtained an example of allotment tenancy agreement. The details will be brought forward to the next Council Meeting.
89. **SPEED CAMERA/SIGN - A520, LEEK ROAD, WETLEY ROCKS** - Councillor Mrs. Hartley reported that it has been fixed so is not an issue.
90. **NON-CONSECRATED AREA IN ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY** - Councillor Ahmad explained that a meeting had taken place with him, The Chairman and The Clerk and was shown the area of non-consecrated ground which is close to the edge by the main road with trees up the side. The Clerk has checked that the consecration can not be changed. Councillor Scalise asked why trees were allowed to be planted if this is the only area. These were planted many years ago. The Clerk reported that Tunstall & Fenton have areas in their cemeteries, and we only have the other field which we currently rented out which could be used. Councillor Ahmad stated that it had been discussed previously and it was agreed that it wasn't a problem. The Clerk read out the minutes agreeing that there was space for 12 plots on the non-consecrated area for other religions/non-religions which had been agreed in February 2020 and that there was no need to reserve plots as this is not allowed as part of the regulations. All members agreed that this was the right thing to do. Councillor Tunna stated that the trees were planted many years ago and that there are so many plots which are non-consecrated.

**90. NON-CONSECRATED AREA IN ST. EDWARD'S LAWN CEMETERY (Cont'd...)**

Councillor Scalise said are there any spaces and if not, we should designate an area of the other field to accommodate this. We have the land there and Councillor Ahmad will pay to fence it off. If there is a need, we can make it bigger when the rest of the original field has been used. Councillor Worthington stated we should do that and take back a portion of the rented land back. Councillor Bowen stated we do not reserve plots and our regulations state that. Again, he stated that anyone can be buried in the next available plot which is the same for all residents. Councillor Dakin stated we do not reserve plots, but we do need to consider other religions/non-religious. Councillor Jennings suggested meeting at the cemetery with the map and the rules and regulations to look at it and we then make a final decision. Councillor Scalise proposed that we meet at the cemetery and seconded by Councillor Tunna.

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

**a. Cheddleton Playing Field Committee** - Councillor Jennings stated that Wildflower verges will be discussed on Footpath & Countryside Committee in the future.

**Re. Min 11. Any Works required/Volunteers** - Councillor Scalise asked why the volunteers did not meet up. Councillor Dakin stated due to COVID. The Clerk still contacted them but felt is safer to not meet. We will go back to meeting prior to the next meeting now that restrictions have lifted. Councillor Scalise also raised that there are lots of facilities and the biggest issue is no changing rooms and there is funding available to provide toilets and changing rooms via Sports England and match funding is available. The volunteers are important to reduce vandalism and keep it safe. Councillor Jennings suggested it be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Councillor Dakin has lots of ideas to improve the use of the playing fields and it can be discussed.

**b. Wetley Rocks Playing Field Committee**

**c. Finance Committee (Confidential item)**

**d. Planning & Amenities Committee**

**Re. Min. 39. Update on 7, Kingsley View, Cheddleton - Enforcement SMDC** -

Councillor Bowen reported he has spoken to Ben Hayward as promised.

**Re. Min. 44. Update on St. Johns Drive Housing Development** - Councillor Bowen reported that these will be occupied soon hopefully.

**Re. Min. 45. Update on Park Lane, Cheddleton - Road Issues/Works** - Councillor Bowen stated temporary works have been done and awaiting follow up.

**Re. Min. 48b. SMD/2021/0382** - Councillor Worthington reported that although there are multiple planning applications being submitted there is only a need for one battery storage facility. All the others will not be required as there is on a reserved amount. Councillor Bowen stated that this is purely a technical matter and no recommendation necessary. Councillor Ahmad states there is conflicting information about the dangers of these storage sites. Councillor Bowen stated that these need to be looked at very carefully and are explosive and toxic, so he has raised it with Planning and Cabinet at SMDC. Councillor Dakin stated that there are technical standards to stop this and are covered by Dangerous Explosives Act and glad that Councillor Bowen has raised it.

**e. Burial Ground Committee**

**f. SMDC Committees, SLCC Staffordshire Branch Meeting, SLCC Leadership in Action Conference etc** – The Clerk reported that SLCC had a branch meeting and Spam emails were discussed and this was very good and will forward details to all Councillors.

**92. 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 20<sup>th</sup>. July 2021 also attached. Councillor Tunna proposed payment, and all agreed.

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

**93. PAYMENT OF THE AUGUST 2021 ACCOUNTS** – The Clerk reported that as no meetings the Clerk requires delegated powers to make payments. All Agreed.

**94. CORRESPONDENCE: -**

- a. SMD/2020/0389 - 81 Heath Avenue, Cellarhead – Extend up above the garage/vanity to a 2-storey extension extending the hipped roof over providing an additional bedroom and an additional bathroom. Rear single storey extension for a kitchen/diner and a downstairs WC. No Objection - Approved 2/7/2021.
- b. SMD/2021/0294 - Garden Villa, East Drive, Cheddleton - Change of use from residential dwelling to children’s day nursery and change of use from children’s day nursery to residential dwelling. No Objection - Approved 2/7/2021.
- c. SMD/2021/0139 - Rownall View, Rownall Road, Wetley Rocks - Retrospective application for the erection of a timber frame, stable block containing 3 single stables, and a small equipment store (tack room), with a hay and fodder store. Object most Strongly - Approved 7/7/2021.
- d. Amey Report 4235816 & 4247571 - Damage Tactile Pavement, Cellarhead Road, Cellarhead. Reported again as looking at the wrong location.
- e. Amey Report 4245263 - Hedge overhanging pavement - A520 near to Churnet Bridge, Cheddleton/ Paula Lees SCC/ Anne James Owner cut the hedge.
- f. Amey Report 4243877 - Leek Road, Wetley Rocks 50mph speed sign - Completed 12/7/21.
- g. SMDC Planning Enforcement Footpath Jenny’s Way - Cheddleton Playing Field. - Due to visit again but still not been moved. The hoops are missing too.
- h. Wetley Moor Consultative Panel - Mark Preece SMDC - No meetings due to Covid. Councillor Bowen is moving forward to be under the management of SMDC. Councillor Mrs. Lovatt stated there is a sign up stating this is planned.
- i. Advance Proteins Liaison Group Meeting Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. September 2021.
- j. Footpath Modification application LE617G to add from Hollow Lane to Footpath IR/2248 has been and approved by ROW Panel.
- k. HS2 Consultation.
- l. Amey Report 4247563 - Grid Damage - Spring Cottage, Leek Road, Wetley Rocks.
- m. Fields in Trust - Green Spaces for Good.
- n. SMDC Regeneration Newsletter/ Electoral Role Amendments.
- o. Staffordshire County Council - Newsletter/ Flood Risk Management Team/ Definitive Map available at SMDC from 12<sup>th</sup>. July / Loneliness.
- p. Public Sector Deposit Fund update.
- q. Action Fraud Alerts.
- r. Report of Fly Tipping - Table Top Picnic Area, Tompkin Lane. Reported to SMDC and evidence by name and address label.
- s. Biddulph Neighbourhood Plan Consultation.
- t. 25-31 Beech Avenue, Cheddleton letter from residents forward agenda item.

- u. Resident of 47, Cheadle Road, Cheddleton overhanging tree from Footpath 38 and future agenda item.
- v. SMDC Discretionary Grant for £1334 for Community Centre as part of the Re-start after Covid received.

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

96. **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - JOB EVALUATION - PARISH CLERK/RFO POSITION - SALARY REVIEW** - This was concluded as agreed previously.

97. **PLANNING APPLICATION**

- a. **SMD/2021/0437** - Esterchem Ltd, Brooklands Way, Leekbrook - Proposed storage building.  
**No Objection.**
- b. **SMD/2021/0402** - Hollywell Cottage, Huntley Road, Denford - Lawful development certificate for a proposed detached oak garage.  
**No objection but that it is only permission for a garage/storage not any other use.**

Chairman  
21<sup>st</sup>. September 2021.