



CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

The Parish of Chapel-en-le-Frith covers a large area, split into four wards; Chapel East, Chapel West, Barren Clough Combs and Whitehough and Dove Holes and Martinside. Three councillors represent Chapel East, six councillors represent Chapel West, two councillors represent Barren Clough Combs & Whitehough and two councillors represent Doves Holes and Martinside ward.

The Council meets in the Town Hall on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. Meetings are open to the press and public and residents are able to address the Council during the agenda item Public Speaking about any issues of concern.

The Parish Office is within the Town Hall and is open to the public between 9.00am and 12.30pm each weekday morning to provide information, advice and to deal with queries.

Tel: 01298 813320

Email -The Clerk: clerk@chapelpc.org

Email: Assistant Clerk : astclerk@chapelpc.org

Website: www.chapelpc.org

The Clerk is the Line Manager for the Town Hall and Park staff, the Council having a total staffing establishment of eight.

Chaplain

A Chaplain is appointed each year and leads the Council in prayers at the start of each Council meeting and takes part in several ceremonies during the year.

Ward Members

Contact details are on the website and on a leaflet available from the Parish Office.

Planning Applications

All planning applications for the parish are considered by the Council, who are a consultee, at the meetings of the Planning Committee and relevant comments and recommendations are made to Development Control at High Peak Borough Council and the Peak District National Park Authority.

Committees

In addition to the Planning Committee, which all members can attend, though some do disbar themselves by reason of being High Peak Borough Councillors or having a personal or pecuniary interest, there are the following Committees and working groups:

Financial & General Purposes
Amenities Committee
Town Hall Committee
Health & Safety Committee
Personnel Committee
Disciplinary Committee
Communications Committee
Regeneration Committee
Community Awards Committee
Footpaths and Trails Working Group

Councillors are also represented on very many other local bodies including Hope Valley Community Transport, Chapel Leisure Centre, Peak and Northern Footpath Society and local Charities.

Committee meetings are open to the public who are able to address the Council in Public Speaking.

Precept, Income and Expenditure

The income for the year 2020/21 amounted to £247,844 and the expenditure was £210,370.

The Precept for 2020/21 was £125,152. The Council received a Council Tax Support Grant of £9,993.

The yearly accounts are available, from the Parish Office and website, once they have been approved by the External Auditor.

Grants and Donations

The Council gave grants and donations during 2020/21 to local organisations totalling £1,918 during the year.

Police

Police Officers no longer attend Full Council Meetings. The Council works in partnership with the local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

The Police and Crime Commissioner last visited in April 2017.

Property

The Council owns the Town Hall in Chapel-en-le-Frith.

The Council also owns 47/49 Market Street, adjacent to the Town hall which is currently leased to a Funeral Director and private tenant.

Derbyshire County Council leases the area occupied by the Library in the Town Hall.

The Parish Council owns and manages the Memorial Park, Needham Recreation Ground, Chapel-en-le-Frith War Memorial, Dove Holes Recreation Ground and War Memorial and Nanny's Well. The buildings and bowling green used by the Bowling Club are owned by the Council.

In the Memorial Park there is a football pitch, children's play, Skatepark, MUGA as well as quiet areas and seats are provided.

There is children's play equipment at Needham Recreation Ground together with an informal football pitch.

The Council has a junior football field and maintains and insures the play equipment in Dove Holes.

Other Services

The Council provides many seats around the Parish as well as in the Memorial Park, many of these donated by residents in memory of loved ones for which the Council is very grateful.

The 'Tourist Information' point, adjacent to the Parish Council Office displays leaflets from the local area and further afield. The leaflets are accessible even when the Parish office is closed, whilst the Library is open.

The Council has worked with Chapel Community Group to produce a series of local walk leaflets.

There are 5 tourist information signs at the entrances to Chapel-en-le-Frith.

The Council has public notice boards in Chapel-en-le-Frith, Dove Holes, Sparrowpit, Combs and Whitehough, where the Newsletter and other information are displayed.

The Council plants and maintains the area around the well at Whitehough adjacent to the Notice Board.

Bus Shelters

The Council provides two bus shelters in Chapel-en-le-Frith and one in Dove Holes.

Hanging Baskets and Tubs

Hanging baskets on the Town Hall frontage and flower tubs are provided in and around Chapel-en-le-Frith to enhance the area.

Cemex Quarry in Dove Holes have sponsored the hanging baskets along the A6 in Dove Holes at a cost of £2,000.

Town Hall

The Town Hall on Market Street is managed by the Council and provides facilities for the benefit of the whole community. Rooms can be hired for meetings, functions, children's parties, classes, etc. Disabled access and a lift is provided.

Derbyshire County Council operates the Library on the ground floor.

The Parish Office is situated on the ground floor.

Allotments

The Council leases and provides sites at Chapel-en-le-Frith and Dove Holes and runs an annual competition with awards for the best kept allotment at each site.

Parish Council Website

The website may be viewed at www.chapelpc.org and provides details about the Council, Living, Working and Visiting the Parish.

Parish Council Facebook Page

The Facebook page is ChapelenleFrith Parish Council.

Annual Parish Meeting

This is held in April each year and all residents are encouraged to take part.

Chapel High School and Leisure Centre

The Parish Council make a contribution towards the Leisure Centre to keep charges affordable. The contribution in 2020/21 has not been invoiced to date. The Council has regular meetings with the PFI provider and Leisure Centre.

Regeneration

The Parish Council works with local organisations and businesses to maintain and improve the vitality and viability of Chapel-en-le-Frith, protecting the environment and ensuring future prosperity.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Chapel-en-le-Frith Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in July 2015.

There have been two Public Inquires, following the adoption of the Plan, in respect of the refusal of planning permission. The Council was legally represented at both Inquiries and successful in defending the Neighbourhood Plan.

Community Plan

The footpath and trails working group have completed their project in respect of the walking routes for the Warmbrook Trail and Peak Forest Tramway and are looking at implementation.

Chapel Carnival

Council Members take an active part in judging the Floats and the procession is led by the Chairman, through the Town to Chapel High School, where the Carnival Queens are presented and the current Chapel Carnival Queen is crowned.

Well Dressing

The Council supported the Well Dressings in the Town in early July and several Councillors have taken an active part in this tradition, which is appreciated by locals and visitors alike.

Winter Grit Bins

The Council operates a scheme to provide grit bins in areas where the County Council do not provide a regular gritting service and access during bad weather conditions and the bins are filled once each year by the Council. The Council provides 6 bins throughout the parish. This service is to maintain access to roads and footways and not for the use of individual residents. The Council has appointed a local Snow Warden in association with the Derbyshire County Council scheme.

Christmas Trees

The Council provides Christmas trees for Chapel-en-le-Frith, Dove Holes, Combs, Sparrowpit and Whitehough at a cost of £2,500.