

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 JULY 2020

Meeting Held: Tuesday 7 July 2020
Virtual Meeting held via Zoom

Present: Councillor L McCarthy in the Chair
Councillors J Adshead, Mrs H Batterbee, P Bann, Mrs C Cobb,
T Dales, N Gourlay, Mrs L Green, C Sizeland, Mrs S Walters and
S Young.

In Attendance: Mrs S E Stockdale – Clerk to the Council

Apologies accepted: Councillor FP Harrison due to ongoing ill health

Apologies noted: Rev C Pearson

There were eleven members of the public and no members of the press present at the start of the meeting.

21/36 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made:

Councillor C Sizeland – Leys Allotment site as an adjoining land owner

Councillor C Sizeland – his wife is a substitute Councillor on the High Peak Borough Council Development Control Committee.

Councillor J Adshead – Chapel Town and Junior Football Clubs

Councillors T Dales – Chapel Bowling Club member

21/37 Public Participation

A member of the public asked the Chairman when he would respond to a complaint she had made to him and he gave a timescale which was agreed.

21/38 Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 3 March 2020

Minutes numbered 21/8 to 20/28 were presented.

The following amendments were made:

21/16 amended to Councillor McCarthy proposed and Councillor Gourlay seconded

21/18 amended to Councillor McCarthy proposed and Councillor Bann seconded

21/23 Councillor Mrs Batterbee confirmed that cheque no 008860 for £1 on the Schedule of Accounts for Payment was for rent and not a contribution

21/45&25 was one resolution in two parts. Proposed by Councillor McCarthy.

Typing correction 'opinion from' and 'opinion form'

RESOLVED: That the Chairman be authorised to sign the amended Minutes as being a true and correct record.

21/39 Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 23 June 2020

Minutes numbered 21/29 to 21/35 were presented.

Councillor Walters asked that her comments on application HPK/2020/0047 were added to the minutes. Councillor Walters had commented in the meeting that the applicant was causing blackbook to become contaminated at this should be investigated by the Environment Agency.

It was agreed that planning applications should be noted in the minutes as Resolved opposed to all voted.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman be authorised to sign the amended Minutes as being a true and correct record.

21/40 Minutes of the Footpaths Working Group on 16 June 2020

Minutes were presented.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

21/41 Matters Arising from the minutes

Minute No 21/21. The Chairman advised that temporary staff had been appointed to cover sickness absence until September 2020. If a permanent vacancy arises then this will be advertised and applicants invited for interview by the Council.

It was noted that the one member of staff working in the parks had been under pressure due to the sickness absence.

21/42 To agree the Community Safety Clean Up Project application

Councillor McCarthy proposed and Councillor Dales seconded a motion that the application be approved.

RESOLVED: That the Community Safety Clean Up Project application is approved

21/43 Town Hall

The Council were advised that the loss of earning from use of the rooms at the Town Hall currently stands at £5,027.26. This will be offset by the grant of £10,000 received from central government.

Members were supplied with the current guidance on the opening of public buildings which was noted.

21/44 Parks and Open Spaces

A request has been received from Chapel Bowling Club for a reduction in the rent for the 2020 season due to the reduced use of the bowling green and associated facilities.

Councillor Young Proposed and Councillor Walters seconded a motion that the rent be reduced by £500 for the 2020 season.

RESOLVED: That the rent for the 2020 season be reduced by £500

The Clerk provided members with a risk assessment for the re-opening of play equipment in the Parish. It was confirmed that the Councils Insurers have agreed the risk assessment.

Proposed signage for the play areas was supplied and agreed.

RESOLVED: That the risk assessment and signage be agreed and play areas in the Parish can open from 8 July 2020 subject to Covid-19 restrictions.

Complaints have been made about noise and anti-social behaviour issues in and around the MUGA in the Memorial Park.

A meeting has been arranged between the Police and Ward Members to discuss this on 16 July 2020.

It was agreed that a meeting on site is arranged with the manufacturer to discuss noise mitigation measures.

The park staff will be asked to undertake an inspection as it was noted that some fixing may have come loose.

A complaint has been received from a neighbour about anti-social behaviour taking place in and around a seat in the Memorial Park. It was agreed that the Amenities Committee will look at this when they visit the park in respect of the MUGA.

A request has been received to reinstate the shelter on the skate park which were removed as a temporary measure and it was agreed that the Amenities Committee should consider this at their next meeting.

Three quotes have been received to remove two trees with ash die back.

Councillor Young proposed that the quote of £1,950 plus VAT from S'n'S Trees be accepted and Councillor McCarthy seconded the motion.

RESOLVED: That the quote from S'n'S trees be accepted.

21/45 Allotment Sites

Councillor Sizeland asked to leave the meeting and was removed to the waiting room for this item of business.

The Chairman asked the Council to consider the potential sale of part of the Leys Allotment site which would allow for provision of new allotments on the higher part of the site.

After discussion it was agreed that due to the uncertainty in the market due to Covid-19 a sale should not be considered at this point in time and reviewed when there was indication of where the market was moving.

As a vote was taken at the Full Council meeting in 2 June 2020 not open the Leys site it was agreed that the matter be re-visited in October 2020.

21/46 Motion received from Councillor Gourlay – ‘This Council resolves to offer Barratts the sum of £1 ‘subject to contract’ for all their remaining land holdings around the South Head Drive Estate’

Councillor Gourlay addressed the motion to advise members that the reasons he had brought the motion forward was that residents of South Head Drive are fed up because High Peak Borough Council have done nothing in the last 10 years to enact the S106 agreement in relation of the transfer of land and assets to them from Barratt Homes.

There was a discussion about the structural integrity of the retaining wall to the play area, settlement and any remedial costs with conflicting information.

It was noted that there was an accepted methodology for transferring assets to local authorities and that this had not been taken into account in arriving at the valuation of £1.

The Clerk advised that should the Council wish to take this forward then some work would be required in relation to future costs, liability and risks to the Council before a decision is made.

It was suggested that High Peak Borough Council should be invited to explain the situation to the Council and why this is matter that remains outstanding after such a long period of time.

Councillor Gourlay proposed that the motion be voted on which was seconded by Councillor Adshead.

The Chairman asked for a recorded vote.

Members in favour of the motion

Councillor Adshead

Councillor Sizeland

Councillor Gourlay

Councillor Mrs Walters

Members against the motion

Councillor McCarthy

Councillor Mrs Cobb

Councillor Dales

Councillors Mrs Batterbee

Councillor Mrs Green

Councillor Bann

Absentions
Councillor Young

RESOLVED: That the Council does not make an offer of £1 to Barratts for all their remaining land holdings around the South Head Drive Estate.

21/47 Amenities Committee membership

Councillor Mrs Walters indicated that she would like to join the Amenities Committee.

Councillor Adshead proposed that Councillor Mrs Walters join the committee from the next meeting and Councillor Sizeland seconded the motion.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs Walters is a member of the Amenities Committee from the next meeting.

21/48 Schedule of Accounts presented for payment.

Cheques numbered 008884 to 008913 were presented amounting to £4,921.52.

RESOLVED: That the cheques be signed and the accounts to which they relate be paid.

21/49 Internal Audit Report

The Internal Auditor has made a recommendation that the Councils Fidelity Insurance should be increased and it was agreed that a quote is sought and presented to the next meeting of the Full Council.

The Internal Auditor also commented on the level of reserves held by the Council following a question from Councillor Sizeland and confirmed the reserves were within the expected parameters.

21/50 Correspondence

Three complaints were received from Mr Boothman who subsequently withdrew two of the complaints. The remaining issue was dealt with under the agenda item for allotments and a response will be forwarded to Mr Boothman.

A complaint has been received from Mr Barton which the Chairman advised that he had spoken to the complainant and that the matter had been resolved.

21/51 Press Releases

None.

21/52 Any Other Business

Councillor Adshead was asked about an apology he has agreed to give to members following a post on social media which resulted in complaints.

Councillor Adshead indicated that he had spoken to the Monitoring Officer at High Peak Borough Council and has agreed to make a public apology at the next Full Council Meeting.

Some members reported that they have received complaints about the removal of the wall on the tramway at the Leys and it was agreed that a socially distanced meeting is held on site with the adjoining landowner who has removed the Councils wall.

The Council was asked to consider community events that are due to take place later in the year and communicate decisions about whether they will be able to go ahead. It was noted that a decision has not yet been taken by the Carnival Committee on whether the carnival will be able to go ahead later in the year.

Councillor Cobb asked Councillor Gourlay for an apology for supplying a story to the Buxton Advertiser about her together with a screenshot photo of her at the last meeting. This was in relation to her not abiding by social distancing rules when she joined the Councils virtual meeting in June 2020. She reported that no rules had been broken by her and that she had written proof of this.

Councillor Dales reported that this had taken place in his house and had been visited by two Police Officer the following day as a complaint had been made to them. He advised that the Police were satisfied that there was no breach of the Covid-19 rules and that he therefore considered the matter closed.

21/53 Date of next meeting

To be advised subject to business

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.20 hours.

CHAIRMAN