

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2020

- Meeting Held:** Tuesday 6 October 2020
Virtual Meeting held via Zoom
- Present:** Councillors J Adshead, N Gourlay, C Sizeland, Mrs S Walters and S Young.
- In Attendance:** Mrs S E Stockdale – Clerk to the Council
- Apologies accepted:** None
- Apologies noted:** Rev Colin Pearson

There were twenty members of the public present at the meeting.

At the start of the meeting the Clerk read out a statement from Councillors Mrs H Batterbee, Mrs C Cobb, T Dales, FP Harrison and L McCarthy tendering their immediate resignations and outlining the reasons why.

The Clerk also reported that Councillor Bann and Councillor Mrs Green had also tendered their resignations.

In the absence of a Chairman or Vice Chairman the Clerk called for nominations from the members present to appoint a Chairman for this meeting only.

Councillor Gourlay proposed and Councillor Mrs Walters seconded a motion that Councillor Young be elected to Chair the meeting, with all members in favour.

Councillor S Young took the chair for the meeting.

21/101 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 and as a friend of an adjoining landowner to the Leys Allotments.

Councillor Mrs Walters - as a friend of an adjoining landowner to the Leys Allotments.

Councillor J Adshead - as a friend of an adjoining landowner to the Leys Allotments.

21/102 Public apology from Councillor Adshead following a social media post

Councillor Adshead issued a public apology about an inappropriate post on social media about other members of the Council. He indicated that he had also made individual apologies to each member.

21/103 Police matters

Derbyshire Constabulary were not able to join the meeting.

Members reported incidents of anti-social behaviour on Bowling Green Lane and outside the Co-op on the Market Place which have been reported to the Police.

It was noted that the Amenities Committee will be considering CCTV for the Memorial Park.

21/104 Public Participation

Two members of the public spoke in the meeting a further member of the public asked for a statement to be read out. The issues raised were:

- The re-opening of part of the Leys Allotment site to provide allotments to meet public demand.
Councillor Sizeland declared an interest in the item relating to the Leys Allotments and asked to be removed from the meeting to the waiting room.
- Proposals to make the Covid snake a permanent feature in the Memorial Park
- Clarification that Councillor Gourlays newsletters are his personal opinions and not those of the Council, including the promotion of private education.
- To place a seat in the Memorial Park at the entrance from Bowling Green Lane.

21/105 Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8 September 2020

Minutes numbered 21/63 to 21/84 were presented.

The following amendments were made:

The mis-spelling of Councillor Mrs Cobbs name was amended.

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

21/106 Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 22 September 2020

Minutes numbered 21/85 to 21/91 were presented.

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

21/107 Minutes of the Communications Committee held on 29 September 2020

Minutes numbered 21/92 to 21/100 were presented.

Minute 21/95 was amended to read that the walks leaflets had been produced by the Chapel Community Group.

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

21/108 Matters arising from the minutes

The Bowling Club have reported that they have not received any funding from the Covid Discretionary grant.

21/109 Casual Vacancies

It was noted that following the resignations of Councillors since the last Full Council Meeting there will be seven casual vacancies, which High Peak Borough Council will be asked to declare.

The quoracy for Full Council Meetings is five members and it was also agreed that the remaining five members will have to sit on all committees until new members are appointed either by election or co-option.

21/110 Town Hall loss of earnings

The Council were advised that the loss of earning from use of the rooms at the Town Hall currently stands at £8,967.51. This will be offset by the grant of £10,000 received from central government.

The Clerk reported that will have been some savings on heat and light during the lockdown period. However, as caretaking and cleaning staff are paid through the Precept they have not been eligible for the furlough scheme.

21/111 Memorial Park

The Clerk reported that work had been completed on the skate park and neighbours have reported that it is much quieter.

A full report on the condition of the MUGA has been requested from Alliance Services who undertake monthly safety inspections.

A request was made in the Open Forum at the September Full Council Meeting to relocate the MUGA and it was agreed that this matter be considered in confidential business for legal reasons.

Councillor Gourlay proposed and Councillor Adshead seconded a motion for the purchase of a Superturfman Bowling Green machine, that a discussion takes place with the Bowling Club prior to the next scheduled Amenities Committee.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange a meeting with the Bowling Club

21/112 Memorial Park Centenary Celebrations 2021

It was agreed that the proposed celebrations be put on hold due to Covid-19.

21/113 Park staff appointments

The Clerk reported that two applications have been received for the fixed term positions in the Memorial Park to cover sickness absence. The applications have been received from current staff.

Councillor Gourlay proposed and Councillor Walters seconded a motion that the current fixed term contracts be extended.

RESOLVED: That the current fixed term contracts be extended for both members of staff as advertised.

21/114 Leys Allotments

Councillor Sizeland declared an interest in the item and asked to be removed from the meeting to the waiting room.

It was agreed that the request to re-open part of the site be placed on the agenda for the next Full Council Meeting.

21/115 Motion from Councillor Gourlay "This council resolves to comply with the 1950 Allotments Act and allow the keeping of hens on its allotments. The council will rewrite its leases and inform its allotment-holders of their legal rights."

Councillor Gourlay spoke in support of the motion and proposed that the existing tenancy agreement clause 7, for the Dove Holes Allotments, is amended to include - 'the tenant shall not keep any livestock except hens and rabbits on the allotment plot'

Councillor Adshead seconded the motion and all members were in favour.

RESOLVED: That the Allotment Tenancy Agreement is amended to allow the keeping of hens and rabbits on Dove Holes Allotments.

21/116 Use of inappropriate materials in Conservation Areas

Complaints have been passed to High Peak Borough Council about the Amazon lockers outside the Co-op.

It was also reported that High Peak Borough Council are considering the use of inappropriate window materials in the Chapel Conservation Area.

21/117 Freedom of Information requests

It was reported that two Freedom of Information requests have been received regarding expenditure on legal costs and the production of a minute in November 2019.

Members were informed that they need to agree an internal review process for two current Freedom of Information requests.

21/118 Correspondence

- Email from resident to object to the reinstatement of the bridge onto Brookside Pastures
- Email from Cllr George re Flooding in Whitehough
- Email from Cllr George re Active travel fund
- Email from C Bannon to advise that she runs the Chapel West Facebook page and not former Councillor Bann
- Natural Stone Products Ltd request for tree planting permission

21/119 Schedule of Accounts presented for payment.

Cheques numbered 008955 to 008984 were presented amounting to £6,538.79.

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

It was agreed that Councillors Adshead, Gourlay, Sizeland and Mrs Walters be added to the Bank Mandate to allow the Council to make payments following resignations.

21/120 Press Releases

- Councillor resignations
- Cancellation of Christmas Tree Lighting ceremonies due to Covid-19 ceremony

21/121 To resolve to exclude the press and members of the public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Councillor Young proposed and Councillor Gourlay seconded a motion that the Council exclude the press and members of the public.

Councillor Sizeland declared an interest in the item regarding the tramway wall and took no part on the discussion.

RESOLVED: That legal advice from Cooper Sons Hartley and Williams Solicitors be noted. That a gate be erected on the tramway leaving a pedestrian access and that quotes be obtained to rebuild the wall.

RESOLVED: That the proposal from Hoey Ainscough to support the Council be considered again in January 2021.

RESOLVED: That the Council do not give permission to Natural Stone Products Ltd to plant trees on the Tramway.

RESOLVED: That the Council respond to Richard Buxton Solicitors to seek approval to defer the matter for one month.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.50 hours.

CHAIRMAN