

Minutes of the Chisworth Parish Council Meeting held on 21st February 2024

Present: Councillor M. Bell (Chair); Councillor N. Jones; Councillor J. Sargent; Councillor Da Brereton; Councillor Do Brereton; A. Darkins (Clerk); Councillor J. Wharmby (Part meeting)

1. Minutes of the Chisworth Parish Council meeting held on 29th November 2023

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th November 2023 be **APPROVED** as a true record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

2. Apologies –Councillor P. Bell

3. Declarations of Interest on agenda items– None

4. Public participation

None

5. Review of action plan (where not included as an agenda item)

• Rec work

- Trimming work on Rec trees to be done over the next few weeks. Discussed options for reducing height. It was **AGREED** that the height would be reduced by around 50% (depending on safe access) to remove the threat to the BT cables and also to remove the branch protruding over the track to enable free passage of emergency vehicles should the need arise.

• Environment

- Councillor Wharmby has followed up the grid cleaning issue on our behalf, supplemented by additional photos of blocked grids reportedly cleared. The feedback highlighted that there are two teams responsible for gully cleaning. The sub area team who will deal with safety critical flooding gullies and the general drainage team who run the programmed gully cleaning programme, with the A626 being programmed for 2 x yearly cleaning and New Mills Road and Sandy Lane programmed for 1 x yearly cleaning. It was **AGREED** to take up the request for a site visit with the sub area team representative. Clerk to arrange and Councillor Wharmby is happy to be included too.
- Dog poo bags ordered and now with Councillor Sargent.
- The sewage pump at Kinderlee is now working. Both United Utilities and Environmental Health have reported no action required for the alternative disposal of sewage into the sewer at the top of Kinderlee, during emergency repairs to the pump.
- A resident reported potential contamination of Chisworth stream as the water was black. The issue has been reported to the Environment officer.
- Discussed the proposal of 'No mow May' to support the local insect population and the National annual campaign. It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would like to support the initiative and the clerk would discuss with the Rec and Village Garden gardeners.

• Annual Plan

- Coronation Willow Arch now planted on the Rec. Thanks to High Peak Borough Council for the Coronation Grant and to Councillor Pauline Bell and The Chisworth Village Hall Committee for funding the excess costs not covered by the Coronation Grant. Requires wood chippings to be spread as a base and a commemorative plaque to complete the project. It was **AGREED** to review spending over the last quarter of 23.24 to identify funds for completion. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would contact Jason Isherwood for a potential wood chipping donation
- There continue to be issues in getting the correct post extension for the Speed Indicator device. DCC highways and Swarco have been in discussion to resolve the issue. The clerk has received assurance

that the price on ordering the SID will be honoured. Councillor Wharmby will pass on our frustration with the delay with the Police and Crime Commissioner. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would contact Highways and that Councillor Wharmby would also investigate on our behalf.

- o All other actions from the Annual Plan completed. Annual plan to be added to the Parish Council website.

6. Finance

- a) Q3 Finance report – **APPROVED**.
- b) Budget 2024.25 – **APPROVED**.
- c) Precept request 2024.25 – **APPROVED**. Following over 9 years of maintaining the precept level, with no annual increase, inevitably, the precept this year will need to increase from £31.54 to £34 per household to cover the costs of services and maintenance of public spaces in Chisworth.
- d) Income
 - i. Chisworth Village Hall £50 (shortfall for willow dome planting)
 - ii. Councillor P. Bell £200 (willow dome planting)
 - iii. Minor Maintenance Agreement £384
- e) Expenditure **APPROVED**.
 - i. MAD Industries Rec £112
 - ii. MAD Industries Garden £112
 - iii. MAD Industries CFP2 vegetation £56 – MMA recharge
 - iv. Willow Dome £594 – Coronation funds from HPBC
 - v. Website Domain name £14.39
 - vi. Website hosting £225
 - vii. Batteries £8.99
 - viii. Clerk Q3 salary £381.90
 - ix. Discussed DALC membership of £151.56. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would review the last 12 months newsletters to assess some of the benefits of membership, prior to authorising the expenditure.
- f) MMA submission **APPROVED**. Clerk to submit form 2
 - i. CFP 2 control of surface vegetation £224
 - ii. CFP 2 re-stoning £60
 - iii. CFP 27 control of surface vegetation £100
- g) Internal audit required to be completed early May 2024
- h) Discussed

7. Planning

Update given on outstanding planning applications. Retrospective access track for High Ash House has been refused.

HPK/2024/0051 Highgate Higher Chisworth Application for new sewage treatment plant to be discussed at next meeting.

8. Annual Report and Annual Plan Planning

Clerk to draft annual report for 2023.24 and prepare draft annual plan for 2024.25

9. Governance

Annual ratification of Governance Documents. The following documents were **APPROVED**

- a. Risk Register
- b. Model Financial Regulations
- c. Model Standing Orders
- d. Schedule of Assets
- e. Code of Conduct

- f. Grant Aid Policy
- g. Business Continuity Plan

10. Correspondence

- DALC circular – noted
- Stockport Local Plan – noted. Copy to Councillors Jones and Sargent
- DCC division boundaries – discussed with Councillor Wharmby and noted

11. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 27th March 2024.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting.

Signed..... Date.....