

CHELMORTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on **TUESDAY 8th March 2016 at 7.30pm**

Attendance: electors of the parish: C Marsden (Chairman), H Mayo, L Simpson, J Skidmore, Cllr M Wheeldon and 1 member of the public

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Clerk to the Meeting.

The meeting appointed the Parish Clerk Matthew Lovell to take the minutes

2. Apologies

County Councillor Simon Spencer, PCSO Ian Phipps

3. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th March 2015

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and signed.

4. Statement of Accounts and Precept for 2016/17

The parish clerk noted that the accounts had been spent within budget and are being discussed at the council meeting that follows. The precept remains at the same level again for this year.

5. Chairman's Report

Chairman's Report

This report covers the period from May 2015 to March 2016 during which time the Parish Council members were Charles Marsden, Moira Wheeldon, Harry Mayo, James Skidmore and Richard Jones. Several issues have involved the Parish Council and these are summarised below.

Playground:

The playground continues to be well used though there were minor problems with the provision of grass cutting, both in the playground and at other sites in the village but these were resolved and the situation will be monitored during 2016.

The annual external safety inspection of the playground identified only minor issues, such as repainting some items of equipment. Where necessary repairs have been made to the equipment installed during 2012. The Council is considering the installation of all-weather safety surfaces for some of the equipment. Richard Jones has agreed to monitor the state of the playground. Consideration has been

given to the idea of the Council obtaining land for a larger playfield for the older children.

Troughs and Pound.

The Council has begun to improve the environment around the Illy Willy by clearing old trees and replanting. The work will be completed by April 2016.

The Pound has been regularly cleared of fallen leaves and parish benches maintained. The telephone kiosk was repainted and repaired during 2015. The Council are grateful to Lee Simpson for the general maintenance of Parish sites and property during the year.

Allotments:

All allotment space is occupied and continues to be used for growing fruit and vegetables as legally required. The rents for the year were paid.

Chelmorton Festival and Chelmorton Institute:

The Council were delighted by the social and financial success of the Chelmorton Festival in July 2015 having provided the organisers with a grant to help with the initial funding of the event. The Council are pleased the event will be repeated in 2016 and would like to thank all those involved. The Institute has also been given some funding to help with essential repairs and improvements to this important facility.

Planning Applications:

The Council have responded to all planning applications received.

Footpaths and Highways:

The Parish Council raised several highways issues (potholes etc) with the County Council. The Council expressed concerns to The County Council and the Peak Park about the state of High Stool Lane due to its very heavy use by off-road vehicles and the issues has been noted and some repairs made. With the participation of the Peak Park volunteers and residents the Council has worked to improve access to some of the more overgrown footpaths and lanes. Councillor Skidmore continues to take responsibility for ensuring the salt in the bins are replenished during the winter.

Village Website:

The site contains sections for all organisations within the village - for example The Parish Council, The Institute, Church, Film Society, commercial listing (plumbers, builders etc), holiday accommodation and now includes a section on services available. Improvements are still needed including more pictures. Use of the site increases and needs to be encouraged.

Village Defibrillator:

The Parish Council purchased and installed a cardiac defibrillator on the external wall of the Institute. A public appeal for funding raised about £400 toward the final cost (total circa £2000). A public training course was arranged.

Consultation:

The Parish Council has attended meetings and responded to several surveys, questionnaires and requests for views from the CC, DDDC and The Peak Park Authority on issues relevant to the residents of Chelmorton. The Chairman represented the Council at the annual Peak Park Authority Parish Day in October which was mainly concerned with local tourism. The CC is faced with further financial restraint and reductions in bus services must be expected. The Council has participated in a survey of affordable housing needs the outcome of which is due in summer 2016. The Council continues to have discussions with the local police who consider the village to be an area of very low crime with few reported incidences. The nature of the Council audit arrangements and increased transparency rules together with the need to monitor the website has increased the work demands of the Clerk and a review of his hours is underway.

The Parish Council has agreed to keep the precept at the same level for a fifth year (£5435)

I would like to thank all the Councillors for their help and support in the work of the Council. This has involved attending meetings as well as physical work. Council would also like to extend our thanks to the clerk Matthew who has done so much to ensure that the discussions within Council are acted upon.

Charles A Marsden March 8th 2016

6. District Councillor's Report

Not present and no apology received

7. County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Simon Spencer sent his apologies for absence.

8. Police Report

PCSO Ian Phipps sent a report to note 5 calls for service in the Chelmorton and surrounding area so far this year: 2 re Transport, 1 abandoned vehicle, 1 dangerous parking incident and 1 suspicious activity call out.

9. To consider any other Parish matter that may be brought forward by the Council or local government electors:

none