

PARISH OF CHELMORTON

Minutes of the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on TUESDAY 13th March 2018 at 7.30pm

Attendance: electors of the parish: C Marsden (Chairman), H Mayo, R Jones, J Skidmore, M Wheeldon, 0 parishioners 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 Boswell

3. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th May 2017

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and signed.

4. Statement of Accounts and Precept for 2017/18

The parish clerk noted that the accounts have seen some reserves used this year as Council has agreed to pay a grant to provide new heaters in our meeting room. The draft accounts will be presented to council and finalised at the May meeting.

Chairman's Report

This report covers the period from March 2017 to March 2018 during which time the Parish Council members were Charles Marsden, Richard Jones, Moira Wheeldon, James Skidmore and Harry Mayo. This report records the main issues discussed by the Council.

Playground:

The playground continues to be well used and the annual external review in early 2018 only identified minor issues requiring attention and these will be carefully attended to by Lee Simpson. Last year the Council installed all- weather safety surfacing for the major items of equipment and this work has improved the quality of the playing surface particularly during adverse wet weather. There were no major problems with grass cutting during last summer. There again has been some mole activity in the playground but this has been kept under control.

The Council has been in discussion with a former resident of Chelmorton about obtaining an area of land behind the Institute that could be used as a play area for older children. Should the discussion reach a successful completion this will require some financial input from the Council to provide access to the remaining area of land, improve the quality of the playing surface and possibly enlarge the car parking space at the rear of The Institute. The Council will investigate the availability of grant funding to help with this work.

Village Assets:

The trough and pound have been maintained by Lee Simpson to whom the Council are grateful for his general maintenance role. The Council has improved the state of the lettering on the cast signs at the trough and Pound and I would like to thank Harry Mayo for this work.

The BT phone remains in the phone box despite BT's wish to remove it. and the Council will continue to maintain the building.

Allotments:

These continue to be fully occupied and there is now a waiting list of applicants for allotments. The seat at the allotments has been replaced by a new all- weather bench. The Council is committed to ensuring that the tenants of the allotments only use them for the purposes allowed by their tenancy following comment by local residents about their state. Comment also has been made by residents on the Ditch that the verge cutting there was less regular than in the village and this issue has been rectified.

Village Organisations:

The Council were delighted by the success of the third Village Festival. The Institute continues to provide improved facilities and the Council was pleased to be able to support the Institute with a grant of £2000 to improve the standard of the heating system.

The Council is taking part in the Beacon event to commemorate the end of the First World War on Sunday November 11th 2018 and it is planned to hold an event at the same time in The Institute so that all residents of the village can be engaged in the commemoration.

Planning Applications:

The Council has responded to all planning applications received. There has been a significant increase in the number of holiday let properties in the village.

Footpaths and Highways:

The Council continues to raise the issue of the poor state of local roads around the village, in particular the numerous potholes, with the County Council. This is a problem that is widespread in Derbyshire and the Council hopes that positive long-term action will be taken soon rather than the unsatisfactory patching that occurs at present. The Council has raised the issue of illegal parking of a caravan and the long-term parking of large vehicles on the road in Main Street with the relevant authority but there is no evidence that action has or will be taken. A white line has been placed across the entrance from the village into Common Lane and the Council hope that this will improve the safety at the entrance.

There have been serious problems with the use of motor scrambling bikes on footpaths in Chelmorton and this has been associated with abusive behaviour towards walkers. Motorised vehicles are not allowed to use footpaths and the Council together with the Police and Peak Park Rangers are determined prevent further occurrences.

Internet access:

Poor internet access continues to be a problem for many in the village. Two approaches have been advanced. First W3Z now offers improved internet connections in Chelmorton and The Institute is hosting a system provided by W3Z for free which can be used to demonstrate the capabilities of the internet access. The second approach, very kindly headed by Richard Maher, has been to gather

sufficient government vouchers from residents to ensure that BTopenreach will supply a suitable fibre system to each household within a defined time span (12months). The cost of this will be covered by the vouchers available as openreach has confirmed that there are 50 eligible vouchers. The Council is waiting to receive the contract with openreach and if this is suitable the proposal will be put into effect

Consultation:

The Parish Council continues to participate in discussions with the Peak Park and Council authorities on issues of importance to the village and the wider community (eg internet access re above, housing, tourism issues and highways issues).

Discussions with the local police continue and crime levels in the village remain low For the seventh year in succession the Council has been able to maintain the precept at the same level (£5435).

Once again I would like to thank all Councillors for their help, advice and support during the year. I am grateful to Richard Jones for his help as Vice -Chair. The Council would like to extend their thanks to the Clerk Matthew who by his diligence makes sure what is discussed in Council is then acted upon.

Charles Marsden March 13th 2018

5. District Councillor's Report

Not present and no apology received

6. County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Simon Spencer sent his apologies for absence.

7. Police Report

PCSO Boswell sent apologies

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

No matters raised

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 7:47 pm