

# PARISH OF CHELMORTON

Minutes of the

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on **TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Attendance:** electors of the parish: R Jones (Chairman), J Bagshaw, H Mayo, M Wheeldon, K Woolley, C & L Marsden and plus 1 non-parishioner

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Clerk to the Meeting.

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

2. Apologies

Cllr J Skidmore, County Councillor Simon Spencer, PCSO Boswell

3. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019

The minutes were accepted as a correct record and signed.

4. Statement of Accounts for 2019/20

The parish clerk noted that the accounts have been within budget. The draft accounts would have been presented to council following this APM but the parish laptop crashed 3 hours ago - fortunately after backup. For the 9th year in succession the Council has been able to maintain the precept at the same level (£5435).

### Chairman's Report

This report covers the period from March 2019 to March 2020 during which time the Parish Council members were Richard Jones, Moira Wheeldon, James Skidmore, Joanne Bagshaw and Harry Mayo. This report records the main issues discussed and acted upon by the Council.

#### Improved Internet Access for Chelmorton:

The project to install superfast fibre optic broadband to all properties in the village commenced in April 2018 with the signing of the contract between the Parish Council and BT Openreach. Village resident Richard Maher has been very proactive in his communications with the BT Openreach Project Management and all residents now have Fibre to the Premises (FTTP). This will allow them to choose a fibre optic broadband supplier should they so wish. The Parish Council acknowledges that this could not have been achieved so quickly without Richard Maher's sterling efforts.

#### Playground:

The annual Playground inspection has taken place. There are no issues with safety but the Parish Council will be investigating the cost of refurbishing some of the play items in 2020. Moles occasionally invade the playground but these are kept under control. The Council continues to maintain a Playground Reserve in the accounts with a view to purchase a piece of land to be used as a play area for older children. The land, should it become available, is behind the Institute.

#### Other Village Assets:

The Parish Council are grateful to Phil and Sally Swindell who have taken on the maintenance role for the Pound, Troughs and Telephone Box

The Council would also like to thank Jimmy Bagshaw who maintains the Green with regular mowing and planting of bulbs.

#### Christmas Tree:

A Parish Council sponsored Christmas Tree and a 60 metre string of fairy lights has again been a feature of the Green with many welcoming comments from residents and visitors.

#### Chelmorton Festival:

The festival continues to thrive and is a major contributor to the Church, the Institute and the Chelmorton Children's Trust. The Council thanks all those involved.

#### Allotments:

There are three allotments on The Ditch which are rented to villagers. Each allotment is actively cultivated although rabbits are a continuing menace.

#### Planning Applications:

The Parish Council has responded to all planning applications received.

#### Footpaths and Highways:

The continuing poor state of the local roads (in particular Main Street) and the flooding at the bottom of Main Street was overwhelming the DCC Reporting system with pothole reports etc. The collapse of gullies/culverts and injuries to two residents prompted the Council to commission the services of a retired Chartered Engineer with extensive Highways experience in Derbyshire to prepare a report on the state of the roads and drainage/culverts etc.

An email copy of this report was sent to DCC and a paper copy was also posted.

As a result of this direct communication the potholes and collapsed gulleys/drains were repaired along the full length of Main Street.

The underlying causes however remain. In particular the many gulleys without sumps to trap heavier than water debris flowing into the culverts and the soakaway at the bottom of Main Street where the two chambers are apparently completely silted up. Regrettably at the time of writing the flooding problems and blocked gullies have re-appeared and a further direct escalation within DCC is being considered.

The Council would like to offer its sincere thanks Mr Keith Woolley for his continued assistance.

#### Consultation:

The Parish Council continues to participate in discussions with Peak Park and Council Authorities on issue of importance to the village and the wider community.

Discussions with local police continue as well as with the Derbyshire Police Commissioner. Crime levels in the village remain low.

The precept has been maintained at the same level as last year.

I would like to thank all councillors for their help and support throughout the year and on behalf of the Council I would like to thank Clerk Matthew for his expertise and diligence in taking the minutes of meetings and following through on any actions.

Richard Jones

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 - no matters at this time to report.

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

The problem of the Illy Willy now flooding the field was discussed. The chambers on the far side were installed in 1937 by DCC in response to animals dying in the fields due to the floods.

A request for more dog control as the signs erected have all been vandalised and straying across open fields ie not keeping to designated footpaths, letting dogs foul and not collecting are all endangering stock. A better Countryside code is needed - an example of a Sussex one was quoted and it was felt the PDNPA should address this more actively

A discussion on beacons for the Ve celebration noted no Country wide organisation has been put in place on this occasion.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 7:50 pm