

Chinley Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council

Parish Room, 3 Lower Lane, Chinley, High Peak, Derbyshire, SK23 6BE

Parish Clerk: Mrs Georgina Cooper
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Clerk's Report – June 2017

Agenda Item 6 (a) – Buxworth Playground Project – The new litter bin has now been installed in Buxworth Playground in a slightly different location in the corner of the playground since the Post-Installation Inspection of the playground identified the previous bin as being too close to the gate. The grass inside the playground has been cut by Jonathan Smith which raises the issue of grounds maintenance going forward. I have still not got hold of the team from DCC but will endeavour to do so before the meeting next week.

Agenda Item 6 (b) – Buxworth Allotments – The agreement with Buxworth Allotment Association has now been signed and Buxworth Allotments Association have now taken ownership. The Association have a meeting planned for mid-June so work should get underway at the allotments imminently. I have asked for the number of vacant plots available to advertise in the next newsletter.

Agenda Item 6 (c) – Inspection Reports – Playground Inspection Checklists have been received for Chinley and Buxworth. No major issues identified. In Buxworth it was asked who strims the grass in the play area but this is considered further in the grounds maintenance for Buxworth playground. Litter bins appear to be being emptied more regularly in Chinley.

Agenda Item 6 (d) – Annual Playground Inspections – Play Area Safety Inspection Reports from RoSPA Play Safety have been received and circulated. At Buxworth and Chinley playgrounds the present overall risk rating for the play spaces was deemed as 'Medium'. At Chinley Skatepark the present overall risk rating for the play space was deemed as 'High'.

Agenda Item 6 (e) – Seating/benches in the parish – Councillors to report back on their audit of benches in the parish. It has been brought to my attention that a bench that had previously been situated in Buxworth in the area of the proposed orchard has gone missing. Regarding recent requests for memorial benches in the parish both parties are happy to go with a low maintenance material.

Agenda Item 6 (f) – Proposed changes to yellow line restrictions in Chinley – Regarding the change from single to double yellow lines on Green Lane in front of Belle Vue I have emailed Isobel Mulligan the letter I propose to issue to fronting residents that may be affected by such a change. She has confirmed it is suitable so I now need to issue to all residents and await feedback from them. Isobel's current timeframe for this work and the other outstanding proposals for Lower Lane and Station Road will all be submitted under one TRO with a preliminary consultation scheduled for August, advertisement scheduled for October and implementation in January 2018. However this is all subject to a reorganisation currently ongoing at DCC that could impact on staff numbers.

Agenda Item 6 (g) – Buxworth broadband – Further to the last meeting in May we have provided address labels for all Buxworth residents and printed off the letter to advertise the Broadband meeting in Buxworth on Wednesday 14th June. Letters have been posted out. We have been forwarded a quote from BT Openreach to bring fibre broadband to premises in Buxworth. We are awaiting further information from the meeting including any decisions made. Awaiting receipts for envelopes and stamps to reimburse Dianne Davies and Emma Makarova.

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Agenda Item 6 (h) – Tree Survey Autumn 2016 – The residents of 1 Princes Road have complained about trees overhanging from Squirrel Green and interfering with their BT broadband and phone line connection. The trees are also a nuisance for reducing light and for branches coming down in their garden. This issue has been raised previously and was reported in the Autumn 2016 Tree Survey. It had been recommended that permission be sought from High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) to carry out some minor tree surgery on these trees which are in a conservation area. I have now established that this was not actioned by the previous clerk. As a result we are still required to give 6 weeks notice of our intention to carry out any works. It was resolved in October 2016 to approve Andy Thompson Tree Care to carry out all tree works in the survey. None of this has been completed yet and some will have to wait for six weeks as per the above. This quote included work to prune the cherry tree on Squirrel Green.

Agenda Item 6 (i) – Signage at Chinley train station – The Chinley and Buxworth Transport Group recently emailed to advise that the proposed wording for the station name board was “Chinley for Cracken Edge, Eccles Pike and Bugsworth Basin”. I forwarded the comments received about including Whitehough which they have taken forward to consider. Regarding the Buxworth or Bugsworth Basin issue they explained that this has been discussed at length and it was thought that the industrial heritage site deserved to be the local attraction mentioned. The latest suggestion is “Chinley for Cracken Edge, Eccles Pike, Whitehough and Bugsworth Basin”. Feedback is due by 26th June.

Agenda Item 6 (j) – Parish newsletter – Liz Stillo is once again assisting to compile the next parish newsletter which I anticipate being ready for printing in the first week of July with news relevant until September. As per discussions earlier in the year I would like to trial distributing newsletters in local shops and via local groups as well as via the website and Facebook. If it were printed in time there would be scope to distribute at Chinley Fete on Sunday 16th July too. Previously 1300 copies have been printed. 1000 black and white copies would cost £78. However 1000 copies in colour would cost £173. 1000 colour copies on glossy paper would cost £190.

Agenda Item 6 (k) – Flail tops at Buxworth – It has been brought to my attention that Steve Goddard has previously been instructed to “flail tops” at Buxworth. Discussion required on whether this should form part of our annual grounds maintenance schedule and if so how regularly.

Agenda Item 6 (l) – Possible Giant Hogweed/Japanese Knotweed – It has been brought to my attention that there is a patch of possible Giant Hogweed/Japanese Knotweed on the banks of the brook in front of Hunters Green Close. HPBC are asking their Horticulture Specialist to confirm for us but their initial thought is Giant Hogweed which can potentially cause quite painful irritation to the skin if contact is made with the stem. It is not in the remit of HPBC to remove it since it is not on the kerb edge. I have written to DCC to establish ownership of the land to identify who is responsible for removing it. It is understood from residents that work to clear it has taken place in previous years. A further update will be provided at the meeting.