

Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council

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

Parish Clerk: Mrs Georgina Cooper
Tel: 01663 750139

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Minutes of the 126th Annual Parish Meeting held remotely via www.zoom.us on Thursday 15 April 2021 at 7:30pm

Present – Cllr Graham Hewitt (Chairman), Cllr Martin Walton (Vice Chairman), Cllr Alastair Knox, Cllr Patrick Wilson, Cllr Richard Drabble, Cllr Caroline Rofer, Derbyshire County Cllr Ruth George, High Peak Borough Cllr Eve Burton, Parish Clerk Mrs Georgina Cooper, one person representing Chinley & Buxworth Community Association & Chinley Juniors FC, one person representing Buxworth Preschool & Buxworth School PTA, a representative of Chinley Parent & Toddler Group, a representative of Chinley & Buxworth WI, a representative of Chapel Mobile Physiotherapy and 2 further members of the public.

Welcome - The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Graham Hewitt, welcomed all present to the meeting. A one minutes silence was held to mark the death of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh on 09 April 2021.

1. Appointment of Clerk to the meeting

Mrs Georgina Cooper was appointed as Clerk to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and noted from Cllr Mike Travis, Cllr Damian Fannon, Cllr Caroline Howe, Cllr William Smith as well as from a representative of Buxworth Preschool.

3. Minutes of the 125th Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 08 May 2019

The minutes of the 125th Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 08 May 2019 were approved for signature by the Chairman, Cllr Graham Hewitt, as a true and correct record.

4. Precept & Budget 2021/22

The meeting noted that the 2021/22 precept had been set at £55,041.00, which was equivalent to a 0.0% increase on a Band D charge compared to 2020/21. This corresponds to a Band D property being charged £51.44 for the year or 99 pence per week. The precept, together with a Council Tax Support Grant of £2,578.83, a Parish Support Grant of £6,098 (both from High Peak Borough Council), as well as a Minor Maintenance Scheme grant from Derbyshire County Council and a small amount of land rental provide the total budget for 2021/22 of £65,700.00. Reserves of £922.17 would provide the shortfall.

It was further noted that the Council Tax Support Grant was expected to be phased out in the next few years and that the cost of this would then need to be considered.

5. Member attendances at Parish Council meetings

The meeting received details of the attendance of members at Parish Council meetings. In 2019/20 the average attendance per meeting had been 7.4 out of a possible 10. In 2020/21 the average

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attendance per meeting had been 8.7 out of a possible 10. The increase in average attendance was suggested as a result of the pandemic and ability to hold remote online meetings.

6. Annual Report by Chair of Parish Council

The meeting received the report of the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Graham Hewitt. He noted the unprecedented impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, that the Annual Parish Meeting had not taken place in 2020 but that the Parish Council had continued to carry out its business via remote online meetings. He thanked the members of the council, Clerk and community for their involvement throughout the two years. He described some of the grants the Parish Council had been able to provide to support local groups and looked forward to developments on local projects including the redevelopment of the Community Centre in Chinley.

7. Reports from Borough and County Councillors

High Peak Borough Councillor Eve Burton, for the ward of Blackbrook, gave a brief report on issues she had supported in the last year, including assisting with planning matters, problems with dog fouling as well as overflowing bins. She also reported that in the last two years she had made grants to Citizen's Advice, Alderbrook Garden Centre, Chapel Mobile Physiotherapy as well as to fund batteries for defibrillator units.

Derbyshire County Councillor Ruth George, covering the division of Whaley Bridge, gave an update on some current projects affecting the parish. In particular, she gave an update on various matters related to the Peak Forest Tramway as well as an obsolete footpath in the parish and CBB Footpath 1 that was affected by a long-term closure. She also described the Speed Watch scheme which will shortly be getting underway in Chinley as well as an update on local bus services and a broadband voucher scheme. She described the grants that were available from her and Derbyshire County Council and gave a summary of money spent locally in the past year.

8. Chinley Community Centre Project

An update was given on progress made with the Community Centre Project in the last two years.

In particular it was noted that in 2019 a planning application had been submitted and approved to refurbish the existing building. However, further to this, an opportunity had arisen to apply for National Lottery funding for a new building on a more modest scale than the application previously submitted by the Community Association. The Parish Council, in conjunction with the Community Association, applied and in January 2020 found out they had successfully passed the first stage of application and were invited to submit a fully funded proposal.

The Parish Council carried out a full tender exercise and selected an architect to work with to progress the project. A further successful application was made to the National Lottery where £28,000 was secured to help pay for the costs to design a new building and achieve planning permission. This will enable a fully funded proposal to be completed.

The Parish Council and Community Association have just begun working with the architects with a view to submitting planning permission for a new building later in 2021. The next stage of the main

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National Lottery application should be submitted later in 2021 with the outcome known early in 2022.

It was noted that the community had been involved at every stage and updates were posted on Facebook, in the parish newsletter and in local newspapers.

It was noted that repairs had been carried out recently on the existing community centre building, including replacing the fire exit door and works to repair and replace a number of window frames.

Questions were raised about the transition period when the new building would be under construction. The representative from Chinley & Buxworth WI stated that they would help wherever possible to temporarily re-home current users of the building. Other community buildings were also suggested.

9. Reports from Community Groups –

- a. A representative on behalf of Chinley & Buxworth Community Association thanked the Parish Council for their support. An update was given on the impact of the lockdowns and closures in the last year as a result of the pandemic. It was noted that the Community Association had benefited from the Government's Covid grant schemes and bookings were starting to resume. Repairs were currently taking place and the building would be ready to open shortly. The whole Community Association committee were very pleased with progress towards a new building and looking forward to the application to the National Lottery progressing in the next year. Thanks were also offered to the borough councillor for the grant towards defibrillator batteries.
- b. A representative on behalf of Chinley Juniors Football Club offered thanks to the Parish Council, county and borough councillors for the recent grants received. They also passed on their thanks to the Parish Council for their support and investment in the playing fields.
- c. A representative on behalf of Buxworth Preschool offered thanks to the Parish Council for the recent grant received which would be used to set up a parent and babies support group in response to the impact of the national lockdowns.
- d. A representative on behalf of Buxworth School PTA offered thanks to the Parish Council for the recent grant received which would be used to provide fun and mindfulness activities for the children post national lockdowns.
- e. A representative on behalf of Chinley Parent and Toddler Group offered thanks to the Parish Council for grants received in the last 2 years. They noted that their group had been closed for the past 12 months as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and that they were looking forward to reopening and supporting new families to the area and to those who have been lacking social interaction. The grants were to be spent on sensory baskets and a marquee for holding sessions outdoors as they return after the national lockdowns.
- f. A representative of Chinley & Buxworth WI offered thanks to the Parish Council for the recent grant received which had been used to purchase an archive cupboard to store historical information related to the WI in the parish. The death of their president, Angela Philips, in the past year was acknowledged as was the work carried out on the building during the national lockdown. The representative described how the WI are looking to the future, in particular to recruiting new members and supporting the community with a particular focus on education for women.

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- g. A representative on behalf of Chapel Mobile Physiotherapy offered thanks to the Parish Council for the recent grant received towards their ongoing services.

A further vote of thanks was offered to the volunteers who responded to the Community Help scheme during the Covid-19 pandemic and helped with tasks such as shopping and prescription collections.

10. Parish Covid Memorial

A discussion was held to consider whether there was support for a Covid Memorial in the parish which could be to remember those who have died or more generally to those affected. Further consultation was required before progressing this any further.

11. Any other matters of interest affecting the parish

A number of comments were made and matters raised by those present at the meeting:

- a. Praise for the new format and range of articles included in the recent parish newsletter. The articles on a local rewilding initiative and MEMRAP campaign were of particular interest.
- b. Manchester and East Midlands Rail Action Partnership (MEMRAP) – it was suggested this campaign to reinstate the Peaks and Dales line could be economically beneficial to Buxton and Chinley with a positive impact on tourism. It was noted that this was a controversial scheme and that the Parish Council had not indicated formal support or otherwise at this stage. It was further noted that Chinley & Buxworth Transport Group, who held open monthly meetings, had a good grasp of the proposals and the implications for Chinley.
- c. Improvements to Hope Valley Line - it was suggested that a future meeting be held with residents and the rail companies involved to understand what can be expected and to ensure local people can have their say.
- d. High Peak Borough Council Local Plan Review – it was understood this review, which should happen every 5 years, was anticipated this year. It was suggested that the Parish Council think about what representation should be made with respect to land and housing allocations. It was noted that the Parish Council would be fully involved at every stage.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:50pm.

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Signed.....

Date.....