

Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 22 January 2025 at 7.30pm
in the Parish Room, 3 Lower Lane, Chinley**

Present: Councillors M Walton (Chairman), P Wilson (Vice Chairman), A Knox, M Travis, J Mulryan, C Rofer, C Denton and J Plumbly.

In Attendance: Clerk G Cooper, Derbyshire County Councillor Ruth George and High Peak Borough Councillor Angela Benham.

25/01/221 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and noted from Councillors R Drabble and P Took.

Apologies were also noted from PC J Schofield.

25/01/222 Declaration of Members Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

25/01/223 Public Speaking: Community Police

There were no community police representatives present to speak during Open Forum. A monthly crime statistics report covering the parish had been circulated.

25/01/224 Public Speaking: Borough/County Councillors/MP

A report from High Peak Borough Councillor Angela Benham had been circulated in advance. Derbyshire County Councillor Ruth George gave an update on a number of local and county council matters. Members asked questions about the proposed reorganisation of local Government.

25/01/225 Public Speaking: Open Forum

There were no members of the public present to speak during Open Forum.

25/01/226 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 December 2024

RESOLVED: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18 December 2024 be approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

25/01/227 Chairman's Update

The Chairman gave an update on his attendance at a recent meeting of Chinley & Buxworth Transport Group.

25/01/228 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was received and noted.

25/01/229 Chinley Community Centre Project

An update on the project was given. It was noted that an opening event was being planned for once practical completion had been reached and other works carried out by

the Community Association had been completed. Discussions were underway with the Parish Council's insurer to add the building back on to the insurance policy upon practical completion.

An overview of the funding status for the project was given. It was noted that High Peak Borough Council were preparing a report in advance of receiving s106 monies in respect of the Alders Meadow development to allocate to the Parish Council for the Community Centre project which could be used in 2026 to pay the balance of the construction costs.

An invoice was presented for approval from TH Michaels (Construction) Ltd for £14,538.44 plus VAT further to Cost Certificate 9 prepared by d3 Associates. It was noted that this included no variations to the contract.

A quote was presented to clear ivy from the wall in the Community Centre car park now exposed further to site works here.

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoice from TH Michaels (Construction) Ltd for £14,538.44 plus VAT further to Cost Certificate 9 prepared by d3 Associates as above. To be paid from the Community Centre Project budget.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Mark Lomas for £200 to clear the ivy from the wall in the Community Centre car park. To be paid from the Community Centre Project budget.

25/01/230 **Play Area and Parish Land Inspection Reports**

The weekly Play Area Inspection Reports were received. There were no matters arising in Chinley requiring attention.

In Buxworth, it was noted that a hole had once again developed in the grassed area close to the picnic benches, further to some investigative work carried out early in 2024 when a hole had developed here previously but when no cause had been identified. The area had been cordoned off. A quote was presented to expose the area around the hole to investigate further and consideration was given to how best to proceed. It was further noted that the ground at the bottom of the steps down to the playground from Bugsworth Memorial Club was wet and slippery, and that this may or may not be related to the hole that has developed in the playground. A quote was presented to supply and lay MOT here.

The quarterly Parish Land Inspection Reports were also received. There were no matters arising requiring attention.

RESOLVED: To notify the Parish Council's insurers of interim measures taken to date regarding the hole in the playground.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Mark Lomas for £275 to gain access to the playground and use a digger to expose an area of approximately 9m² surrounding the hole to establish what might be the cause. Further works to be carried out as an emergency depending upon what found underground. To be paid from the Repairs budget.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Mark Lomas for £240 to supply and lay 1 tonne of MOT at the bottom of the steps down from Bugsworth Memorial Club. To be paid from the Grounds budget.

25/01/231 **Christmas 2024**

Feedback on the Christmas lighting and events in 2024 were discussed. It was noted that the Road Closure in place for the Lights Switch On in Chinley had worked well again.

RESOLVED: To plan for the same in 2025, including a Road Closure Order as part of the Chinley Lights Switch On.

25/01/232 **Grit Bins**

It was noted that further to the recent wintry weather, all grit bins previously topped up in December had been emptied and had required refilling. An additional 2 x 800kg bulk bags of grit had been required in addition to the cost of filling the grit bins. It was noted that all but one grit bin had been filled and that a number of small bags of grit would be required to complete the job. Consideration was given to approving this expenditure.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £166.66 plus VAT for 2 x 800kg bulk bags of grit from Chapel DIY Centre Ltd. To approve expenditure of £120 for Mark Lomas for collecting the grit and filling the bins.

25/01/233 **Squirrel Green Arches**

It was noted that two letters had been sent to the landowner adjacent to Squirrel Green regarding ownership and monitoring of the condition of the arches, but no response had been received to date.

RESOLVED: To write to the adjacent landowner again in order to establish ownership and responsibilities.

25/01/234 **Buxton Road Parking Restrictions**

Consideration was given to supporting parking restrictions outside Deacons Farm on Buxton Road next to Chinley Primary School.

RESOLVED: To write to Derbyshire County Council requesting parking restrictions are installed outside Deacons Farm in Chinley - double yellow lines or H bars painted outside their entrances to be suggested.

25/01/235 **Buxworth Recreation Ground Himalayan Balsam**

A quote was presented to trim a large area of brambles from Buxworth Recreation Ground to allow pedestrian access to enable the removal of Himalayan Balsam in the spring.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Mark Lomas to trim a large area of brambles from Buxworth Recreation Ground for £500. To be paid from the Buxworth Recreation Ground budget in the next financial year.

25/01/236 **Buxworth Recreation Ground Local Wildlife Site Designation**

It was noted that Derbyshire Wildlife Trust had recently assessed the land at Buxworth Recreation Ground and concluded that it qualifies to be designated as a Local Wildlife Site in recognition of its conservation value. Consideration was given to accepting the designation.

RESOLVED: It was noted that the Parish Council were supportive and minded to approve the designation of Buxworth Recreation Ground as a Local Wildlife Site, however they would consider this at their next meeting once the opportunity had been advertised to local residents in Buxworth and feedback sought.

25/01/237 **Chinley Station Car Park Charges**

It was noted that Northern Trains had advised that car parking charges would be introduced at Chinley Station from Monday 31st March 2025, further to these charges being delayed from last year, in recognition that construction of the new Community Centre in Chinley would have impacted upon available parking within the village.

RESOLVED: To respond to Northern Trains advising that the Parish Council still strongly object to the car parking charges at Chinley Station on the grounds it will lead to further parking issues within the village.

25/01/238 **Planning Applications**

One application was considered.

RESOLVED: To approve the following comment for submission:

(a) **HPK/2024/0463** - Retrospective permission for extension to barn at rear of dwelling, Ivy Cottage, Chinley, SK23 6ED.

Given the history of this development, if High Peak Borough Council are minded to approve the principle of an extension here, the Parish Council would find it preferable if it were reduced in depth and had a pitched roof with a steeper angle to reflect better the character and appearance of the existing dwelling. This would be more akin to the outrigger on the original barn and would encroach less into the greenbelt compared to the current unauthorised extension.

25/01/239 **Accounts for Payment January 2025**

The Accounts for Payment in January 2025 and invoices for verification were presented. A transfer proposed within the Parish Council's existing banking arrangements was presented.

RESOLVED: To approve the following transfer within the Parish Council's existing banking arrangements.

From	To	Amount
Unity Trust - Current Account T2	Unity Trust - Instant Access Account	£10,000.00

RESOLVED: To approve the following for payment in January 2025 by the method detailed. Online payments set up by the Clerk and released by Councillor Walton.

Payee	Description	Amount
ONLINE – DD/SO		
Fleur Telecom	Broadband (Monthly)	£ 34.76
Jackson Carpets Ltd	Rent 3 Lower Lane (Monthly)	£ 277.00
WaterPlus	Water 3 Lower Lane (Monthly)	£ 39.63
Trusted IT	Managed IT Services (Monthly)	£ 22.55
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Service Charges (Monthly)	£ 8.25
E-on	Electricity Squirrel Green (1 Oct - 31 Dec 24)	£ 63.23
ONLINE – BACS		
Various	Salary Costs & Expenses	£ 1,486.84
P Manford	Cleaning Parish Room (December)	£ 12.00
Chapel DIY Ltd	2 x bulk bags grit	£ 200.00
ProSafe Electrical Services	Installation & removal of Christmas lighting 2024	£ 1,590.00
Wellers Hedleys	Registration of restriction (Community Centre)	£ 446.00
Trusted IT	Antivirus renewal	£ 24.98
S. Drinkwater & Son Ltd	Barrier pins and fencing roll	£ 65.34
Andy Thompson Tree Care	Placing/removing Christmas trees	£ 280.00
P Manford	Cleaning Parish Room (January)	£ 12.00
Mark Lomas	Filling grit bins (December & January); Removing litter bin Chinley Playground	£ 270.00
T.H.Michaels (Construction) Ltd	Community Centre Rebuild works as per Cost Certificate 9	£ 17,446.13
JANUARY 2025 TOTAL		£ 22,278.71

25/01/240 **Income Received**

RESOLVED: To note the following income received:

Received From	Amount	Reason
HMRC	£ 30,036.80	VAT refund

25/01/241 **Bank Reconciliations**

The bank reconciliations and bank statements for Q3 2024/25 were presented for verification.

RESOLVED: To approve the bank reconciliations as presented for signature by Councillor Mulryan.

25/01/242 **Suspension of Standing Orders**

It was noted that the meeting had now been in progress for two hours.

RESOLVED: To suspend Standing Orders to allow the meeting to continue.

25/01/243 **Q3 2024/25 Accounts**

The Q3 2024/25 Budget Monitoring Report and Reserves Adjustment Report had been circulated and were considered.

RESOLVED: To approve the Q3 2024/25 Budget Monitoring Report as presented.

RESOLVED: To approve the Reserves Adjustment Report which includes the following expenditure from Earmarked Reserves during Q3 totalling £57.50:

Reserves Expenditure	Earmarked Reserve	Reason
£57.50	Friends of Chinley Park	Gravel for Friends of Chinley Park (no budget allocation in 2024/25 FY due to funds held in Reserves)

25/01/244 **Budget & Precept 2025/26**

It was noted that the Council Tax Support Grant had now been phased out and would no longer be received, however a Parish Support Grant of £6,098.00 for the 2025/26 financial year had once again been allocated by High Peak Borough Council to the Parish Council. It was further noted that the tax base had increased from 1,074 to 1,118.

A provisional budget had been circulated and was considered. Further to discussion, a number of budget lines were amended. This resulted in a total budgeted expenditure of £105,710.00. £18,000 of this would be met from earmarked reserves and alongside other anticipated income, a precept of £68,494.00 would be required, equivalent to a 2.6% increase on the Band D charge.

RESOLVED: To approve a budget of £105,710.00 for the 2025/26 financial year, £18,000 of this to be met from earmarked reserves for the Chinley Community Centre Project.

RESOLVED: To approve a request for a precept of £68,494.00 for the 2025/26 financial year from High Peak Borough Council. The form to be signed by the Clerk and Chairman.

25/01/245 **Parish Room Electricity Contract**

It was noted that the contract with SSE for electricity to the Parish Room was due to come to an end. Consideration was given to renewing the contract given the imminent relocation to the Community Centre.

RESOLVED: To allow the contract with SSE to lapse without renewing.

25/01/246 **Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence had been circulated with the meeting papers and were noted:

- 1.) Derbyshire Wildlife Trust – a report and letter advising the Parish Council that they have recently assessed the land at Buxworth Recreation Ground and concluded that it qualifies to be designated as a Local Wildlife Site (LWS) in

recognition of its conservation value and seeking permission to proceed to designation.

- 2.) Cllr Ruth George – request on behalf of residents to move the parish council grit bin at the top of Stubbins Lane further down the road to make it more accessible to residents.
- 3.) Northern Trains – confirming they will introduce charges at Chinley Station Car Park from Monday 31st March 2025. Posters informing customers will be in place week commencing Monday 3rd March.
- 4.) Local resident – requesting two grit bins be placed on Dolly Lane, one between Big Tree Farm and Round Meadow Farm and a second on the sharp corner close to Lower House, where the resident believes one used to be sited.
- 5.) Chinley Allotments Association – copy of Notice to Quit issued to allotment plot tenant.
- 6.) Chinley Allotments tenant – appeal against Notice to Quit their allotment plot.

The following item was received after the Correspondence had been issued with the meeting papers and was duly noted:

- 7.) Local residents – objecting to planning application HPK/2024/0463 and discharge of conditions application DOC/2024/0065.

25/01/247 Reports from Working Groups

No reports were received from Working Groups.

25/01/248 Exclusion of the Press and public

RESOLVED: To approve the exclusion of the Press and public from the meeting for the following one item to consider confidential matters relating to an appeal.

25/01/249 Chinley Allotments

Consideration was given to an appeal lodged by a tenant of Chinley Allotments who had been issued a Notice to Quit their plot.

RESOLVED: To uphold the appeal subject to conditions.

There being no further business, the meeting was concluded at 9:50pm.

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Chairman

Dated.....