

Chinley, Buxworth and Brownside Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 27 September 2023 at 7.30pm
in the Community Centre, 21 Lower Lane, Chinley**

Present: Councillors M Walton (Chairman), Councillor P Wilson (Vice Chairman), A Knox, R Drabble, M Travis, C Rofer, P Took and D Fannon.

In Attendance: Clerk G Cooper, Derbyshire County Councillor Ruth George, High Peak Borough Councillor Angela Benham and 3 members of the public.

23/09/91 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were noted from PCSO Keeley Hancock from Derbyshire Police.

23/09/92 **Declaration of Members Interests**

No declarations of interest were made.

23/09/93 **Public Speaking: Community Police**

It was noted that PCSO Hancock had forwarded a crime statistics report in their absence which had been circulated.

23/09/94 **Public Speaking: Borough/County Councillors/MP**

High Peak Borough Councillor Angela Benham gave an update on a number of local matters, including monthly meetings with residents, a campaign to stop dog fouling and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's project to connect families with nature.

Derbyshire County Councillor Ruth George gave an update on a number of local matters, including the proposed footpath from the Forge Road development to Buxton Road, the drainage works planned for Whitehough Head Lane and the campaign to reduce school meal costs. She added that Derbyshire County Council have declared a financial emergency but that any grants agreed would be honoured.

23/09/95 **Public Speaking: Open Forum**

One member of the public spoke to raise issues relating to High Peak Borough Council's management of planning application HPK/2023/0068.

23/09/96 **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 02 August 2023**

RESOLVED: Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 02 August 2023 be approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

23/09/97 **Chairman's Update**

The Chairman had no update to make.

23/09/98 **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report was received and noted.

23/09/99 **Chinley Community Centre Project**

An update on the project was given. The outcome of the application to the Community Ownership Fund was shared and a funding update was given.

It was noted that the National Lottery have advised that as part of the terms of their grant towards the project, the Parish Council cannot lease the new building to the Community Association as had been originally anticipated. Rather, they will accept a service agreement, which is to be drafted for the Lottery's approval.

The National Lottery also require the Parish Council to sign a Deed of Dedication in recognition that the project to rebuild Chinley & Buxworth Community Centre is on land belonging to the Parish Council and is to be funded in part by the National Lottery. An extraordinary meeting to be called to consider this matter.

23/09/100 **Play Area and Parish Land Inspection Reports**

The weekly Play Area and Parish Land Inspection Reports were received.

In Chinley, it had been reported that the fence post to the rear of 39 Lower Lane bordering the Playground showed signs of movement. The landowner has been advised and a response is awaited. It is further reported that there is algae and moss on some pieces of play equipment and on the floor surface underneath.

RESOLVED: A quote to be sought to clean algae and moss from the playground equipment and floor surface.

23/09/101 **Co-option**

It was noted that two vacancies remain to be filled by co-option.

RESOLVED: To re-advertise the remaining two vacancies.

23/09/102 **Parish Land to the rear of Lower Lane bordering Chinley Playground**

It was noted that the sales of plots of parish land to the rear of 39, 41 and 43 Lower Lane had been completed and completion letters and statements had been received. The funds should arrive with the Parish Council in due course. The sale of land to the rear of 45 Lower Lane was due to complete imminently.

23/09/103 **Parish Land Licence to Occupy**

Consideration was given to renewing the licence issued in respect of occupying parish land to the rear of 33 Lower Lane in Chinley. The anticipated commencement of the project to rebuild Chinley & Buxworth Community Centre was noted.

RESOLVED: No new licence to be issued. To advise the former licence holders they may continue to use the land, but it is anticipated that work on the project will commence here in spring 2024. A minimum 14 days' notice will be given although the Parish Council will endeavour to give more.

23/09/104 **Friends of Chinley Park Budget**

A request from Friends of Chinley Park to use part of their annual budget allocation towards the services of Derbyshire Wildlife Trust who attended their recent annual

picnic event was considered. It was noted that their annual budget allocation of £600 is unspent to date. An invoice for £180 was presented.

RESOLVED: To approve for payment the invoice from Derbyshire Wildlife Trust for £180 for services supplied at the Friends' annual picnic event. To be paid from the Friends of Chinley Park budget.

23/09/105 **Tree Survey 2023**

The draft 2023 Tree Survey report including recommendations for work required was considered. It was noted that the proposal included phasing the works. Further, the outcome of responses from High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council would be required before quotes for some of the work could be sought.

RESOLVED: To approve the 2023 Tree Survey report as circulated including all recommendations. Quotes to be presented at a future meeting.

23/09/106 **Remembrance Sunday 2023**

An update was given on the plans for the parade and service at the War memorial at the bottom of Stubbins Lane in Chinley on Remembrance Sunday. It was noted that four wreaths had been ordered and the invoice was presented for consideration. Removing last year's wreaths was also considered.

RESOLVED: To approve the invoice for £80 including VAT for four wreaths payable to the Royal British Legion under s137 expenditure.

RESOLVED: To remove any remaining wreaths from last year.

23/09/107 **Christmas 2023**

Consideration was given to the placing of small and large Christmas trees throughout the parish as per previous years. Quotes were presented for supplying and installing the large Christmas tree in Buxworth, installing the small Christmas trees across the parish and for connecting all lights to an electrical supply as per previous years including along the trees on Squirrel Green adjacent to Princes Road. It was noted that quotes for supplying the small trees would be presented at the next meeting.

The proposals for the Christmas Lights Switch On events in Chinley and Buxworth were discussed. Provisional dates were given as Monday 27 November at 7pm in Chinley and Friday 01 December at 6pm in Buxworth. It was noted that after last year's event it had been agreed to apply for a Road Closure Order this year. A donation to Whaley Bridge Brass Band was also considered.

RESOLVED: To organise the Christmas lighting across the parish as per previous years.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Allied Environmental Services Ltd to supply and install the Christmas tree at Buxworth School at a total cost of £301.90 plus VAT.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Andy Thompson Tree Care to place the trees in the Christmas tree stands and on Chinley Parade and later remove and dispose of them at a total cost of £280.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from ProSafe Electrical Services to install all Christmas lighting as per last year and subsequently remove in January at a total cost of £1,590.

RESOLVED: To organise a Lights Switch On event in Chinley on the date proposed. To apply for a Road Closure Order along Green Lane adjacent to Squirrel Green for the event. A risk assessment to be presented at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve a donation of £125 to Whaley Bridge Brass Band in respect of playing at both the Chinley and Buxworth Christmas Lights Switch On events.

23/09/108 **Buxworth Allotments**

It was noted that a local resident had emailed raising concerns about the deterioration of the Buxworth Allotments site. Cllr Took, the Clerk and a former committee member of Chinley Allotments Association attended the site to carry out an inspection in the first instance and it appeared that many of the plots had not been looked after this year, if not longer, and this was impacting on some of the maintained plots. An email had been sent to the committee and they replied accepting the points raised about the condition of the site. A meeting to be arranged to discuss the matter in more detail.

23/09/109 **Playground Works**

It was noted that advice and quotes had been sought in respect of a number of items identified in the Annual Playground Inspection.

Kompan, the company that supplied and installed Buxworth Playground, were approached for a quote to repair the rubber mulch joints on the surfacing under the swings which are lifting and in need of repair. This is no longer covered under warranty. A quote was presented.

HAGS, the company that supplied and installed Chinley Playground, were approached about rusting on the toddler multi-play unit. It is understood that this is still inside the warranty period. A response is awaited.

Quotes were presented for fence repairs and goal mouth repairs.

RESOLVED: Not to accept the quote from Kompan to repair the surfacing under the swings in Buxworth. To investigate repairing options further.

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Mark Lomas to carry out the following jobs from the budget headings described below:

Item	Approved price	Budget
Fence repairs Buxworth & Chinley Playgrounds	£210	General Maintenance – Repairs
Repair both goal mouths on Buxworth Rec (level and re-turf)	£280	General Maintenance – Repairs

Six applications were discussed.

RESOLVED: To ratify the following comments already submitted:

- (a) **NP/HPK/0723/0749&750** - Installation of new flue to new wood burning stove. Higher Ashen Clough Barn, Maynestone Road, Chinley.

Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside Parish Council has no objections to this application.

- (b) **HPK/2023/0303** - Single Storey infill to rear extension. Lowburn, Beet Lane, New Smithy, Chinley, SK23 6DZ.

Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside Parish Council has no objections to this application.

- (c) **NP/HPK/0823/0925** - Extension to existing agricultural building. Redgate End Farm Cottage, Beet Lane, Chinley.

Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside Parish Council has no objections to this application.

- (d) **HPK/2023/0354** - Proposed two storey side extension with decked area to rear as continuation of existing. Durlwood, Stubbins Lane, Chinley, SK23 6EB.

Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside Parish Council has no objections to this application.

RESOLVED: To approve the following comments for submission:

- (e) **HPK/2023/0322** - Installation of Air Source Heat Pump to replace old gas boiler. Eversleigh, Stubbins Lane, Chinley, SK23 6EB.

Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside Parish Council has no objections to this application.

- (f) **HPK/2023/0182** - Application for Removal or Variation of condition 25 in relation to application HPK/2016/0692. Land Opposite Alderbrook Day Centre, Buxton Road, Chinley.

With reference to our previous suggestions, the Parish Council have now met with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) and we are both confident that the opportunity for condition 25 to be met off-site locally, through a financial contribution from the developer, can be achieved. Chinley Park Local Nature Reserve and Buxworth Recreation Ground (both in the ownership of the Parish Council) have the potential to increase their biodiversity value in lieu of that lost on the land at Buxton Road currently being developed for housing.

We have discussed several possible projects with DWT that could be carried out in Chinley Park as a continuation of the current management plan. However, on balance we felt it would be preferable for an updated site survey and management plan (last done in 2010) to be carried out prior to committing to any specific projects, so ensuring that the financial contribution is targeted

at the most appropriate works and so achieve the greatest ecological gain. The updated survey and plan could not be carried out by DWT until next spring at the earliest and so, in the circumstances, it would obviously be preferable to have the flexibility to spend the money over as long a period as possible.

We also wonder if it is possible to make the wording in the Deed of Variation more general to enable any funding to be spent "within the parish of Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside" rather than specifically at Chinley Park Local Nature Reserve. This would also enable monies to be used at the Recreation Ground at Buxworth, so providing another option. DWT have recently surveyed this site and produced a draft management plan for the Parish Council to consider, and there is certainly much scope for biodiversity gain here too.

23/09/111 **Accounts for Payment September 2023**

The Accounts for Payment in September 2023 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	£25,000.00

RESOLVED: To approve the following for payment in September 2023 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)	£ 33.14
Jackson Carpets Ltd	Rent 3 Lower Lane (Monthly)	£ 277.00
WaterPlus	Water 3 Lower Lane (Monthly)	£ 39.28
Trusted IT	Managed IT Services (Monthly)	£ 22.55
SSE Southern Electric	Electricity 3 Lower Lane (19 May - 11 Aug 23)	£75.73
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Service Charges (Quarterly)	£ 25.05
Unity Trust Bank	Cash and cheque charges	£ 0.60
ONLINE – BACS		
Various	Salary Costs & Expenses	£ 1,325.59
Chinley & Buxworth Community Association	Meeting Hall Hire (August)	£ 22.00
Mr P Manford	Hard court clearance x 1	£ 55.00
The Royal British Legion	Wreaths	£ 80.00
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Friends of Chinley Park event	£ 180.00
Goddard Excavations Ltd	Annual flailing Buxworth Recreation Ground	£ 432.00
M Lomas	Parish land repairs & spreading playground bark	£ 340.00
Bancroft Amenities Ltd	One-off mowing Chinley Playing Fields	£ 60.00
The Parkinson Partnership LLP	VAT report on Community Centre Project	£ 840.00
A K Products	Newsletters Autumn 2023	£ 450.00
CHEQUE		
P Williams	Autumn 2023 Newsletter distribution	£ 132.00
SEPTEMBER 2023 TOTAL		£ 4,389.94

23/09/112 **Income Received**

RESOLVED: To note the following income received:

Received From	Amount	Reason
High Peak Borough Council	£31,526.50	Half of annual precept payment and half of annual Council Tax Support Grant

23/09/113 **Additional Expenditure August 2023**

RESOLVED: To note the following additional payment made in August 2023:

Payee	Description	Amount
ONLINE – DD		
BT	Telephony services	£ 147.03
PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit	£ 378.00
AUGUST 2023 ADDITIONAL		£ 525.03

23/09/114 **External Auditor Report and Certificate 2022/23**

The certified Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31 March 2023, received from external auditors PKF Littlejohn LLP, was presented for consideration. It was noted that no matters were raised requiring attention.

RESOLVED: To approve the report as presented.

23/09/115 **Notice of Conclusion of Audit**

It was noted that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit and Sections 1, 2 & 3 of the AGAR were published on 14 August 2023 both on the Parish Council's website and on the external Parish Room noticeboard as required.

RESOLVED: It was approved to take down the paper copies from the Parish Room noticeboard as they have now been displayed for a sufficient period of time. They will remain online.

23/09/116 **Insurance**

An annual renewal quote received from Clear Councils Insurance (formerly BHIB Councils Insurance) with a 3-year long term undertaking was presented. It was noted that the renewal premium of £3,008.70 was above the budgeted amount of £2,850.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £3,008.70 payable to Clear Insurance Management Ltd for the Parish Council's insurance requirements to 30 September 2024. Payment to be included with the September accounts.

23/09/117 **Parish Room Electricity Contract**

It was noted that the one-year fixed electricity contract for the Parish Room runs out in February 2024. Utility Aid who arranged the previous renewal have provided a quote from SSE Southern Electric at a lower price than the existing contract for various periods of time.

RESOLVED: To authorise the Clerk to agree a 12-month fixed electricity contract to start in March 2024.

23/09/118 **Correspondence**

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

- 1.) PKF Littlejohn LLP – notification that they have completed their limited assurance review for the year ended 31 March 2023 and enclose the External Auditor Report and Certificate with no matters arising.
- 2.) Local resident – raising concerns about the deterioration of the Buxworth Allotments site.
- 3.) Derbyshire County Council - invitation to join their Snow Warden scheme.
- 4.) High Peak Borough Council – notifying the Parish Council that they are seeking to extend the current Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Nuisance) for a period of 3 years with no other amendments to the current Order.
- 5.) Derbyshire Wildlife Trust – advising they have been invited to make an application for the Species Survival fund, following a successful initial enquiry. The fund will pay for a variety of habitat creation and restoration projects with a

key focus on connecting landowners with ethical businesses and investors who are willing to provide regular payments direct to landowners for ongoing habitat maintenance. They have identified parish land as strategically placed for inclusion in the project and asked whether the Parish Council would consider being involved at the appropriate time with no commitment required at this stage.

- 6.) Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – response to a number of queries related to a Public Works Loan Board loan.
- 7.) High Peak Borough Council – invitation to speak in support or against planning application HPK/2023/0182 at the Development Control Committee meeting on 28 September 2023.

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

- 8.) UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology – Countryside site survey results.
- 9.) Community Ownership Fund – outcome of recent grant application.
- 10.) Local resident – raising the issue of dog fouling on footpaths around Chinley and asking what can be done.
- 11.) Completion letters and statements with regards to the sale of land at 39, 41 and 43 Lower Lane.

23/09/119 Reports from Working Groups

No reports were received from Working Groups.

There being no further business, the meeting was concluded at 9:16pm.

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Chairman

Dated.....