

## **PARISH OF CHARLESWORTH - ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Minutes of the Annual Assembly Meeting for the Parish of Charlesworth held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Charlesworth School, Town Lane, Charlesworth.**

### **PRESENT**

Clerk: C Lewkowicz, Councillors: D. Cooper (Chair), P Cooper, C Swindells, A Worrall David Jones (Glossop Chronicle) & 2 Members of the Public

### **APOLOGIES**

Cllrs G Robinson, M Gill, M Carter

### **1 APPOINTMENT OF CLERK TO THE MEETING**

Carol Lewkowicz was nominated & seconded as Clerk to the meeting

### **2 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018, having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **3 PRECEPT 2018/19 & 19/20**

The Meeting was informed that the precept for 2018/19 was £10,852.68 The precept for 2019/20 would be £11,156.52 which is an increase of 2% on the previous year.

### **4 MEMBERS ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS 2018/19**

The Parish Clerk confirmed that the attendances were in order and a quorum was achieved at all meetings.

### **5 CHAIR'S REPORT 2018/19**

Councillor D Cooper reported as follows: -

### **VACANCIES/ELECTIONS**

Welcome to Carol, our new clerk! Thank you for getting into the role so quickly, you're doing a great job.

Jon Mason (Chair) resigned suddenly in Nov 2018 creating a vacancy, however, it was decided not to hold a recruitment procedure as it is Election year and any successful candidate would only be in the role a couple of months before they would have to re-apply for their seat. Elections are to be held in May 2019.

### **EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

CENOTAPH In collaboration with the WI it's a huge achievement to finally have the lights on the Cenotaph. Huge thanks to all involved and appreciation of all the work associated with this project. The community has indeed come together to achieve this.

THE BATTLE'S OVER TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION a true highlight of the year! Special thanks to Cllr Swindells for the initial idea and ending with a couple of hundred people walking from

Charlesworth to Chisworth. Thanks to the whole team, Alyson Darkins, Martin Bell, Kath D'Archambaud, Jon Mason, Peter Cooper & Cath Swindells.

POST OFFICE We have been able to secure a weekly Post Office service every Wednesday Afternoon held in the Village Club.

LOLLIPOP PERSON We have successfully won funding to recruit a second Lollipop person to service the school twice a day. The only school in Derbyshire to have two!! A great achievement.

### **CHARLESWORTH VILLAGE GREEN**

The Green once again, hosted the annual Carnival in July bringing our community together. Repairs to the dry-stone wall have been completed. Regular inspections and maintenance of the play equipment and cutting the grass have continued. Repairs and improvements are assessed monthly and implemented as necessary. New trees have arrived to be planted on the Green.

### **DEFIBRILLATORS**

Charlesworth de fib is currently located inside the Village Club as there is a problem with the cabinet it normally sits in. Plans are in hand to resolve the issue as soon as possible.

Simmondley de fib was activated recently. Fortunately, the advanced software found that it didn't need to fire but the family were very grateful and the audio advice from the system talked the patient's helper through the steps.

Thanks to the Guardians of these defibrillators who continue to monitor the units every week.

### **FINANCES**

Carol has devised a new spreadsheet which is easy to read and understand. Whilst our finances are healthy at the moment, the precept has had to increase as our financial commitments dictate there are no funds left to go into reserves. This is an area we will continue to monitor and review in order to fulfil our obligations to the community and it's wellbeing.

### **HIGHWAYS**

The Council was successful in its application for a formal road closure during the Remembrance Service in Charlesworth village.

Speed is still an issue within Charlesworth and on our 'link' road (via Town Lane) to Simmondley.

Two Councillors attended a meeting at the Derbyshire Constabulary Head Quarters where we believe we made good contacts in order for us to be heard in our quest to reduce speed throughout the village. Being on the boundary of Derbyshire has its challenges and we are determined not to be forgotten.

### **GRIT BINS**

The council has continued to fill its grit bins as required with Markovitz doing an annual fill in late Autumn and top ups as and when reported as necessary.

## **GARDENING AND MAINTENANCE**

Jake Higgs has continued as the Parish Gardener.

## **FOOTPATHS**

We appreciate members of the public reporting footpath concerns with the Parish Council or directly with the DCC in order to keep footpaths maintained.

## **PLANNING**

Planning applications continue to be considered at our open monthly meetings. Whilst the Council is not the decision maker in the process, anyone can access applications on-line and express their views. However, the Council can and will continue to discuss and comment on such applications.

## **COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE PUBLIC**

The notice board in the George & Dragon car park is the main visual record of what we do. However, consideration is being given to moving this board where it will be more visible and easier to read and access.

The Facebook page maintains posts about forthcoming meetings and notes of interest to the community. The website is fully functioning with all agendas and minutes posted.

Thanks to Cllr Marcus Gill who has been spreading the word in Simmondley about the work that the Council has been doing. It has been met with positive results and awareness is definitely increased.

There is a concern that our older parishioners and anyone who doesn't use Facebook will miss Council information and we need to consider this as an issue.

My vision as Chair is keep bringing our communities together when we can and across other partnerships such as School, Carnival committee, local businesses, Chisworth Parish Council, our local paramedics and our many other groups and Societies!

## **6 ANY OTHER PARISH MATTERS:**

Chris Harbut asked that the work to Village Green entrance be looked at again. This work would make it easier to access the site for the Carnival when the weather is wet. The work was previously rejected in 2017 by the Parish Council due to costs which were around 3k. The Councillors **Resolved** to re look at the costs of work.

Meeting opened – 7 p.m. and closed – 7.25 p.m.