**CHURCH BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2ND JUNE 2022**

Those present: In attendance:

Councillor Pedley-Chairman Helena Steeples-Clerk

Councillor Redfern Mr Warriner

Councillor Speake

Councillor Thorpe

Councillor Woodhall

**34.0 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from DCC Councillor Patten & SDDC Councillors Smith & Lemmon.

**35.0 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS & POLICE**

1. The Queens Platinum Jubilee - Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service are asking for your help with planned Beacon Lightings. In the past, they have received a number of calls from the public about fires being lit which have turned out to be organised Beacon Lightings. If you are planning on Lighting a Beacon in the village or know of any taking place in your Parish, would you please email [control@derbys-fire.gov.uk](mailto:control@derbys-fire.gov.uk) and just state the date, time and location of the Beacon Lighting.

2. Area Forum - Your Area Forum will back with a face-to-face meeting which will be held on Thursday 7th July at the Frank Wickham Hall, Etwall.

3.Gully Mapping - A project is underway, with Derbyshire County Council, to plot every gully in the South Derbyshire. These are split into 12 routes; the first three routes are cleansed twice a year and the rest once a year.  Timescales for when the routes will be cleansed are also being revisited currently but will broadly be:

* + Routes 1, 2, 3 first cleanse Spring
  + Routes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Summer
  + Routes 1, 2, 3 second cleanse Autumn
  + Routes 9, 10, 11, 12 Winter

The Spring gulley cleansing is currently taking place.

4. Innovative New Fostering Service for Animals Found ‘In Distress’

One of the unforeseen consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic was a big surge in pet ownership and a significant increase in demand for dogs and cats.

Regrettably, some owners appear to be poorly equipped to look after their pets and Council officers have observed that breaches of Animal Welfare law appear to be increasing in frequency.

In 2021/22, this resulted in Council officers taking possession of 47 animals found to be in distress, using powers in the Animal Welfare Act. This is double the number of animals which have been seized using this power in the past decade.

A major consequence of the use of this power is the cost implication to the Council. When officers take possession of an animal found in distress, the Council must keep the animal in a safe boarding establishment until the Court makes a decision about whether a criminal offence has been committed. Only after this decision may the Court grant a Possession Order which gives legal ownership of the animal to the Council and enables the animal to be found a safe new home.

This process often takes many months, and the cost implications of boarding can run into thousands of pounds per animal.

In February 2022, the Council signed a legal agreement with a dog rescue fostering charity to enable seized animals to be homed with foster carers during the time between their seizure and the conclusion of the court case. This enables the animals, who are often already in a poor state of physical and emotional health, to be looked after in a domestic setting rather than being kept in a boarding kennels. The arrangement also provides a very significant financial saving for the Council.

This agreement is thought to be the first of its kind in the UK.  The detail will be reported to August’s Environmental and Development Services Committee as part of the annual Enforcement Report.

5. Summer Playscheme 2022. Leaflets have been distributed.

There is a great buzz around the return of the playscheme after two years off due to the pandemic.

**36.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**37.0 OUTSIDE BODIES PARTICIPATION**

None.

**38.0 TO RECEIVE & APPROVE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS FROM MEMBERS ON MATTERS IN WHICH THEY HAVE A DISCLOSURABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None.

**39.0 INTRODUCTION OF PROSPECTIVE PARISH COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Pedley introduced Mr Warriner who had expressed an interest in finding out more about the activities of the Parish Council. Mr Warriner explained that he and his wife had moved to the village recently and would like to take more interest in the village and its activities. Mr Warriner was invited to stay for the meeting prior to making his decision if he wished to join the Parish Council.

**40.0 COMPLETION OF NEW COUNCILLOR PAPERWORK**

See item 48.0.

**41.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th May 2022 were read, approved and signed. Proposed by Councillor Pedley and seconded by Councillor Speake.

**42.0 MATTERS ARISING**

**42.1 COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE**

Councillor Pedley advised that Mrs Lydon and her team have been very busy organising the Platinum Jubilee Party in the village for Sunday 5th June 2022. There has also been an exhibition of art; flowers; banner; and people’s memories of the Queen’s Coronation in church.

**42.2 METHODIST CHAPEL UPDATE**

Councillor Pedley gave a summary of events. The Methodist Chapel had been listed as a Community Asset with SDDC which allows 6 months for the Parish to prepare a bid for the prospective purchase of the Chapel. The chapel is not a listed building. The Parish Council placed a bid in October 2021 but has now been informed that the Methodist Circuit are now possibly looking at placing the building on the open market and then selling the building either at auction or by asking for sealed bids, as under Methodist Law they are required to get the best price (which actually means, the best deal, not necessarily the highest offer). This is disappointing to hear after placing our bid so many months ago. Councillor Pedley advised that we will have to discuss options as a Council and may need to seek views from the community.

The Parish Council has been authorised to take out a Public Works Loan of up to £75,000.00 which has an expiry date of 5th August 2022, and the Parish Council will have to reapply for the loan approval if a deal cannot be done before this time. Also, the Parish Council has been granted £25,000.00 from SDDC towards the purchase of the Methodist Chapel. This would have to be repaid if it is not used.

Andrew Hawkins & Cliff Lewer from the Methodist Circuit will meet with their agent John Taylor at the beginning of June to agree next steps.

Possible options:

1. Improve the existing bid by adding an offer to share a proportion of future uplift in value if the Parish Council sold the building within a set time period.
2. Raise borrowing capacity through an increase in the period of the loan and / or further increase in precept, both of which would require another full Parish consultation.
3. Ask for voluntary donations from the community towards purchase. Mr Pedley advised that he knew of a number of people who would be willing to make donations.
4. Under charity law, it may be possible for a “lower than market” bid to be accepted if a charity (e.g. The Village Hall & Playing Field) buys the Methodist Chapel, i.e. a charity selling to another charity.

Councillor Pedley advised that a meeting has been arranged next week with the Community Led Plan team and Village Hall & Playing Fields Committee to discuss options. Possible public meeting at the end of June.

**42.3 RISK MANAGEMENT**

No update.

**42.4 MISSING BOLLARD**

No update.

**42.5 AUDEN CLOSE**

No update.

**42.6 BADWAY LANE**

Councillor Thorpe advised that the leak has been repaired by STWA and he is now in contact with representatives re repair of the road surface.

**43.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**43.1 NOTIFICATION OF AREA FORUM MEETING**

This is to be held at Sir Frank Wickham Hal, Etwall on 7th July 2022 at 6.30pm

**43.2 ACCEPTANCE TO JOIN PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MINOR MAINTENANCE SCHEME 2022-23**

Clerk has confirmed that the Parish Council wishes to join the scheme for the forth coming year.

**44.0 PLANNING APPLICATION**

**44.1 REG NO DMPN/2022/0311 – THE ERECTION OF A SINGLE STOREY POTTING SHED/WORKSHOP IN THE SOUTHERN END OF THE REAR GARDEN AT HOUGHTON HOUSE, CHURCH BROUGHTON**

Planning application had been seen by all Councillors prior to the meeting.No objections.

**45.0 FINANCE**

**45.1 FINANCE REPORT**

A finance report as at 1st June 2022 had been circulated.

**45.2 CLERKS SALARY £224.00 LESS TAX = £195.20**

It was proposed by Councillor Thorpe & seconded by Councillor Redfern to pay the Clerks salary. Cheque serial number 001392 issued.

**45.3 D WALLIS LENGTHSMAN £60.80**

It was proposed by Councillor Redfern and seconded by Councillor Thorpe to pay Mr Wallis. Cheque serial number 001393 issued.

**45.4 B RUDGE LENGTHSMAN £20.00**

It was proposed by Councillor Redfern and seconded by Councillor Thorpe to pay Mr Rudge. Cheque serial number 001394 issued.

**45.5 HMRC £64.00**

It was proposed by Councillor Thorpe & seconded by Councillor Redfern to pay the HMRC. Cheque serial number 001395 issued.

**45.6 FINCH IT SOLUTIONS £203.40**

It was proposed by Councillor Redfern and seconded by Councillor Thorpe to pay Finch It Solutions. Cheque serial number 001396 issued.

**45.7 GALLAGHER INSURANCE £352.79**

It was proposed by Councillor Thorpe & seconded by Councillor Redfern to pay the Gallagher Insurance. Cheque serial number 001397 issued.

**46.0 REPORTS**

**46.1 ROADS**

Councillor Speake spoke of the poor condition of many roads around the parish. It was agreed to issue a letter to Highways expressing the Parish Council’s concern over the state of the roads and the lack of repairs. Councillor Speake to draft letter and issue to all prior to the letter being issued to DDC & SSDC Councillors and Highways. ACTION: COUNCILLOR SPEAKE

**46.2 FOOTPATHS/MINOR MAINTENANCE**

Councillor Woodhall advised that the footpath near Barton Hall needs clearing; a stile on Badway Lane is broken; & there are problems with access to footpaths on Mr Ferguson’s land. Councillor Woodhall to report footpaths/stiles to DCC. ACTION: COUNCILLOR WOODHALL with assistance from COUNCILLOR PEDLEY

**46.0 POLICIES**

**46.1 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS**

**46.2 ACCESSIBILITY POLICY**

**46.3 CODE OF CONDUCT**

**46.4 COMPLAINTS**

**46.5 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

**46.6 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

**46.7 FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT**

**46.8 FREEDOM ON INFORMATION ACT**

**46.9 INTERNAL AUDIT**

**46.10 RECORD RETENTION**

All policies had been circulated prior to the meeting. Policies were all approved apart from Accessibility Policy which Councillor Pedley will review. ACTION: COUNCILLOR PEDLEY

**47.0 ITEMS FOR THE CALENDAR**

None.

**48.0 CHAIRMANS NOTICES**

Councillor Pedley advised that under our audit regulations a notice had been placed in the noticeboard entitled “Exercise of Public Rights” which is unclear in its meaning but wanted to be clear that it relates to the availability of the PC accounts which are available for viewing from 13th June to 22nd July 2022. Future notices to include this clarification. ACTION: CLERK

Police & Crime Commissioners meetings are to be held and Parish Councils may bid for an Anti-Social Behaviour Prevention Grant.

Mr Warriner advised that he would be willing to become a Parish Councillor and it was agreed by all present to co-opt him onto the Parish Council. Clerk to advise SDDC & issued forms for completion and return. ACTION: CLERK & COUNCILLOR WARRINER

**49.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 7th July 2022