

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2022

Meeting Held: Wednesday 2 February 2022
Held in the Main Hall of the Town Hall, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Present: Councillor M Chantler in the Chair
Councillors J Adshead, M Barton, A Beswick, DePee, N Gourlay,
N Hill, T Saxby, C Sizeland and S Young.

In Attendance: Mrs S E Stockdale – Clerk to the Council

Apologies accepted: None
Apologies noted: None

There were three members of the public present at the meeting.

22/439 Declarations of Interest

None.

22/440 Dispensations

Two dispensations have been granted to Councillor Sizeland.

22/441 Variation of Business

None.

22/442 Police Matters

The Police have confirmed that the Parish Office is suitable for them to use as a base and will be moving in shortly. Confirmation will be sought about making reports to the Police and if this will change when they have a base in the community.

22/443 Public Participation

A member of the public spoke about the Leys Allotment site to seek clarification about when the Council will be re-opening the site.

It was noted that the Amenities Committee are meeting on 9th February 2022 and the Leys Allotments is an agenda item having being deferred from the last meeting.

Councillor Sizeland left the room for the public participation agenda item.

22/444 Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 5 January 2022

Minutes numbered 22/401 to 22/427 were presented.

The following amendments were made:

The Full Council Meeting was held on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

The Council recorded a vote of thanks to Councillor Walters who is leaving the area and the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman be authorised to sign the amended Minutes as being a true and correct record.

22/445 Minutes of the Budget meeting held on 19 January 2022

Minutes numbered 22/430 were presented.

The following amendments were made.

A 5% discount will be made available to regular hirers of the Town Hall.

22/416 – it was noted that some Members may not be able to attend Committee meetings due to conflict of interests.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman be authorised to sign the amended Minutes as being a true and correct record.

22/446 Matters arising from the minutes

None.

22/447 2022/23 Precept

The Chairman reminded members that the recommendation from the budget meeting was a 3% increase in the Precept.

Councillor Barton proposed an increase in line with inflation at 5.4%. The proposal took account of the increase in fuel costs in 2022/23, the outstanding settlement of the Local Government Pay rise for 2021/22 and 2022/23 together with Regeneration projects that the Council will be looking to bring forward. Councillor Hill seconded the proposal.

Councillor Beswick proposed that there was no increase in the Precept as he was unclear about the spending plan, that there will be a financial strain on households in the coming 12 months with the cost of living crisis. There was a large increase in the Precept in 2020/21 and the Council cannot justify a further increase.

There was no seconder for the proposal.

Councillor Young proposed an increase of 2% which would cover the loss of income from the Council Tax Support Grant. Councillor Adshead seconded the proposal.

The Chairman invited members to vote on the proposal made by Councillor Barton.

Councillor Young requested a recorded vote.

For	Against	Abstain
Cllr Chantler Cllr Saxby Cllr DePee Cllr Barton Cllr Hill Cllr Sizeland Cllr Gourlay	Cllr Young Cllr Adshead	Cllr Beswick

RESOLVED: That the 2022/23 Precept be increased by 5.4% to £200,059.74.

ACTION: The Clerk to advise High Peak Borough Council.

22/448 Outstanding Actions from previous meetings

Councillors DePee and Hill reported that Pug and Pudding had agreed to open for a trial evening for young people on a Wednesday evening. It was agreed that the Council would look to subsidise this.

22/449 South Head Drive Play Area

It was reported that Councillor Mrs Sizeland and the MP are progressing matters with High Peak Borough Council and the Developer.

22/450 Committee Terms of Reference

The Committee Terms of Reference have been amended following the changes in the number of members required on each committee.

RESOLVED: That the terms of Reference be amended as presented to the meeting.

22/451 Council Procurement Policy

The draft Policy was presented and discussed and some amendments suggested.

RESOLVED: That the Policy is amended and brought to the next Full Council meeting for final approval.

ACTION: The Clerk to add to the next Full Council agenda.

22/452 Memorial Park By-Laws

Councillor Gourlay proposed that the current Memorial Park By-Laws are rescinded as they are no longer fit for purpose and have been superseded by current legislation.

RESOLVED: That an application is made to rescind the Memorial Park By-Laws.

ACTION: The Clerk.

22/453 Motion from Councillor Chantler – Use of Social Media by Councillors

Members were presented with guidance from the Local Government Association on the responsible use of social media by Councillors.

RESOLVED: That Councillors work in line with the guidance issued by the Local Government Association.

22/454 Motion from Councillor Chantler to split the work of Amenities and ring fencing budgets.

I propose that we split the work of Amenities to new committees:-

These new committees will be

1. Parks and green spaces including allotments

2. Regeneration of the area including tourism (This to include all other developments other than parks and green spaces).

Further that we agree a proportion of the agreed budget to be ring fenced for each committee for the financial year.

Any Capital expenditure over £5,000 will need to be discussed at a full council meeting and voted on.

The remit of the Amenities Committee currently includes parks and green spaces. Mr Boothman has volunteered to manage the Leys allotment site and it was agreed that he should be invited to the next Amenities Committee meeting with a view to co-opting him as a non-voting member of the Committee.

It was agreed that a meeting of the Regeneration Committee is called as it has not met for some time to consider projects that have been proposed.

It was noted that in the Financial Regulations the Full Council has to agree any expenditure over £5,000.

RESOLVED: That a meeting of the Regeneration Committee is called.

ACTION: The Assistant Clerk to invite Mr Boothman to the Amenities Committee Meeting.

 The Clerk to call a Regeneration Committee meeting.

22/455 To agree a budget for HR Support

RESOLVED: That a budget of £500 is agreed for HR support.

22/456 Schedule of Accounts presented for payment.

Bankline payments were presented amounting to £13,848.20.

Cheque number 009241 for £100.00 was presented.

The Clerk was asked to seek a breakdown of the invoice relating to election costs prior to approval for payment.

That the authorised signatories approve the payments on Bankline excluding the payment of £4,843.97 to High Peak Borough Council relating to election costs and the accounts to which they relate be paid electronically.

It was noted that the direct debit to Workplace Pensions will be cancelled when the arrangements for the transfer of pensions has been completed.

ACTION: The Clerk to seek clarification regarding the invoice for election costs.

22/457 Correspondence

- Letter from Friends of Chapel Station

22/458 Any Other Business

It was agreed that the flag is flown on the Town Hall and in the Memorial Park on 6th February 2022 for the commencement of the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

Councillor Saxby indicated that he would be joining a Zoom meeting arranged by the local branch of the Royal British Legion to consider Jubilee events. The Council would look to support any local events.

Councillor Sizeland gave members an update on the installation of ventilation in the Town Hall and this will be done in two phases, with the Annexe being phase 1.

The noise from fans in the Main Hall will have to be addressed prior to any installation in phase 2.

22/459 Press Releases

- Shop Front grant Scheme
- 2022/23 Precept

22/460 Date and place of next meeting.

It was agreed that the next Full Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2 March 2022, commencing at 19.00 hours in the Main Hall of Chapel-en-le-Frith Town Hall.

Due to reported issues with the acoustics in the Main Hall the Council will look to move back into the Annexe in April 2022.

22/461 **To resolve to exclude the press and members of the public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.**

RESOLVED: That the course of action as outlined by the Councils Solicitors on 1 February 2022 is approved.

RESOLVED: That Councillor DePee is appointed to undertake an initial investigation into the complaint made against a member of staff and report back to the Council.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.45 hours.

CHAIRMAN