

PLEASLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH FEBRUARY 2024

Present

Councillor I Allen (Chair)

Councillors, C Dale, M Gamble, T Kirkham, W Kirkham, L McMormack, H Wright

Clerk I Weekes

Members of the public: none

PART 1- NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

1 To receive apologies for absence Apologies received from L Radford, H Smith, L Stokeley

2 Declaration of Members Interest.

To enable members to declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable

Pecuniary Interest and Non-Statutory Interest as defined by the Members Code of Conduct in respect of:

- a) Any business on the agenda,
 - b) Any urgent additional items to be considered,
 - c) Any matters arising out of those items and if appropriate, withdraw from the meeting at the relevant time.
- Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at the time. NONE RECEIVED

3. Public Speaking - A period of not more than 15 minutes was made available for members of the public and Members of the Council to comment on business on the agenda. – No members of the public were in attendance.

(1) Crime reports

Latest information from Derbyshire Constabulary website for show crimes were reported here in November 2023

Violence and sexual offences	10
Anti-social behaviour	7
Criminal damage and arson	4
Vehicle Crime	2

Police website states that Priorities:
Same as previous month

Action To be taken:

Same as previous month.

<https://www.derbyshire.police.uk/area/your-area/derbyshire/north-east/pleasley/about-us/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area> - link showing the above number of incidents

<https://www.derbyshire.police.uk/area/your-area/derbyshire/north-east/pleasley/about-us/crime-map> -this shows the crime map, however alternatively you can view as a list of A-Z of streets

(2) Report from and Questions to County Councillor Ms C Dale. Budget has been through cabinet on the 14.2.24 looking at the cutbacks for 2024/25, increase council tax just under 5%. If a member of the public reports a pothole on the Derbyshire Highways Website a reference number required if you wish to make an insurance claim for damage to vehicle.

- (3) Report from and Questions to District Councillor T Kirkham – No Report received – Not present.
- (4) To confirm the date of next meeting – Monday 4th March 2024
- (5) Minutes of the previous meeting of the 8th January 2024 to approved and signed.
- (6) Chairman’s announcements. Several items in relation to items of business.
- (7) Reports.
- (a) Report from Community Speedwatch initiative – date of forthcoming Speed Awareness Training is Monday February 12th at 6pm at The Verney

(b) Allotments /Grazing Land correspondence/reports

i) Clerk has written to the tenant of Plot 1 of Crompton Allotments regarding unacceptable condition of their plot. Letter dated 20.01.24 requested plot is restored to a reasonable state with fencing stable and secure with unwanted furniture and other unwanted materials removed from the plot before 31st March 2024, failure to do so will result in the tenancy agreement being terminated from 31st March 2024 and the tenant may be charged for the work undertaken to clear the plot back to an accepted standard. Councillors agreed.

ii) The Clerk met with Mrs M Long who wishes to continue renting grazing land at Dale End for 2024 until such a time when tenant moves away sometime in 2024/25. The Clerk ascertained that for some time the tenant has access to water via a tap which is connected to the Crompton Allotment.

Councillors to also discuss;

a. The previous year’s grazing licence ran from January-December 2023. Councillors to discuss whether to re-issue the grazing licence from January – December 2024 or alternatively align new grazing licence with perspective new licenses for Meden / Crompton grazing land running from April 2024 – March 2025. Councillors agreed that the grazing land will run from April 2024.

b. Councillors to discuss if a water metre should be installed on Crompton Allotments and The Dale End Grazing Land and whether the tenant of the Dale End grazing land to be charged for the use of the water. Councillors agreed that a water metre is to be installed at all allotments and grazing land.

c. Councillors to set fees for the grazing land at Meden Grazing land at £100 per calendar month. To ensure consistent fees are applied to all the grazing land across the Parish Councillors previously discussed offering Mrs M Long reduced fees for a period before they increase to £100 per calendar month. Councillors to determine the time frame that fees should be reduced for and discuss what fees should be charged for the grazing land in 2024. Councillors agreed that the cost of the renting the Dale end will be £1200 per year plus water.

d. Councillors to discuss whether to keep the fees for allotments for the parish at their current rate of £20 for a full plot and £15 for a half plot or whether to increase the fees for 2024/25. Councillors agreed that fees should be increased to a £40 full plot and £30 per year for a half plot. At future meeting Councillors to further discuss the current state of the individual allotments to determine if some allotments are also in unacceptable condition.

iii) Telephone call and Email of 20/01/24 from Keighley & Richard of New Houghton as we previously applied and were unsuccessful in renting the grazing the land at Meden Avenue. Maureen Long who is the current tenant of Dale End grazing land suggested we applied to replace Mrs Long as a tenant when

Mrs Long moves out of the area. We would like to be considered as incoming tenants for when Maureen vacates this land. Dale End is more suited to our needs as there are existing buildings and fencing. If the land was split into 2 to include the land at the back of Crompton Allotments, we would also be interested in renting both areas of land as we would need a minimum of 5 acres due to the amount of horses, we have which is the reason making this application, so when the grazing land become available in the near future could we please be considered. Councillors to consider. No decision.

iv) Councillors to discuss the arrangements to create access for potential grazing land Crompton Street and perspective tenants. No decision.

v) Further overnight water leak fault reported by tenants at Crompton Allotment. Clerk got in touch with D Berney Plumbing for emergency repair – tap was isolated from supply on Sunday 21st January – with no connect water services available for the Crompton allotment or dale engineering Grazing Land until repair is completed. Noted

vi) Regarding the gaps in the hedgerow at Meden Grazing fields – our application for 50 free hedgerow whips has been successful from: <https://www.tcv.org.uk/i-dig-trees-free-trees/>. The trees will be delivered at the end of February for a Community Planting event Saturday 2nd / Sunday 3rd March 2024. Councillors to discuss and confirm details of community planting event – details to be published in the next newsletter or via social media. Councillors agreed to schedule event for Sunday 3rd March 2024 at 10am.

(b) Cemetery Correspondence/reports

Email of 25/1/24 from Yvonne Colverson of DALC

DALC can provide a memorial safety training session for the council at a cost of £160 + mileage, this will cover the Council's legal responsibilities in the managing of safe burial grounds. However, this will not equip anyone with the knowledge and skill to be 'competent' in the testing of memorials which is required (which is a legal requirement), and we strongly recommend anyone who is responsible for a burial ground to attend the one-day training session which is practical as well as knowledge based. DALC's full-day course, on Wednesday 3rd April at the Whitworth Centre in Darley Dale, will comprise a classroom session covering the scope of risk and legal responsibilities, including Health & Safety, followed by a practical session in a cemetery, focusing on inspection. Cost: £140 per delegate. Councillors to discuss which training option/s for approve. Councillors approved memorial safety training session for the council at a cost of £160 + mileage. Councillors asked to discuss charging exclusive rights of burial fees at Pleasley Parish Cemetery at a future meeting. To also discuss cemetery plan.

Email of 17/1/24 Clare Gill of E Gill & Sons Memorial - Approvals for Pleasley Cemetery – Headstone Memorial granted. RESOLVED

(d) Footpaths correspondence/reports - none

(e) Highways correspondence/reports -

Various potholes on Newboundmill Lane and Terrace Lane have been reported to Derbyshire Highways.

(f) New Houghton correspondence/reports - NONE

(g) Verney Institute correspondence/reports

i. Email of 15/1/24 from Vicky Stafford Reporting Coordinator at TIS regarding Notice of Termination of Maintenance Services for Verney Alarm from 25/1/24. New alarm was installed on 25/1/24 by Vault Security.

ii. Email of 15/1/24 from Kirstie Davies Territory Planner at Smiths of Derby Annual Verney clock service for 2024 was carried out 15/1/24.

iii) Boiler repair undertaken at The Verney on 2/1/24 as Groups had to be cancelled the last week before Christmas. Boiler is up and running again now, however requires a replacement Probe and possible replacement seals. Quotes received as follows

a. T Clarke to forward Quote for works to Clerk. T Clarke may be able to offer us a service plan for the boiler. Details of the service plan and quote to be advised. Councillors to discuss quote & service plan.

b. Guardian Gas of Pleasley – quote received for Annual service on commercial Remesha Quinta Boiler – expansion vessel – auto filling unit – controls and all radiators (include Service Kit – required 2/3 years – kit including Burner seals, gaskets, probes and descale of burner) Quote received £175.00 plus VAT.) Further Quote requested for Service Kit 2 (which includes seals, and probes)

c. Awaiting further 3rd quote – copies to be supplied at the meeting.

Councillors to discuss Quotes. Clerk explained that due to an ongoing breakdown and repairs to the boiler – repairs are currently on-going with Guardian Gas. There has been a mis-understanding with regarding to the operation of the boiler controls so Clerk is to laminate boiler turn on & off instructions for the Caretaker and future users..

d. Current room hire fees for 2023/24 for The Verney & New Houghton Community Centre are £10 per hour including fees for hire of Both halls at the Verney at £18 per hour. Councillors to discuss whether to increase fees for 2024/2025. Councillors agreed to keep fees as existing and review next year.

(h) Recreations Grounds correspondence/reports –

December 2023 Playground Inspection Report – Clerk received 20/12/23

No change in condition of play equipment at recreation ground

(i) The appearance of Pleasley Parish –

Email of 25/1/24 – from Shelter Maintenance – Cleaning report – NO change from previous month in condition of bus shelters

Chesterfield Road A617 Bypass to Glapwell - 1 X 1230 X 1310 + 1 X 1310 X 710 Replacement Perspex Panels required

Chesterfield Road A617 Bypass from Glapwell - 1 x 1230 x 1310 Replacement Perspex Panels required for info... The shelter in question now has 2 large panels missing plus their side beads and gaskets. Together with one roof panel this comes to £1,017 plus VAT. NOTED

(j) Street Lighting correspondence/reports – Chair Ian Allen reported faulty lights on rear of the access road to Devonshire Street and also reported one to County Councillors Christine Dale

(8) Next edition of the Pleasley Parish Council's Newsletter – Councillors to be more proactive to contribute to the newsletter. Next newsletter due in March 2024 to including the advertisements fees agreed at the previous meeting. Clerk to forward information regarding the new Verney bookings for inclusion in the Newsletter. Discussion about future contents. Chairman Ian Allen to publish an article in the newsletter with regarding to the Millenium Green Committee.

(9) Live and Local reports - future booking arrangements. Four concerts in this season including two future bookings; Cri du Canard – on February 24th 2024 and Grace Smith Trio on 16th March.

Councillors discussed relevant issues with ‘Bolsover’s Cultural Corridor’ with our guest speak Kate Burn’s (Bolsover District Council’s Cultural Corridor Development Worker) who provided a briefing with Councillors before today’s Parish Council meeting.

(10) DALC Newsletters – ...Newsletter forwarded to councillors on Councillors to discuss any relevant issues relating to articles in recent Newsletter.

(11) Discussions regarding Grant Writing working group held on 22nd January attended by Chair I Allen, C Dale, L Smyth and District Councillor T Kirkham. New Grant from National Lottery for £20,000 for repairs to windows and refurbishment of kitchen.

(12) Correspondence (not quoted elsewhere in agenda)

a. Email of 17/1/24 from Richard Camps Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing Manager

This is the 2023 breakdown of prices per site as in the tender sent out last year:

Recreation Ground at Terrace Lane Pleasley	£906.00 plus VAT
Recreation Ground at Rotherham Road New Houghton	£1677.00 plus VAT
Cemetery at Church Lane Pleasley	£864.00 plus VAT
Total	£3447.00 plus VAT

I’m currently looking at getting this year’s prices sorted, so you should be receiving a quote in the next couple of weeks. I haven’t got exact dates to hand, but the recreation grounds receive approximately twelve cuts per year and the cemetery receives six, dependant on weather conditions. I’m currently looking at getting this year’s prices sorted, so you should be receiving a quote in the next couple of weeks. Councillors to discuss when 2024/25 prices are published.

(13) RESPONSE TO THE BIODIVERSITY DUTY

INTRODUCTION - STATUTORY DUTY

Under the 2021 Environment Act, public authorities (including town and parish councils) operating in England must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

Government guidance published on 17 May 2023 clarifies that, as a public authority, town and parish councils must:

- consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- agree policies and specific objectives based on their consideration.
- act to deliver their policies and achieve their objectives.

Town and parish councils, unlike other authorities, are not obliged to publish a report on their actions, but the Government guidance requires all public authorities to complete their first consideration of what action to take for biodiversity by 1 January 2024. They must agree their policies and objectives as soon as possible after this and must reconsider the selected actions within five years of completing their previous consideration, or more frequently if they choose.

To comply with the guidance, town and parish councils could as a minimum:

- have biodiversity as an agenda item for a meeting before the end of 2023.
- note what action they are already taking to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- agree what further steps they should take to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

Councillors to discuss what actions to take to approve adoption of this policy. To discuss at the next meeting.

Signed.....
Chair

(14) Planning Matters

23/00583/FUL Use of land for the stationing of 10no residential mobile home and construction of access road, plot bases and drainage at Station Yard, Chesterfield Road, Pleasley Mansfield.

Derbyshire County Council has no comments concerning Adult Care, Education and Library infrastructure and services with regard to the above application. Please take into consideration Countryside Services comments below: Derbyshire County Council – Countryside Service manages Pleasley Pit Country Park. The following comments on the above application have been provided by colleagues in DCC Reclamation.

The proposed development site ('the site') is bordered by Pleasley Pit Country Park on its north-west, south-west and south-east sides. The Country Park was created in the late 1990s by a project to reclaim the derelict former Pleasley Colliery site and nearby railway land. It is owned and managed by Derbyshire County Council. To the north-west of the site lie the remains of a disused colliery waste tip. This was inspected by the County Council between 1986 and 1998. Much of the tip was reprofiled during the reclamation works and is now a gently sloping area dominated by open limestone grassland bordered by deciduous tree belts. The slope which borders the site to its south-east side appears to have been originally formed sometime in the period 1900-1920*. This is both the highest-elevated slope and the earliest to be developed. The slope which borders the site to its south-west side appears to have been formed at a later date following the closure and decommissioning of the railway, Pleasley West Railway Station and Pleasley Colliery*. Evidence of demolition material consistent with those land uses is most apparent on the surface of this slope.

A visual appraisal of the slopes was undertaken on 7th April 2022. Although there were limitations in the extent of the area able to be inspected (due to access constraints and vegetation cover), a general appraisal was able to be made. No appreciable tell-tale signs (summarised in table 1 below) were observed to suggest that a significant risk of instability was apparent. That a slope appears to be stable/dormant is no guarantee that it will remain that way. Certain influences may be operating, or have the potential to do so, which may have a destabilising effect over (varying lengths of) time. These may be concealed from view, may occur intermittently or be of a size or rate of development that they are largely imperceptible.

Following the site visit, and despite the existence of some tangible evidence, it is unclear where exactly the boundaries of the site run relative to the locations of the slopes, in particular their toe areas. As such, it is unclear whether the development proposals may impinge upon the footprint of any of the slopes. It is also not apparent what form or profile the proposed boundaries of the development will take.

The development information as currently provided indicates that the proposal would be unacceptable due to the history and potential instability of the slopes, unless Bolsover District Council (BDC) can be satisfied upon investigation that such slope instability could be rectified by the developer before the main built development proceeded.

To enable BDC to consider these concerns before it determines the application, it is suggested that the applicant is requested by BDC to commission a suitable geotechnical professional to carry out a full a slope stability investigation and submit the results of the investigation and a slope stability assessment report, and that (unless permission is refused) the application is not determined until this is done. The County Council would wish to undertake a brief desktop review of any such assessment that is produced

Signed.....
Chair

under the planning process, to consider its reliability or otherwise both generally and from the point of view of avoiding any risks for the County Council as owner of the Country Park land.

Any study should also give consideration to the following:

- Any development proposals should avoid any disturbance to the slopes, which may potentially trigger instability.
- Proposed excavations made in the ground in front of the toe of the slopes should incorporate appropriate temporary/permanent works and/or control measures to minimise the risk of them becoming unstable.
- the development proposal makes mention of specific SUDS features – swales and storm water crates. It is not clear where these are proposed to be located, but their location should be considered and should not be in close proximity to the toe of the slopes.
- Similarly, any study should also consider the potential construction phase impacts including the management of surface water run off to prevent it reaching or accumulating within or alongside the slopes.

Please note, the County Council would not wish for any structural assets such as retaining walls or similar to be built upon County Council land as they would not assume any maintenance responsibilities or liabilities associated with their function.

The development site is surrounded on three sides by the Country Park. The Country Park is at a higher level to the development properties and the existing tree cover is likely to promote future requests by potential occupants to remove tree and vegetation growth if the application is approved. Potential occupants should be aware that the tree cover surrounding the properties cannot be removed at any point in the future regardless of claims to any impact on the house structure and/or the residential use of that dwelling. NOTED

17/1/24 Application No: 23/00595/FUL

Proposal: Proposed demolition of existing office building.

Location: T C Fabrications Pleasley Vale Business Park Outgang Lane Pleasley

Applicant: Mr Paul Kenworthy

I refer to your correspondence regarding the above application for Full Planning Permission.

The application has been withdrawn. Consideration of the application has therefore stopped and a decision will not be made.

(15) Banking – see overleaf

Signed.....

Chair

Date	Type	Description	Expenditure	Income	Balance
28-Dec-23	DPC	December Salary Payments	-2,522.91		26,692.25
28-Dec-23	DPC	HMRC CUMBERNAULD Tax & NI Liabilities	-385.23		29,215.16
29-Dec-23	D/D	WATER PLUS , 7001454807 Crompton Alotments Water Bill	-35.41		27,786.04
29-Dec-23	D/D	WATER PLUS , 0831128392 Verney Water Bill	-50.23		27,821.45
29-Dec-23	C/R	December Income Pay in Slip '000177		1,179.43	27,871.68
02-Jan-24	D/D	BOLSOVER D C , 800224800 Community Tax ~The Verney	-106.00		27,620.04
02-Jan-24	D/D	BOLSOVER D C , 800197465 Community Tax - New Houghton Community Centre	-60.00		27,726.04
03-Jan-24	D/D	NEST Pension Contributions	-37.68		27,582.36
04-Jan-24	D/D	AQUISS Internet Services New Houghton Community Centre	-18.00		27,564.36
08-Jan-24	DPC	December Month 9 Iweekes Travel expenses	-11.70		27,552.66
09-Jan-24	BAC	GAMBLE DM&V , CRI DU CANARD Live & Local		25.00	27,577.66
11-Jan-24	D/D	BRITISH GAS BUSINE, 600221089 Gas Bill New Houghton Community Centre	-356.58		27,179.27
11-Jan-24	D/D	WATER PLUS , 0748010617 Meden Ave Allotment Water Bill	-40.17		27,535.85
11-Jan-24	D/D	WATER PLUS , 0510004799 New Houghton Community Centre - Water Bill	-26.64		27,576.02
11-Jan-24	BAC	MR M BAXTER , CRI DI CANARD Live & Local		25.00	27,602.66
12-Jan-24	BAC	F GILBERT , CRI DU CANARD, Live & Local		25.00	27,204.27
15-Jan-24	CHQ	Salary Chq '001189 (December pay)	-665.28		26,495.05
15-Jan-24	DPC	Amazon - Clerk Stationary / Printer Cartridge refund	-43.94		27,160.33
17-Jan-24	D/D	BRITISH GAS BUSINE, 601078068 Gas Bill New Houghton Community Centgre	-146.74		26,022.11
17-Jan-24	D/D	BRITISH GAS BUSINE, 600983076 Gas Bill Verney	-326.20		26,168.85
22-Jan-24	D/D	BOLSOVER D C INV 202175 DD payment 4 - Dog Little Bins / litter bin Emptying	-267.19		25,571.28
22-Jan-24	D/D	WATER PLUS , 0831128392 Verney Bill	-88.54		25,838.47
22-Jan-24	D/D	BT GROUP PLC , GP00456935 Verney Telephone / Internet Services	-95.10		25,927.01
23-Jan-24	D/D	WATER PLUS Crompton Allotment Water Bill	-86.48		25,186.39
23-Jan-24	D/D	BRITISH GAS BUSINESS 601078138 Electricity The Verney	-186.58		25,272.87
23-Jan-24	D/D	WATER PLUS , 0748010617 Meden Ave Allotment Water Bill	-65.14		25,459.45
23-Jan-24	D/D	WATER PLUS , 0510004799 New Houghton Community Centre - Water Bill	-46.69		25,524.59
25-Jan-24	D/D	SAGE - Accounting Software	-49.20		25,137.19
26-Jan-24	DPC	Clerk Travel expenses/Stationary/Postage receipts	-39.19		25,098.00
		Current Account Balance 26/1/24	£25,098.00		
		Reserve Account Balance	£16,883.47		

The following item/s for Councillors to determine if members of the public or press to be excluded from the meeting due to the following: Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2) states; " A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies."

(16) Councillors agreed the 2024/25 budget and discussed and set the 2024/5 Precept alongside recommendations from budget working group meeting which was held on the 15th January 2024. Handouts to be provided to Councillors for Precept Funding options & Cost cutting areas identified by Budget Working Group.

- Councillor Liz Symth proposed we followed the advice of the budget working group to raise the Precept to 15% with Councillor M Gamble seconding the 15%. increase of the Precept
- With effect from April 2024 Councillors agreed to discontinue with the services of Ground force Councillor M Gamble proposed and Councillor L Symth seconded. Clerk to send thanks to Ground force for their work and to contractor to be used in the future as required.
- Councillors also agreed not to renew Dalc membership in 2024//5.
- Councillors agreed for Clerk to look for a cheaper alternative for hanging baskets and ascertain what is best price to contractors can offer.
- Councillors agreed to discuss the reducing number of Christmas lights at the April 2024 meeting when the contract can be renewed.
- Councillors also agreed to discontinuing paying accrued staff's holiday from April 2024. Staff will be paid any accrued up to March 2024. Clerk to issue instructions to staff going forward that holidays are to be taken during the year.
- Councillors to discuss further arrangements for holidays cover for our caretakers at a future meeting.

Signed.....
Chair