

# **Minutes of the Community/Craft Centre Management Committee held at Cheddleton Community Centre, Hollow Lane, Cheddleton on Thursday, 11th September, 2025**

## **Present:**

Cllr Mahfooz Ahmad  
Cllr Tom Williamson  
Cllr Sue Rogers  
Cllr Keith Grocott  
Cllr Valerie Cornes  
Cllr Sue Beardmore  
Caretaker Christina Beardmore

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Malcolm Cunningham, Mike Worthington, Victoria Salt and Keith Harvey.

## **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.

## **3. Matters Arising**

### **3.1 Solar Panels, Community Centre**

Councillor Rogers requested a progress report on the solar panels planned for the Community Centre. Councillor Ahmad reported that a revised planning application was needed following investigation of the roof structure. It was reported that it was easier to apply for the solar panels to be fitted to the tiled roof than continue with original application. Therefore, a fresh, revised application had been submitted to SMDC for approval. Councillor Rogers questioned who had approved the latest application and approved the payment for the fee. Councillor Rogers expressed concern about the new planning application which had been submitted in relation to approval by the Parish Council. [REDACTED] member of the public, asked why Planning Application NNA2025/0019 had been marked up as invalid by SMDC. Councillor Ahmad stated he would not take any more questions on this matter.

### **3.2 Fire Alarms**

The issue of the fire alarms was discussed. It was noted that the faulty panel continued to cause problems and Mrs. Beardmore expressed concern that it was becoming a nuisance. The cost of a new control panel was estimated to be £2000. Cllr Ahmad stated that he was looking into ordering a replacement. Cllr Rogers asked Cllr Williamson the question - who ultimately makes a decision on such matters? It was agreed that Cllr Williamson would liaise with Cllr Ahmad to determine whether the existing panel can be repaired or replaced.

### 3.3 Pump Service

This had been due in May and the floats need replacement. It was agreed that Cllr Williamson and Ahmad would progress this matter.

### 4. Correspondence

No correspondence to report. Cllr Williamson invited members of the public to speak if they had any queries.

### 5. Urgent work to be carried out at Community Centre

Mrs. Beardmore stated that there was nothing urgent which needed action. There had been an issue at the tea rooms, but the plumber had now resolved this.

The Community Centre had lost the SEND Group Booking so there was now a spare room for hire. It was noted that before advertising this space new doors and alarms were required to enable separate access from the main building.

Councillor Rogers raised a query about how the PC is communicating about such matters in the absence of a clerk. Cllr Rogers stated that she sends emails to various councillors about matters and Cllr Ahmad replied, if he needed to communicate with anyone he would do so. Councillor Harvey stated that the PC is having to 'weather a storm' whilst the clerk is off work. Cllr Rogers clarified that her concern was about decisions being made without the full knowledge of all the councillors. Cllr Rogers indicated that she had offered to help more, and that communication needs to be more co-ordinated amongst the PC. Cllr Ahmad acknowledged her concerns and stated he would liaise with Cllr Rogers about the various actions which are needed.

Cllr Grocott acknowledged that the PC was not running at 100% but commented that matters were not helped when members of the public picked fault all the time.

### 6. Community Centre Car Park

Mrs. Beardmore reported that there had been few issues during the past 22-23 years but matters had changed recently. Complaints that gates were being locked and the public were unable to access cars were being made. The gates were locked to prevent travellers accessing the area when the car park was out of use.

Cllr Rogers stated that she had previously raised the car park issue and it had been on the PC Agenda for 6 months. Cllr Rogers argued for extended opening times and noted that the sign still states it is only open until 8.30 pm. Cllr Grocott indicated that the permit fee should be raised to £340 per annum but it was noted that such a steep increase would create legal issues. It was identified that such increases had been challenged successfully in other councils. Cllr Williamson responded and stated that all the issues should be scheduled for discussion at full PC meeting. Cllr Williamson also indicated that he would investigate the creation of a barrier gate operating with a

fob for those with a permit to enable access at any time. Cllr Rogers also requested that a separate meeting be organised to discuss the issues around the car park and this should be listed as a forward agenda item.

Cllr Ahmad requested that Mrs. Beardmore outline all of her concerns and views in writing.

Cllr Beardmore requested information on the number of people who had a permit when the cost was cheaper (£140). Councillor Rogers reported that the revenue had increased by £20 but the traffic congestion and dangers on Hollow Lane had increased even when empty spaces on the car park. Cllr Cornes confirmed that there was a serious problem with dangerous driving and parking in this location.

Cllr Williamson confirmed that the matter needed to go to the full PC Meeting in October. Cllr Rogers indicated that a public meeting should also be arranged prior to the PC meeting.

## **7. Urgent Works**

Relevant matters had been discussed re fire alarm and car park, see above.

## **8. Signage**

██████████ member of public, reported that a sign on the car park still indicated that you could not park unless you had a permit. A lady in her 90s, who still drove, had previously used the car park to attend church and now felt unable to do so. This had impacted on her liberty and ability to attend church and events. When reported to the council, the response from Cllr Salt had had been to 'tell her to walk'. The sign had been reported 3 times, but no action taken.

Cllr Williamson and Cllr Rogers indicated that this was not the intention and they proposed and seconded that the sign be removed. ██████████ requested that an apology from Cllr Salt be sought. Cllr Williamson apologised on behalf of the PC at the meeting.

## **9. Process**

██████████ requested that the next full PC meeting be held at Wetley Rocks Village Hall.

## **10. Date and time of next meeting**

TBC