

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH COUNCIL  
Held on Monday 6 September 2010  
at Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall  
at 7.25 p.m.**



Present: Chairman – Cllr J Swift, L Stockford, W Mack, Mrs J Fox, M Walford, G Vernon, B Green, Mrs P Pardoe, R Pugh, D Thomas.

In attendance: District Councillor Mr S Williams and Clerk Mrs Y Scriven.

Several members of the public.

**POLICE**

The Community Support Officer reported a burglary at the Sports Club, and a second burglary at a property in Harvington. Recent report of door to door salesman was in fact a representative of RSPCA. A suspicious man/vehicle had been reported in Tandy's Lane. Police had attended recent Parish Fete to engage with children and try to address reports of unsocial behaviour. A PACT notice board had been set up in the Surgery. Speeding along Woodrow was reported and would be investigated if a PACT report was completed.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr K Bartlett
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Mrs P Pardoe 9.1 and 9.2 - Personal Interest.

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time.

Mr G Whateley of Drayton House gave a report on a recent incident when the Robin Hood pub held a live music event outside from 2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. on a Sunday. Reference was also made to insufficient notice to residents about a recent planning application for a change of use of a former pig sty to an outdoor bar, which had been approved by District Council Delegated Powers. A petition of local residents had been signed and was passed to the Parish Council. Objections were also made to a proposed change to the Licence for the Robin Hood to allow children on the premises after 9.00 p.m. without adults, to allow live music from a marquee and outside bar every day until 11.00 p.m. etc.

Mr P Hanlan of Harvington, spoke in support of an extension to the proposed 40 mph speed restriction from Tandy's Lane to Hackman's Gate along the A450.

The meeting re-opened.

Mr Marcus Hart, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing, Environmental Services and Children, Wyre Forest District Council, addressed the meeting to explain the background to the District Council's consultation on future payments under Section 136. Due to the need to reduce expenditure by at least 25% over the next 4 years, some services from the District Council would have to be cut. Suggestions included Parish Councils making up any shortfall by increasing their Precept or by cutting services.

Changes to the political structure at the District Council were being proposed, and although this might be changed by the Coalition Government next year, Parish Councils were being asked to comment on either a elected Mayor or a Strong Leader for a period of 4 years. Presently one third of the current 14 Wards in the District voted every year, to avoid losing experienced Councillors at a 4 year election cycle. The new proposals could mean that Parish Councils would have to pay for local elections when they did not coincide with the 4 year election cycle.

Councillors asked Mr Hart about funding for a new school and it was understood that £2m had been reserved for the rebuild, with a further £1m coming from Central Government from a Voluntary Aided

school fund. However, in the current economic situation there was not guarantee that this additional £1m would be available and if not the school could not be built. Parish Councillors said they were not prepared to accept the status quo as the situation in the Village was intolerable and if a new school was not built then it should revert to its former status with reduced numbers to serve the local community.

Councillors requested that the District Council keep the Parish Council better informed on activities as we were not always told promptly about events which affect the community. Also some consultation papers and reports were too large and received too late for voluntary members of the Council to read and absorb and requested a brief summary should be prepared to enable a quicker response.

The Parish Council requested a procedure for the allocation of social housing in the Parish to give a points weighting to applicants with a local connection. Mr Hart agreed to speak with the CEO of the Community Housing Association and respond.

### **3. MINUTES:**

- a) Minutes of Meeting held on 2 August 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- b) Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 2 August 2010 were accepted.

### **4.1 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- Changes to Worcestershire Partnership – Noted.
- A complaint about a field containing Ragwort had been reported to the landowner who would arrange for it to be cut. It was noted that this and other injurious weeds were prevalent in hedgerows and verges and it was agreed that the Clerk should remind highways of their duty under the Dangerous Weeds Act to control these weeds.
- A complaint about the cost of the recent Annual Report had been dealt with by the Clerk and Chairman. The reported Parish Council communications expenditure had contained many other items. It is a statutory requirement to send an Annual Report to every household.
- A proposal to cap Parish Council expenditure had been received via Worcestershire CALC and would be discussed at the forthcoming Area CALC meeting.
- The District Council had sent a survey to identify Corporate Plan Priorities and Councillors were asked to rate the suggestions 1-9.

### **4.2 District Councillors Report**

- Cllr S Williams reported that a Scrutiny and Review Panel had been set up to review the District Council's arrangements for dealing with potential alleged illegal gypsy encampments, which may be established outside normal office hours.
- In the first full month of the revised waste collection arrangements, there had been a 26% increase in recycling. This is now collected by 7 vehicles instead of 11.

## **5. CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

### **5.1 Consultation on Political Structures and Elections**

It was agreed that the preferred option would be an elected Leader of the Council for a 4 year term, but that Parish Council elections should be changed to coincide with normal election dates.

### **5.2 Standing Orders**

The revised Standing Orders were formally adopted by the Parish Council, effective immediately.

### **5.3 Consultation on Grant Aid to Parish and Town Councils – Section 136**

It was agreed that the Parish Council should recommend that the Grant Aid should continue for Parish Councils, but Town Councils could raise their precept without having too much impact on the Precept paid by residents. The Clerk would complete the questionnaire giving details of previous use of the Grant.

#### 5.4 **Registration under the Data Protection Act**

It was agreed the Parish Council would have to register at a cost of £35.00 per annum.

#### 5.5 **Fold Lane Tenants Association**

Following a request for funding towards the cost of resurfacing the lane, a request for more information on cost and tenant's contributions had not been received.

#### 5.6 **Allotments/Community Orchard**

All allotments had been let.

#### 5.7 **Lengthsman Scheme/Highways**

Routine maintenance had continued with 25 hours recorded on drainage work to minimise any autumn flooding, on A448, Mustow Green, Bournes Green Lane, Tanwood Lane, Dobes Lane, Fox Lane, Cakebole Lane, Deansford Lane and Woodrow. The Lengthsman had identified boundary hedges along Dobes Lane which had grown over the road and landowners had been contacted.

A meeting had taken place to discuss maintenance work on footpaths around the Green, Chaddesley Corbett. This work had not originally been part of the Lengthsman Scheme, but now needed to be included. This had not been budgeted for this year and it was anticipated that it would cost £300 plus the cost of a skip to remove the rubbish. It was agreed that this extra work should be undertaken out of emergency funds.

The Clerk was investigating other issues notified by residents.

### 6. **DATES FOR MEETINGS**

6.1 **Worcestershire County Council Parish Conference** - Tuesday 7 September at 7.00 Council Chamber, County Hall, Worcester.

6.2 **Wyre Forest Area CALC Meeting** – Wednesday 8 September, King Charles Room, Town Hall, Kidderminster at 7.00 p.m.

6.3 **NALC Quality Local Councils** – Delivering Quality Services – Meeting 12 October 2010, Penkridge.

6.4 **Parish Forum** – 13 October 2010 at Duke House, Kidderminster 6.00 p.m.

### 7. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CLLRS REPRESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES**

7.1 **Police** – Nothing to report.

7.2 **Community Housing:** Cllr G Vernon would attend meeting of Residents Area Committee on 15 September.

7.3 **Village Hall** – Hall had been closed for maintenance work for two weeks, and a new floor had been laid in the multi-function room. Secretary would resign next year and booking secretary would take over this role.

7.4 **Code of Conduct Training:** Attended by Cllr B Green and notes had been circulated.

7.5 **Parish Fete:** Had raised over £4000.

### 8. **CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

8.1 Worcester's Children and Young People's Plan. Deferred.

### 9. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

9.1 **Flooding Tandy's Lane:** The landowner has dug a bund at the edge of the field opposite Tandy's Lane to prevent water runoff on the road. The situation will be monitored.

9.2 **Winterfold Pools:** A new drainage pipe has been installed the highway drain has also been connected to the new pipe. Again, this will be monitored.

- 9.3 **Annual Report:** Letter from District Councillor Mrs Anne Hingley complimenting the Parish Council on their Annual Report. Cllr R Pugh said that wider distribution of the Parish Magazine would avoid the need to send these reports to every household.
- 9.4 **Replacement Windows in Conservation Area:** Noted
- 9.5 **Parish Footpaths:** There would be no funding this year from the County Council.
- 9.6 **The Big Society:** The Parish Council had registered to receive further information.
- 9.7 **Consultation on Community Right to Build:** Noted.
- 9.8 **Grit Boxes:** Supporting letter from Cllr S Clee.
- 9.9 **Worcestershire Rural Outreach Project:** Training available for the voluntary sector free of charge.
- 9.10 **Bus Bulletin:** - Noted. No change to Chaddesley Corbett parish routes.
- 9.11 **Harvington Hall Lane:** Highways had inspected hedges and advised landowner that they needed to be cut back as they were infringing on the highway. Owner of one property had contacted the Clerk to complain about the Parish Council request to inspect the hedges, but after discussion did not proceed any further with his complaint.
- 9.12 **VAS sign in Harvington:** Data obtained from this exercise was meaningless and it was agreed that the Parish Council would not be interested in purchasing a unit themselves.
- 9.13 **School Crossing Patrol:** A camera on the crossing patrol was in use and notices had been posted.
- 9.14 **Fete:** The Fete had raised over £4,000. E-on had distributed emergency kits and had left a number of kits for Parish Council distribution. The Clerk would deliver to anyone who requested a kit and to the retirement bungalows.

## 10 FINANCIAL REPORT

- 10.1 The Clerk presented a schedule of payments and receipts which was approved.

### Payments

		Amount £	VAT £	Total £
W Waldron	Lengthsman Scheme	300.00		300.00
CC Village Hall	July Account	39.00		39.00
Wyre Forest C.Housing	Steps Hemmingway	385.00	67.38	452.38
Don Robbins	April, May, June, July – burial ground/grass cutting	499.20		499.20
Wyre Forest District Council	Pest Control – Allotments	76.38	13.36	89.74
Halls	Allotment Rent	225.00		225.00
		<u>1,524.58</u>	<u>80.74</u>	<u>1,605.32</u>

### Receipts

Worcs County Council	Postage Parish Footpaths	218.00		218.00
Edwin Harris	Advertising	25.00		25.00
P F Grove	Burial Fee	300.00		300.00
		<u>543.00</u>		<u>543.00</u>

11. **NEW ISSUES and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- 11.1 A450 Proposed speed restrictions from Tandy's Lane to Hackman's Gate. The Parish Council agreed to support this proposal.
- 11.2 Wyre Forest Core Strategy Development Plan – Proposed changes to include at least 300 residential properties on the Sugar Beet factory site. Agreed to support this proposal providing there were improvements to the road network between Stourport and Kidderminster

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m. Date of next meeting Monday 4 October 2010.