

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH COUNCIL  
Held on Monday 7 December 2009  
at Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall  
at 7.25 p.m.**



Present: Chairman, Cllr J Swift, Cllrs S Williams, Mrs P Pardoe, M Walford, R Pugh, L Stockford, D Thomas, M Bird, G Vernon, Mrs J Fox: Clerk Mrs Y Scriven. A Member of the public also attended.

The Clerk welcomed the return of the Chairman, Cllr J Swift, and thanked all Cllrs for their assistance in attending meetings and participating in the work of the Parish during the Chairman's absence.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr K Bartlett
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllrs S Williams, M Walford, J Fox, L Stockford, and the Clerk Y Scriven declared a personal interest in respect of Item 15. Cllr Mrs P Pardoe declared a personal interest in item 5.5.

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time.

The meeting re-opened.

3. **MINUTES:**
  - a) Minutes of Meeting held on 2 November 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
  - b) Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 2 November 2009 were accepted.
4. **PROGRESS REPORTS**
  - 4.1 **Drainage Works:** Cllr G Vernon, Lengthsman W Waldron and the Clerk had met with County Councillor Stephen Clee to discuss outstanding drainage issues, and the lack of progress since they were reported in May 2009. 11 areas of the Parish had been programmed for maintenance work to be carried out, but due to the forthcoming budget restrictions it was considered unlikely that they would be rectified in the short term. After visiting the sites with the Lengthsman, it was agreed that the Parish Council should obtain quotations from approved County Council contractors to undertake the repairs on four of the sites, and arrange for trees to be pruned in several locations around the Parish. The quotations should then be submitted to the County Council for approval and paid under the Lengthsman Scheme. Further work was also required in the lane from Hillpool to Egg Lane near Sion Farm and this would be added to the list.
  - 4.2 **Letter from Keith Perkins – Chairman Worcs CALC**  
The letter and the chairman's response had been circulated and was noted.
  - 4.3 **Wyre Forest Matters Bulletin** – Noted.
  - 4.4 **Savills Garage – Parking on verge** Following County Council intervention, the practice of parking outside the electricity sub station had ceased.
  - 4.5 **Trees – Tandy's Lane, Harvington** – Upon investigation the County Council had informed the landowner that it was their responsibility to remove ivy from the tree to avoid further deterioration.

- 4.6 **Vehicle Activated Speed Sign** – Letter received from resident requesting that the temporary sign should be placed at Brockencote. County Council only have a few signs for the whole County and it was unlikely they would be placed in Chaddesley Corbett in the near future. Further consideration would be given to purchasing a sign which could be shared with adjacent parish councils.
- 4.7 **Policing in South Worcestershire** - Noted
- 4.8 **Affordable Housing** - The Working Group had attended a meeting with the District Council, Nigel Potter, District Enabler and Wyre Forest Community Housing. A report had been issued on possible sites around the Parish and it was confirmed that money was available to finance affordable housing in rural areas. The housing needs survey had indicated approximately 11 properties would be required, predominately one and two bedroomed houses and flats, either for rent or shared ownership, and all would carry a Section 106 restriction and available only to local residents or those with a local connection. The Working Group will meet in the New Year to decide on the next step and would report back to the Parish Council.
- 4.9 **Flood Risk Management Strategic Co-ordinating Group** – Following representations, it was agreed that because of their local knowledge, Parish Councils should become more involved and that the District Council would liaise with Parishes on the mapping of drainage information which they were currently undertaking.
- 4.10 **Section 106 Money in the County Council** – A briefing note had been circulated and was noted.
- 4.11 **Declarations of Interest** – It was agreed that personal interest should be declared for those involved with the allotments or management of the community orchard. This would include Cllrs M Walford, L Stockford, Mrs J Fox, S Williams and the Clerk, Yvonne Scriven.
- 4.12 **Chaddesley Fete 2010** - This would be held on 21 August 2010 and it was agreed that the Parish Council should attend.
- 4.13 **Parish Footpaths Warden** – No response had yet been received from the advertisement in the Parish Magazine for a volunteer to replace Sandi Holding. The meeting agreed with the Chairman's suggestion that there might be two vacancies, one for the warden who is required to walk the paths and co-ordinate maintenance work and a contractor to carry out the work. The advertisement would be run again and featured in the January newsletter.
- 4.14 **Advertising cars for sale – Worcester Road, Harvington** – This breach of planning rules was continuing and was being monitored by the Enforcement Officer at Wyre Forest District Council. The siting on a portacabin adjacent to the verge had also been reported.
5. **CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS/MEETINGS**
- 5.1 **Worcestershire County Council's Parish Conference** – This had been attended by two Cllrs and the Clerk and featured a talk on the Worcestershire Hub and its services, funding applications, and partnership working.
- 5.2 **Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy – Emerging Preferred Options Consultation** - Cllr M Bird undertook to study the document and report back.
- 5.3 **Formation of Education Trust** – Baxter College, The Chantry High School, Barnadoes and the University of Birmingham Consultation. This did not affect the Parish and no response was required.
- 5.4 **West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Update – Phase Three** – Noted.
- 5.5 **Diversion of Footpath 42** – Noted.

- 5.6 **Bromsgrove District Council Draft Affordable Housing Planning – The Consultation**  
Statement and Sustainability Appraisal can be viewed at:  
[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/planningpolicy).

6. **Parking in the Village**

The parking situation in the Village had deteriorated over the last few weeks and the Parish Council has been actively seeking solutions. Doubling the size of the school without making proper provision for the extra teachers, assistants and parents had been thought to be a short term problem, particularly as it was expected that the new school would be open early next year. This is having some effect and the main problem of funding may shortly be resolved. However, it is expected that the new school will probably not be built for at least a further three years.

The Working Group have taken a number of steps to help alleviate the congestion and these include:

- Letters have been sent to Councillors and officials at the District and County Council to lobby their support to obtain funding so that the new school can be expedited without further delay. This is having some effect and the main problem of funding may shortly be resolved.
- The Parish Council have asked the Trustees and Governors of the school to consider what steps they can take to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors to the Village as a result of increased traffic and parking. The Governors have responded positively and, as a result, the following suggestions are being considered and will be put to parents before Christmas:
  - Re-introduce the 'walking bus' from Briar Hill, and provide a drop off point for parents on the Green.
  - Provide a second drop off point for parents outside the Church on the same side as the school.
  - Provide a bus service for children travelling from the Kidderminster, Stone, Harvington area.
  - Consider using nearby sites on the A448 as a drop off point, in conjunction with a 'walking bus'.
  - Consider staggering the arrival times for school pupils, to spread the volume of traffic over a longer period.
- The possibility of providing off-street parking for some teachers and teaching assistants and a limited number of daytime parking spaces for employees of the shops is also being considered. These facility would not be available to the general public but, by enabling employees to park off-road, we believe this would reduce the number of cars parked in the village street and so provide more spaces for shoppers.
- We are also looking into other possible arrangements that might increase the space available for shop customers and visitors to the village during the daytime.

It was agreed that the general public should be made aware of the measures being considered and that all the current suggestions should be progressed and recommendations made to a future Parish Council meeting.

7. **Proposed Car Park for the Village of Chaddesley Corbett**

Having spent many months meeting interested parties to discuss the possibility of providing a public car park at the rear of the Swan public house and preparing cost estimates, the Working Group now feel that this cannot be achieved in the short term.

8. **Conservation Area Sign, Harvington:** This was agreed at a cost of £319.25 and a contribution of £100 would be made by Harvington Hall. Cllr S Williams voted against this proposal.
9. **Renovations to War Memorial, The Village, Chaddesley Corbett:** In order to comply with new regulations, a quotation had been received totalling £1,675 plus VAT. Rather than use taxpayers money to fund this project, it was agreed that local clubs and organisations should be asked if they would like to contribute to the fund, the Parish Council making up any shortfall.
10. **New Parish Web-Site** – This is now ready to launch and will be progressed as soon as possible.
11. **European Blue Badge:** Guidance notes on how to apply for a blue badge were circulated and would be included on the website. It was noted that blue badge holders could park on double yellow lines as long as they did not cause an obstruction.
12. **Application for Funding from the Parish Council:** The draft form was approved and would be issued to anyone wishing to apply for funds, and would be available from the website. The Clerk would assist applicants in completing the form if necessary.
13. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The Chairman reported that the County Council had a Cultural Strategy, full details of which were available on their website. Cllr J Swift also praised the work of Sandi and Geoff Holding on the Parish Footpaths and wished Sandi a very speedy recovery. Cllr J Swift would attend the Carol Service on 13 December and the Ethics and Standards Committee meeting on 15 December.
14. **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES**
  - 14.1 **Wyre Forest Community Housing:** - Cllr G Vernon had attended a recent meeting.
  - 14.2 **New School:** Cllr Mrs P Pardoe reported that funding had been verbally promised of up to £4m.
  - 14.3 **Worcestershire Association of Local Councils:** This had been attended by Cllrs M Walford, R Pugh and the Clerk, and the meeting had been addressed by representatives of the Worcestershire Partnership, who had provided funding to the Worcestershire Association for the next three years.
  - 14.4 **Wyre Forest CALC Area Meeting:** This had been attended by Cllrs M Walford, R Pugh and the Clerk and representatives of each Parish Council in Wyre Forest. The meeting had been addressed by John Campion – Wyre Forest District Council Cabinet Member, who stated that as a result of losses in Icelandic banks a saving of £1.7m would have to be made in public spending next year. It was anticipated that staff numbers would be reduced from 165 to 120. A new recycling system would be introduced so that more re-cycleable materials could be collected and processed, as well as introducing a new green waste service at a possible cost of £30 per year. It was agreed that collectively the Parish Councils would have a greater influence in decision making.
  - 14.5 **Village Hall:** A Treasurers' annual meeting had taken place and a schedule of maintenance and renewals work agreed. The Management Committee would be holding a morning Brunch on Sunday 14 February and invited everyone to attend.
15. **ALLOTMENTS/COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

15.1 Cllr L Stockford reported that quotations had been obtained for removing the old hedgerow along Fold Lane side of allotments and replanting and a firm proposal would be put to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

15.2 A fund raising event had been held on 18 November which had raised £112 and Waitrose in Droitwich would shortly be sending a cheque from their monthly charity draw in excess of £200. The current balance in the account is £1,305 and a selection of trees for February planting had been made.

16. **LENGTHSMAN SCHEME AND HIGHWAYS**

Routine maintenance had been carried out with 17 hours recorded. Gully tops, carriageways and footways had been cleared of vegetation to improve drainage in the Village, Holloway, Hillpool, Fox Lane, Tandys Lane and Egg Lane, Drayton.

17. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

**Payments**

		Amount £	VAT £	Total £
W Waldron	Lengthsman Scheme	187.00		187.00
CC Village Hall	Room Hire	56.00		56.00
Y L Scriven	Expenses	184.39	9.64	194.03
Severn Trent Water	Allotments	35.82		35.82
		<u>463.21</u>	<u>9.64</u>	<u>472.85</u>

**Invoiced**

Worcestershire County Council	Grass cutting contract	<u>1181.00</u>		<u>1181.00</u>
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18. **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Staff review and budget proposals.  
Date of next meeting Monday 4 January 2009.