

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Monday 9 May 2011
at Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall
at 7.25 p.m.**



Present: Acting Chairman – Cllrs K Bartlett, R Pugh, G Vernon, Mrs P Pardoe, M Walford, Mrs J Fox, B Green, D Thomas, W Mack, L Stockford, K Bartlett.
In attendance: Clerk Mrs Y Scriven. Members of the public.

Police Report

Although not in attendance, a written report had been received regarding Anti-Social Behaviour on the Green and Briar Hill and residents were encouraged to call the police at any time to report such incidents, or to provide names of offenders to Wyre Forest Community Housing. A vehicle had been seen acting suspiciously in Bournes Green; a lawnmower worth £3,500 had been stolen from a field in Harvington; an antique bible box had been stolen from Harvington Hall and a tractor from Clattercut Lane (which has subsequently been returned). There are a spate of storm covers and road signage being stolen across rural areas and residents should report anyone acting suspiciously. Cllr G Vernon asked if the police could supply a list of incidents reported to them over the last 12 months and the number of convictions obtained as a result of their enquiries.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr J Swift
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time.

Mrs D Dolley reported on a meeting of the Friends of the Village Association relating to proposals by Worcestershire County Council to make changes to local speed limits on the A448. A report was submitted and read to the meeting which contained a very comprehensive summary of the views of many residents. It was agreed that the Clerk would request an extension to the consultation period to research more up to date statistics and to encourage residents, parents of school children, business personnel, workers and visitors to the parish to express their views about the proposals.

District Councillor Report

Councillor Mr Stephen Williams was congratulated on his re-appointment as District Councillor.

Cllr S Williams reported that as a result of the recent election the make up of the council was 24 Conservatives, 6 Labour, 5 Liberal, 4 Independent Community and Health Concern and 4 Independent. Conservatives were expected to form the Administration at the Annual Council meeting on 18 May 2011. The single site construction contract had been awarded to a local company, Thomas Vale, and the contract was £650,000 under budget, with a potential further £500,000 saving to be negotiated. When complete, the project is expected to save an additional £486,000 of Revenue every year. Icelandic Courts have ruled that UK Councils such as Wyre Forest must have priority over other investors; this means that most of the £3m invested in Landbanski should be returned.

3. **MINUTES:**
 - a) Minutes of Meeting held on 4 April 2011 were approved, and signed by the Acting Chairman.
 - b) Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4 April 2011 were accepted.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Although not present at the meeting, Chairman Cllr J Swift had submitted a written report:

- 4.1 **Standards Committee:** The Chairman has indicated to Wyre Forest District Council Ethics and Standards Committee that the Parish Council would continue working closely with the District Council to maintain the existing standards and monitoring arrangement, subject to more information from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC).
- 4.2 **Businesses in the Parish:** It was suggested that a Working Group should be set up look at ways to promote the services on offer by businesses and individuals within the Parish.
- 4.3 **A448:** The Chairman expressed concern at the lack of consultation during the initial stages on proposed changes to the speed limits on the A448, and this had been taken up with our MP and other District and County Council officials.
- 4.4 **Parish Forum/Wyre Forest Area CALC:** The format of these meetings should be more Parish based in the future.
- 4.5 **Armed Forces Day 20 June:** The Chairman would attend this event as a representative of the Parish.
5. **CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**
- 5.1 **Proposed Changes to Speed Limits on A448:** The report from the Friends of the Village was noted and adopted by the Parish Council. A discussion took place about the width of the footpath from the Village to Brockencote and any proposal to increase the speed limit in this area should also include improvements to the footpath which was currently very dangerous, and was used by residents, mothers with young children, pedestrians and visitors to the Village Hall. It was proposed that in order to strengthen the Parish Council's opposition to some aspects of the proposals an independent Highways Engineer should be appointed. It was agreed to seek a quotation which could, if necessary, be approved by Cllr K Bartlett without further reference to the Parish Council as a whole. The form of response to the consultation would be agreed at the Annual Parish Meeting on 16 May 2011.
- 5.2 **Annual Parish Meeting – 16 May 2011:** The arrangements for the meeting were finalised and apologies were received from Cllrs G Vernon and M Walford.
- 5.3 **Affordable Housing:** It was unanimously agreed that the District Council should proceed with a Planning Application for 4 affordable houses on the site of the existing garages on The Green, Chaddesley Corbett.
- 5.4 **Annual Return 2011:** The draft Annual Return for the year ended March 2011 was formally approved and signed by the Acting Chairman, including the Annual Governance Statement, Asset Register and Risk Assessment. The accounts would now be audited by the internal auditor before being sent to the External Auditor in June.
- 5.5 **Lengthsman Scheme:** Routine maintenance had continued with siding out of footways at Tanwood Lane and the A448 in the Mustow Green area, grips had been cleared in Hardash Lane and a blocked outfall cleared by Sion Farm, Hillpool. Grips, silt, leaves and blocked gulleys and pipes had been cleared in Harvington Hall Lane. 12 road drain covers and 7 road signs have been stolen in the last few weeks; the loss of five highway signs in particular could result in a serious accident.
- 5.6 **Allotments and Community Orchard:** Allotment paths had been cleared using labour from the Community Payback Scheme, at no cost to the Parish. Benches had been delivered for the Community Orchard and were awaiting fixing on site. The site should be ready for the official opening on 3 September 2011.
6. **DATES FOR MEETINGS**
- 6.1 Wyre Forest Area CALC Meeting: Tuesday 21 June 2011 at 7.00 p.m. – Note new venue – King Charles Room, Town Hall, Kidderminster.

7. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CLLRS REPESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES**
- 7.1 **Worcestershire Parish Conference:** This had been attended by Cllrs J Swift, R Pugh and M Walford who had nothing important to report.
- 7.2 **Wyre Forest Area CALC/Parish Forum:** This was attended by Cllrs J Swift, R Pugh and M Walford and was primarily dominated by the District Council. The event was well attended but it was felt that the content should be more Parish/Town Council orientated.
- 7.3 **Community Housing:** Cllr G Vernon attended a Rurals T.C.C. on 18 April. No funding had been awarded to Chaddesley Corbett towards the cost of notice boards and benches. Agreement had been reached to remove the large conifer trees on the Green.
8. **CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**
- 8.1 **Children & Young People’s Plan :** Cllr M Walford did not feel he had sufficient knowledge to review this report and it was agreed that Mrs D Dolley would take an independent look at the recommendations on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 8.2 **Worcestershire Transport Consultation – Phase 2:** Cllr D Thomas reported on the results of Phase 1 of the review of bus services in the County, which had concluded that the 133 service from Kidderminster to Droitwich via Harvington and Chaddesley Corbett would be withdrawn. This would be a serious problem to residents in Harvington in particular who would not be able to get to the Village or Doctor’s Surgery. This would be covered at the Annual Parish Meeting and alternative means of transport discussed.
- 8.3 **Single Sustainable Community Strategy for Worcestershire:** Consultation to close on 7 July 2011.
- 8.4 **Local Public Audit:** NALC consultation on proposed audit procedures after disbandment of the Audit Commission. Cllr K Bartlett would respond on behalf of the Parish Council.
9. **CLERK’S REPORT ON ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
The Clerk submitted a written report of items for information, which included:
- Reinstatement of roads and verges following work by Severn Trent
 - Bridleway 598 – Barrowhill lane to Tanwood Lane – Quotation being obtained
 - Planning Levy on new school – this would not apply as the planning application had been approved before the legislation was introduced.
 - Home Composting in Wyre Forest – Sale of compost bins
 - Temporary 10 mph speed limit on part of A448 Bromsgrove, Mustow Green/Winterfold, two one week periods over a 7 week period commencing 16 May 2011
 - Sight Concern – Workshops in local areas
 - White Paper on Recommended Practices on Local Authority Publicity – Noted

10. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

Payments

Recipient	Details	Amount £	VAT £	Total £
W Waldron	Lengthsman Scheme	288.00		288.00
CC Village Hall	April	25.00		25.00
Y L Scriven	BT Telephone/Broadband	78.81	15.76	94.57
Recipient	Details	Amount £	VAT £	Total £
Severn Trent Water	Allotments	39.41		39.41

Ashtav	Annual Subscription	25.00		25.00
AON	Insurance Renewal	676.12		676.12
Worcs CALC	Annual Subscription	509.18	89.18	598.36
Kedal	Plaques for benches	216.00	43.20	259.20
G M Pardoe	Drainage Work	300.00	60.00	360.00
		<u>2,157.52</u>	<u>208.14</u>	<u>2,365.66</u>

Receipts

HMRC	Refund VAT	1,559.49		1,559.49
Wyre Forest District Council	Precept	11,980.50		11,980.50
		<u>13,539.99</u>		<u>13,539.99</u>

From Community Orchard	To Treasurers Account (Benches)	<u>1,500.00</u>		<u>1,500.00</u>
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- 10.1 A Bank Reconciliation April 2011 had been prepared and a copy had been provided to Cllr K Bartlett.
- 10.2 The Clerk recommended a review of the value of items covered by insurance at the next Annual Review.
- 10.3 It was agreed to transfer £10,000 from the Treasurers Account to the Scottish Widdows Investment Account.
11. **NEW ISSUES and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Date of next Meeting Monday 6 June 2011
Cllr S Williams should be invited to present the Wyre Forest Corporate Plan.
New high speed Broadband

The meeting closed at 09.24 p.m.