

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Monday 6 June 2011
at Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall
at 7.25 p.m.**



Present: Chairman – Cllr J Swift, Cllrs K Bartlett, R Pugh, G Vernon, Mrs P Pardoe, Mrs J Fox, D Thomas, W Mack, L Stockford
In attendance: District Councillor Mr S Williams, County Councillor Mr S Clee, Clerk Mrs Y Scriven, Member of the public

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs M Walford, B Green
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time.

3. **MINUTES:**

Minutes of the following meetings were approved and signed by the Chairman.

- a) Parish Council Meeting held on 9 May 2011.
- b) Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 9 May 2011.
- c) Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 May 2011.

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 9 May 2011 were accepted.

4.1 **Chairman's Report**

Queen's Golden Jubilee: Celebrations would be held on Monday 4 June 2012. The Chairman had attended a training course on health and safety requirements for holding street parties, as a result of which it was proposed, and unanimously agreed, that the party would be held on the Community Orchard and not in the street.

Parish Games: Following Chaddesley Corbett's success in winning the Quiz night, the Parish finished the Games in 4th place. A new co-ordinator would be required if the Parish wished to enter the Games next year.

VAS Signs: Stone Parish Council had been monitoring traffic speeds over the last seven days, which indicated that 6304 vehicles had exceeded the 40 mph speed limit. Further discussions would take place with the Highway Authority with a view to making further safety improvements on the A448.

4.2 **District Councillors Report**

The District Council is to invite the Boundary Commission for England to conduct an electoral review, with the aim of reducing the size of the District Council by 20-25%. It is hoped that the Commission will be able to produce recommendations for implementation through all out elections in May 2015. The District Council may ask the Secretary of State to extend the term of office of District Councillors due for election in 2014 for one year, until 2015, using his Powers in Section 87 of the Local Government Act 2000.

Following the decision announced in mid April by the Icelandic District Court to give Wyre Forest District Council "priority" status for recovery of their investment, it is anticipated that 86% would now be recovered;

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

- 5.1 **Proposed Changes to Speed Limits on A448:** The results of a recent traffic survey indicated that 80% of all vehicles exceeded the 30 mph speed limit, and 16% exceeded 40 mph. The Highways Authority believe that the 40mph limit proposed for this section would reduce the

number of vehicle travelling at the faster end of this spectrum by making the speed limit more realistic. There was widespread concern about this proposal and it was agreed that Mr Stephen Clee would arrange a meeting with the Highways Official and the Parish Council to try to reach agreement before the matter went to public consultation on 20 June. It was noted that Highways were not aware of the location of the proposed new school when making these proposals.

- 5.2 **Annual Report:** A draft was considered and approved with slight amendment. Two quotes had been received for printing and distributing the report at £739 and £789. It was agreed that the Clerk would negotiate with our current supplier for a further reduction.
 - 5.3 **Wyre Forest District Council Corporate Plan:** Cllr J Swift had reviewed the document and noted that there was nothing for families in rural communities to provide opportunities to engage in community facilities. Whilst plans for regeneration of rural areas were sustainable, they could not be achieved without investment in the infrastructure. The report was well structured and easy to read.
 - 5.4 **Worcestershire Local Broadband Plan:** Cllr L Stockford had reviewed the plan for bringing Superfast broadband to Worcestershire with planned upgrades by Spring 2012 in Bewdley, Bromsgrove, Droitwich, Evesham, Fernhill Heath Headless Cross, Hillside, Hereford and Worcester, Malvern, Stourport, Worcester, St Johns and St Peters. Further discussions were taking place about Airband and Martley Mesh in very rural areas. It was agreed that more information was required about the number of people in the Parish who work from home before further representations for rural areas could be made.
 - 5.5 **NALC Consultation on Cutting Red Tape:** It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to the questionnaire on behalf of the Parish Council.
 - 5.6 **Lengthsman Scheme:** Maintenance had continued with siding out footways on A445 at Winterfold, sweeping and cleaning footways and gutters in the Village and Hemmingway, cleaning 40 grips on A450 Harvington to Woodrow. Work was carried out on the A450 Deansford Lane junction to dig out two blocked gullies, rodding pipes and clearing the outfall. It was noted that new drain covers had been fitted at the top of Tandy's Lane which would not allow water to flow freely when blocked with leaves – this would be referred to Highways.
 - 5.7 **Allotments and Community Orchard:** A rota for grass cutting the paths on the community orchard would be set up, utilising volunteers. Seven benches had been placed and fixed, all donated by friends and residents. It was agreed to use the Community Payback Scheme to trim and tidy the allotment and community orchard twice each year.
 - 5.8 **Information from Police:** A request under the Freedom of Information Act had been made to supply the Parish Council with details of incidents, crimes and successful prosecutions. However, the information does not appear to be available in the form required and it was agreed not to proceed with this any further, but to write to the Inspector of Police expressing our dissatisfaction with the information available to us.
 - 5.9 **Open for Business – Live Local, Trade Local, Play Local, Stay Local:** It was agreed to formulate a Working Group to explore ways of furthering this initiative. The Group would be chaired by Cllr K Bartlett, with Cllrs J Swift, L Stockford and D Thomas on the Committee.
6. **DATES FOR MEETINGS**
- 6.1 Wyre Forest Area CALC Meeting: Tuesday 21 June 2011 at 7.00 p.m. – Council Chamber, Town Hall, Kidderminster. Cllrs J Swift, R Pugh and M Walford would attend.

7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CLLRS REPRESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES

7.1 **Community Housing – Tenants Association:** Cllr G Vernon questioned the purpose of Parish Council attendance at these meetings and it was agreed to write to the Housing Association for further guidance and information.

8. CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 **Single Sustainable Strategy for Worcestershire:** Cllr J Swift had responded to this consultation on behalf of the Parish Council. It was noted that there was very little recognition of the needs of Rural Communities, especially infrastructure roads and public transport.

8.2 **Children & Young People's Plan :** The Parish Council were grateful that Mrs D Dolley had reviewed this lengthy document on behalf of the Parish Council and submitted a written assessment, and it was noted that based on quarterly figures from December 2009 to December 2010, more young people in the Wyre Forest area were not in education or training than any other district in the county.

8.3 **Consultation on future of local public audit:** Cllr K Bartlett had responded to this consultation on behalf of the parish council, stating that whilst, in theory, an independent examination should be cheaper than an audit as there is less work to do, it would be impossible to do this for less than the rate currently charged by internal and external auditors. However, it is considered necessary for an independent check to be carried out. It was also considered impracticable for the County Council to be the Regulator for smaller bodies.

8.4 **Worcestershire Agreement:** The draft agreement set out the basis of local councils working together and it was agreed that this was acceptable to the Parish Council. The clerk would complete the questionnaire.

8.5 **Soil Association:** It was agreed to ask Mervyn Needham to complete this questionnaire on forestry issues 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:

- Parking in the village – a request for a further meeting with the head teacher and Governors had been made and a letter had been sent to the hairdressers asking them to encourage staff to use the parking facility on the allotment site.
- Reports that valeting services were being offered to anyone without an appointment at the hairdressers was being investigated by the District Council.
- Nominations were requested for the Olympic Games Torch Relay.
- Severn Trent Water were investigating leakages in Woodrow and Briar Hill with a view to replacement of underground pipework.
- Waste Facility at Hartlebury had been called in for decision by the Planning Inspector.

10 FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Payments

Recipient	Details	Amount £	VAT £	Total £
W Waldron	Lengthsman Scheme	294.00		294.00
CC Village Hall	May	105.00		105.00
Y L Scriven	Expenses, mileage, stationery, postage	165.77	7.10	172.87
W Waldron	Repairs to railings	36.00		36.00
Diane Malley	Internal Audit	105.00		105.00
Yes Computers	Web Hosting	58.80	11.76	70.56
		Amount	VAT	Total

Recipient	Details	£	£	£
Mrs J Swift	Refreshments Annual Meeting	40.43	8.08	48.51
Wyre Forest District Council	Election costs	34.95		34.95
Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual Subscriptions	106.00		106.00
Kedal	Bench and plaque	336.25	67.25	403.50
Community Action Wyre Forest	Conference Jonathan Swift	20.00		20.00
		1302.20	94.19	1396.39
Receipts				
HMRC	On Line Submissions	75.00		75.00
Scottish Widows Account	Interest	981.33		981.33
Grazier D6	Monument	145.00		145.00
The Swan	Donation for bench	300.00		300.00
		1501.33		1501.33
From Treasurers Account	Scottish Widows Account	10000		10000

- 10.2 A Bank Reconciliation May 2011 had been prepared and a copy had been provided to Cllrs K Bartlett and J Swift.
- 10.3 **Internal Auditors Report:** The internal audit had been conducted by Diane Malley who reported that all internal controls were in place and there was an accurate audit trail. Regular bank reconciliations had been carried out and presented to the Parish Council. It was suggested that a review of cover for Fidelity Insurance should be undertaken. It was agreed to insure the new benches immediately and review all insurance cover at the next review.
11. **NEW ISSUES and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Date of next Meeting Monday 4 July. Please note August meeting will be on 8 August 2011.
Railings outside Elizabeth House in the village had deteriorated and would be reported to Worcestershire County Council.

The meeting closed at 09.25 p.m.