

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Monday 8 August 2011
at Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall
at 7.25 p.m.**



Present: Chairman – Cllr J Swift, R Pugh, G Vernon, Mrs P Pardoe, D Thomas, W Mack, L Stockford, Mrs J Fox, Mr K Bartlett

In attendance: District Councillor Mr S Williams, Clerk Mrs Y Scriven, Members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs B Green, M Walford.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time.

Mr Jon Harris attended the meeting to thank the Parish Council for agreeing to the adoption of the BT kiosk in Barrow Hill Lane, Drayton.

Mrs Debbie Newbold had been invited to address the meeting to advise the Parish Council on a marketing strategy to promote local businesses and to encourage residents to shop locally. It was stressed that the Council should engage with the businesses to establish exactly what they wanted from the Parish Council, collate information and devise an Action Plan, bearing in mind the need to keep it simple and easy to access. Mr Martin Kenrick had also volunteered to help with this project and it was suggested that an open meeting should be organised for an exchange of ideas. The Chairman thanked Mrs Newbold for her advice and for attending the meeting.

3. **MINUTES:**

(a) Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4 July 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

(b) Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4 July 2011 were accepted.

4.1 **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman had attended a meeting at the District Council on 23 July and the following matters were discussed:

- Cemetery viewing to be arranged for interested Parish representatives
- Leisure Centre contract was to be reviewed
- Jubilee Grants total £5,000 for all Wyre Forest District – applications were invited
- Safety Partnership to address several concerns on roads at the next CALC/Parish Forum
- Overview of Localism Bill
- Unilateral changes to meeting dates – Wyre Forest to offer a range of dates
- Armed Forces Day – not likely to be staged in any Parish
- Synchronisation of local election dates
- Appointment of an Officer of the District Council responsible for liaising with Parishes
- Chairman S Clee to get involved regarding bus shelter on A448

4.2 **District Councillors Report**

Cllr S Williams confirmed that the ruling of the Icelandic District Court to confirm our "priority" status in relation to Landbanki investment of £3m, had been appealed to the Icelandic Supreme Court. This appeal will be held in September and representatives of Local Government will be present during the appeal, the result of which is expected early October. Following this appeal

there is no further right to have the decision reviewed. Steady progress is also being made in relation to the recovery of investments with Heritable and Kaupthing Singer and Friedlander with regular dividend payments still being received. So far the Council has received just over £3.6m in dividends from these two investments, with further payments expected throughout the year. This means that for the Heritable, the Council has recovered just over 60% of the original investment and currently around 58% for Kaupthing Singer and Friedlander.

There is an on-going consultation in relation to the future of the Council's leisure provision. Residents can fill in a questionnaire online at www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk or pick up one from Leisure Centres, Worcestershire Hub, or district libraries. Deadline for responses 11 September 2011.

5. CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION

5.1 **Proposal to adopt a BT Redundant Kiosk in Barrow Hill Lane, Drayton:** Mr Jon Harris had formed a group of residents who were willing to take over the maintenance and repair of the kiosk and use it as a community facility. The Kiosk had been sold to the Parish Council for the fee of £1, and BT would now inspect the box, put it in good order and check if electricity is still connected. If so, they will continue to pay for the electricity supply for the foreseeable future. A maintenance programme would be drawn up and a local advertising campaign implemented to raise money to cover any necessary repairs.

5.2 **Proposals to change speed limits through parish on A448:** A meeting had taken place between Worcestershire County Council, West Mercia Police, Parish Council and Friends of the Village to discuss changes to the present 30 mph speed limit. The Department of Transport had introduced a national initiative to review speed limits around the country after significant changes were introduced in 2001, with a view to getting a more consistent approach. Based on data over the last three years, a 40 mph speed limit was considered more appropriate. After numerous representations a compromise was agreed, as follows, subject to a formal Public Consultation which was due to start today:

- The current unrestricted areas of the A448 would be restricted to 50mph.
- A 40 mph speed limit buffer zone would be introduced from outside Millbridge House to the Alms Houses, Brockencote. Countdown marker boards will also be installed.
- The 30 mph speed limit from the Alms Houses to the Severn Trent Pumping Station just past Fox Lane would be retained.
- A 40 mph speed limit buffer zone would be introduced from the Severn Trent Pumping Station to half way up Chaddesley Hill.
- Additional signage would be placed at the entrance to each 40 mph buffer zone.
- Signs on bends would be replaced with more accurate signs showing that the road bends and by the Chestnut tree the sign would be designed to reduce visibility around the bend and so force drivers to reduce speed.
- The lines painted along the edge of the road in the 30 mph limit would be replaced as far away from the edge as possible, effectively to restrict the width of the road and further encourage drivers to proceed more slowly.
- A further review of the proposed speed limit from the Severn Trent Pumping Station to beyond the entrance to the new school would be undertaken when the school is ready to open.
- 'Narrow Road' on surface indications around the bridge and 'Slow' on road surface signs at junctions and corners.

The object of the revised scheme is to create an environment which persuades the driver to slow down and adhere to the limits. It was noted that these changes would be subject to a temporary traffic order and could be monitored and reviewed if they did not achieve their objectives, and would be reconsidered when the new school opened.

5.3 **Proposed Bus Shelter on A448:** Previously the Parish Council and West Mercia Police could not agree on the location of bus stops on the A448 near the entrance to the village. Since then residents have adopted an informal bus stop and it was now proposed that this should be made permanent and a bus shelter erected on the Bromsgrove to Kidderminster side of the road. The police are still against this location, but with evidence that the informal arrangement had worked well over a period of time, it was agreed to re-open negotiations with interested parties.

5.4 **Report and Financial Statements – The Chaddesley Corbett Education Foundation:** The Parish Council noted the above for the year ended 31 December 2010.

5.5 **Business Working Group:** This new group had met on 29 July to consider responses from residents to the recent survey. 14 replies had been received which was disappointing and it was agreed to re-run the survey in the Parish Magazine. The object was to consider ways of promoting local services and businesses and encouraging residents to shop locally and use local services. A number of initiatives were discussed including:

- Use of Parish, District and County Council websites
- A tourist information leaflet about the Parish, where to go, what to see, shops, pubs, restaurants and other services available, for distribution through those outlets, libraries, tourist information centres, etc.

A request had been received from shops and pubs in the village for a joint sign to advertise their businesses to be placed on the A448, Woodrow junction with A453, Bluntington Crossroads, etc. The Parish Council were considering this request as part of the overall initiative.

5.6 **Lengthsman Scheme:** Cllr G Vernon reported that routine maintenance had continued with a total of 29½ hours being recorded. Much of this work had been in clearing grips, over 110 in number. Other works included removing overhanging vegetation to footway and signs, clearing gully tops and general work to verges. Ragwort is being removed as it appears. Works have been carried out in 11 locations in the Parish. Redundant lorry route and grain store signs have been removed.

5.7 **Allotments and Community Orchard:** Two tenants had been given final notices and would be asked to vacate the plots if no response is received in two weeks. The Parish Council approved this action.

The opening of the Community Orchard would be on Saturday 3 September with Morris Dancing, games, barbeque and a scarecrow fancy dress competition. Personal invitations had been sent to everyone who donated trees or benches, and friends and residents were invited to come along with the family for a fun day out.

5.8 **Tenant Consultative Committees:** The Community Housing Group had responded to our letter regarding the format of these committees and had agreed that a comprehensive review of resident involvement in services would be carried out. Cllr G Vernon was not completely happy with Chaddesley Corbett's level of representation and it was agreed that he would draft a suitable response.

5.9 **Parking in the Village:** The Working Group had met with a Governor of the school on 4 August 2011 to see what further initiatives could be implemented for the new school year, which might help to alleviate some of the problems created by cars parked in the village. The Governors had taken every possible opportunity to influence parents to park sensibly and safely and to consider residents; letters had been sent out and parking issues raised at pre-joining meetings. It was noted that in September the intake would be the maximum of 30 new pupils. Police had raised concerns about vehicles backing up onto the A448 and had indicated that action would be taken against drivers who parked dangerously.

It was agreed that in the long term a review of transport to the new school would have to be undertaken by the County Council who would determine safe walking routes. It was noted that

there was adequate parking on the new site for teachers and parents. A dedicated school bus had been discussed with parents but this had now been dropped due to lack of interest. Likewise no new volunteers had come forward to operate a walking bus. The possibility of creating a permanent drop-off point was again raised and it was agreed that this would be investigated and costed with a view to a part time person being employed to carry out this function. If practical, sources of funding would be considered.

Full time teachers parked on the school grounds, but teaching assistants would be asked not to park in the street but to use one of the alternative options including The Fox, The Talbot (by arrangement), the allotment amenity area and Rowberry's farmyard.

Parents would be asked not to park on the same side of the school from the crossing patrol to the Swan as this causes obstruction and negates the use of the passing point outside Beams End cottage. It was agreed that the Parish Council would ask the CSO to visit the site when the school opens in September to monitor this and talk to offenders.

There are currently six after-school clubs and 50% of children took part in these. The school grounds were available for parents to park after school hours and they should be encouraged to use the school and not park in the street.

- 5.11 **Application for Funding from the Cricket Club:** An application had been received for a contribution towards the cost of a replacement artificial cricket wicket. Some funding had already been secured and it was agreed that subject to the remainder of the funding being obtained, the Parish Council would donate £1,000 to the project.

6. DATES FOR MEETINGS

- 6.1 Wyre Forest Area CALC/Parish Forum – Wednesday 19 October 2011 – Duke House Kidderminster
- 6.2 CALC Executive Committee – Wednesday 10 August 2011.
- 6.3 Worcestershire 6th Parish Conference – Tuesday 18 October 2011 – County Hall.

7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CLLRS REPRESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES

- 7.1 **Community Housing – Tenants Association:** Cllr G Vernon reported that he attended the Rural TCC meeting on 20 July, but none of the matters raised affected our Parish.
- 7.2 **Village Hall:** It was noted that the cancellation of the CATS November performance had resulted in a considerable loss of income for the Village Hall for this year.
- 7.3 **Wyre Forest Forward – Focus Group Consultation:** The Clerk had attended to represent the Parish and had participated in a group forum to consider ways of reducing expenditure for the District in forthcoming years.

8. CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

The Parish Council had responded to consultation documents on the Local Development Framework, the Worcestershire Landscape Character Assessment and Planning for Traveller Sites.

9. CLERK'S REPORT ON ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Clerk submitted a written report of items for information, which included:

- Complaint received regarding damage to slab under new monument in burial ground.
- Agreement had now been reached with land owner on purchase of land for new school.
- Temporary closure of C2059 Woodcote Lane, Dodford – from its junction with C2062 Dordale Road to its junction with A448 Kidderminster Road. Diversions would be in place.

- WAIL – Proposed Waste Facility at Hartlebury Trading Estate – request for donation towards funds to fight this application.
- Tandy’s Lane Grill Covers – County Council believe the design of grill will enable the drain to keep functioning even if leaves block the bottom half as water can rise and still get away. Replacement drain covers are being fitted above the level of the road which do not allow water to run into the drain.
- Fox Lane – County Council asked to repair blocked drain outside the Coach House as part of current road improvements.
- Redundant Road Signs – Lengthsman has removed several redundant signs around the Parish.
- Report of monument fitted in burial ground which had not been ground anchored had been investigated and this would be repaired immediately. Permission for the monument had not been obtained, although it was believed that the fee had been paid to St Cassians. The Clerk was asked to recover fee if this was the case.
- Allotments – Tenant reported that next tenant had sprayed weed killer close to his plot which he believed might result in health problems for his family. Cllr L Stockford to investigate.
- Hockley Brook – Environment Agency had carried out investigations of discharge into brook, which they believe may be from a washing machine or dishwasher in Hemmingway. They would be contacting householders.
- Bus Timetable – 133 Service – the service will continue with only minor timetable changes would be made and school journeys to King Charles I school would be renumbered 833.
- It had been suggested by a resident that the Parish Council should consider a turbine to harness the Roaring Bridge weir for green energy to input into the national grid. Martin Kenrick would be asked to investigate this proposal.

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	354.00		354.00
CC Village Hall	July	79.00		79.00
Y L Scriven	Postage, paper, toner cartridge	68.32	4.74	73.06
BT	Broadband and line rental	89.10	17.81	106.91
	TOTAL	590.42	22.55	612.97

Receipts

Worcestershire CC	Grass Cutting Contract	1,347.00		1,347.00
Worcestershire CC	Lengthsman Scheme	582.00		582.00
		1,929.00		1,929.00

10.2 A Bank Reconciliation for July 2011 had been prepared and a copy had been provided to Cllrs K Bartlett and J Swift.

11. **NEW ISSUES and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Date of next Meeting Monday 5 September 2011. Review of burial ground fees. Consider earlier start to meetings.

The meeting closed at 09.30 p.m.