

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Monday 5 December 2011
at Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall
at 7.25 p.m.**



Present: Chairman – Cllrs J Swift, K Bartlett, D Thomas, B Green, G Vernon, Mrs J Fox, Mrs P Pardoe and R Pugh

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

POLICE REPORT

The Chairman reported that a new officer had been appointed for the rural areas, PC Andy Wallace. PC Wallace had identified youths responsible for damage to the BT Kiosk and graffiti on the bus shelter on Briar Hill. It had been agreed that the Parish Council were happy for a Community Order to be issued for the perpetrators to clean off the graffiti and generally tidy the area. It was noted that the household concerned had also been served a warning letter from Community Housing. It was noted that the Chairman and PC Wallace would carry out a foot patrol next week, and PC Wallace would attend the next Parish Council Meeting.

As regards the recent spate of burglaries in the Parish, as a result of targeted patrols and extensive enquiries, three people from the West Midlands area had been arrested and were on bail for four of the six incidents.

The Parish Council were pleased that prompt action had been taken and welcomed PC Wallace to the area.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs L Stockford, W Mack, M Walford
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Mrs J Fox – Item 4.3.1 – Personal Interest

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time.

Mr A Richards, resident of The Green, addressed the meeting following an exchange of correspondence regarding the proposed demolition of the garages of The Green with 4 affordable houses. Mr Richards did not agree that the garages were redundant, as described by the District Council in their planning application, as they had been recently painted and were in use. In addition, he did not feel that the Parish Council had given as much consideration to this application than they had to the one off the Hemmingway several years ago. He also felt that responses from the Clerk to his letters had not fully addressed his concerns.

The meeting was re-opened.

3. **MINUTES:**
 - (a) Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7 November 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
 - (b) Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 7 November 2011 were accepted.

4.1 Chairman's Report

4.1.1 The Chairman had visited the new Cemetery and Crematorium and was impressed with the design and understand that the facility would be opened in February.

- 4.1.2 Reporting on attendance at a recent Chairmans' Meeting, representations had been made on synchronisation of local elections with District elections to reduce costs for Parish and Town Councils. Also concerns were expressed about consultative documents which were often very lengthy, called for specialist knowledge and were time consuming to complete.
- 4.1.3 The Localism Bill had obtained Royal Assent and would become Law in the Spring of 2012. A meeting had been arranged with the Chief Executive of Wyre Forest District Council to discuss possible devolved services.
- 4.1.4 It was noted that the Standards Board was to be abolished and it was proposed that a local Standard would be applied to all parts of Worcestershire. A draft document would shortly be circulated for consultation.
- 4.1.5 Proposals had been made to provide filter lights from the A448 direction at the junction with Comberton Hill and Chester Road, Kidderminster.

4.2 District Councillor's Report

- 4.2.1 Cllr S Williams reported that the new Electoral Register for Wyre Forest had been completed, with 78,477 electors registered to vote, 10,500 for postal votes.
- 4.2.2 The new headquarters for the District Council is due for completion on 15 June 2012 and is being constructed by a local firm, Thomas Vale Construction.
- 4.2.3 Free parking in Wyre Forest District Council car parks would be available after 4.00 p.m. from 26 November 2011 to 2 January 2012.
- 4.2.4 The District Council had agreed to adopt a new 4 day working week for waste/recycling collection crew, who would work a 37 hour week from Tuesday to Friday. There would be no reduction in frequency of collections, but some collection days would change. This will start in Spring 2012.

4.3 County Councillor's Report

- 4.3.1 Proposed restricted parking outside shops in The Village – details of a survey to support this proposal had been received and it was agreed that this could be undertaken by the Parish Council. Further information about the format of the survey would be required to ensure the results provided adequate information.
- 4.3.2 Proposed Bus Shelter on A448 – It had been agreed that this work could go ahead and the Parish Council were asked to decide on what type of bus shelter they would like. Designs were discussed and it was agreed to obtain competitive quotations. All groundworks would be carried out by the County Council at their expense. Cllr S Clee said that his County Councillor budget could not contribute towards the bus shelter itself, only highways works.

5. CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION

- 5.1 **Worcestershire Agreement:** This agreement between the County Council and each Parish and Town Council set out the understanding of the communication responsibilities and was duly signed by the Chairman.
- 5.2 **Complaint from Mr A Richards:** Each Cllr had received copies of the exchange of correspondence between Mr Richards and the Clerk, which had previously been agreed with the Chairman in accordance with the Parish Council's Complaints Procedure. It was suggested that adequate consultations with residents had not been carried out and insufficient information had been provided when replying to letters. It was noted that the District Council had invited residents by letter to attend a Consultation event on 23 November 2010, which more than 30 residents attended. There had been some concern at the loss of the garages and it was

understood that the scheme would include additional parking spaces around the Green, but generally the majority of opinions were supportive of the proposal.

A discussion took place and it was acknowledged that those residents who use the garages would not be happy with the situation, but it was felt the overriding influence was to provide affordable houses. Furthermore the reports in the local press were not attributable to the Parish Council or its Officer. It was considered that the process of selecting a site for affordable housing had been extensive and followed months of negotiation with the District Council and the District Enabler. The final decision took into account the fact that the land was in the ownership of Community Housing and the project could be delivered at reasonable cost.

The Chairman said he was disappointed that Mr Richards was not satisfied with our response to his letters, but did not feel there was anything further we could add which would improve the situation.

5.3 **Drayton BT Kiosk:** An application had been received for a donation towards the cost of replacing the door on the BT Kiosk which had been adopted by the Parish Council. A donation of £50.00 was agreed.

5.4 **Lengthsman Scheme:** Cllr G Vernon reported that routine maintenance had continued in The Village, A448 Winterfold, Fox Lane, Dobes Lane, Cakebole Lane, Deansford, Tandy and Egg Lanes and Harvington Hall Lane. Potholes had been reported and repairs speedily executed. Grit bins in Barrowhill Lane were empty and would be reported to Highways. It was noted that the new Parish Council grit bins should be for Highway use only and stickers to this effect were required.

6. DATES FOR MEETINGS

6.1 Wyre Forest Area CALC – Tuesday 6 December 2011 at The Swan, Chaddesley Corbett at 7.00 p.m.

6.2 Wyre Forest Area CALC meeting with Ian Miller, Chief Executive, Monday 12 December 2011.

7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CLLRS REPRESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES

7.1 **Sponsorship of an Apprentice:** NALC have suggested that Parish and Town Councils might like to sponsor an Apprentice. This was not considered to be financially practical for the Parish, but further information is awaited.

7.2 **Community Housing:** After discussions with a Senior Housing Officer, it had been agreed that, in conjunction with the Police, action would be taken regarding unsociable behaviour in the Parish.

8. CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 Worcestershire County Council – Broadband Event on 12 December 2011 at County Hall. Mr H Grove and Mr A Page would attend and report back to the Parish Council.

8.2 Worcestershire County Council – Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Investment 2012-15. A fund of £750,000 would be set aside to assist local community initiatives.

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

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

- A review of changes to polling stations was being undertaken. Stone residents would vote at Chaddesley Corbett in future.
- Insurance of grit bins – additional insurance cost of £7.68, but these items were below the policy excess so it was decided not to cover them. A full review of assets for insurance purposes would take place at renewal.

- Following a meeting with Worcestershire County Council's footpaths officer, it had been agreed that ramps along the footpath at the top of Malvern View should be removed. Cross bars on Hockley Brook bridge near the surgery would be removed and possibly gates installed. Vegetation overgrowth around the bridge had been reported to the landowner.
- Sports Comic Relief 2012 are looking for a local co-ordinator to run a 'fun-run' event on Sunday 25 March in aid of Sports Comic Relief.
- The Chairman had judged posters for children at the school to back up the Litter Campaign. Press Release would be sent to newspapers this week.

10 FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Payments

Recipient	Details	Amount £	Total £
W Waldron	Lengthsman Scheme	312.00	312.00
CC Village Hall	November	25.00	25.00
Community Payback Scheme	Clear ramps from footpaths (to be refunded)	150.00	150.00
Worcestershire CALC	Clerk's Gathering	7.50	7.50
		<u>494.50</u>	<u>494.50</u>

Receipts

Transfer from Community Orchard	Benches	700.00	700.00
Monument Fee	D8	145.00	145.00
		<u>845.00</u>	<u>845.00</u>

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

11. **NEW ISSUES and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Date of next Meeting TUESDAY 3 January 2012.

The meeting closed at 09.00 p.m.