

Mrs Rachel Hooper
Clerk to Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council
clerk@chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk

7th July, 2025

Dear Rachel,

Re: Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council Meeting, 7th July, 2025

Please accept my apologies due to a meeting clash and please find my report for reading at the meeting and circulation to Parish Councillors.

Chaddesley Issues

Ongoing Issues

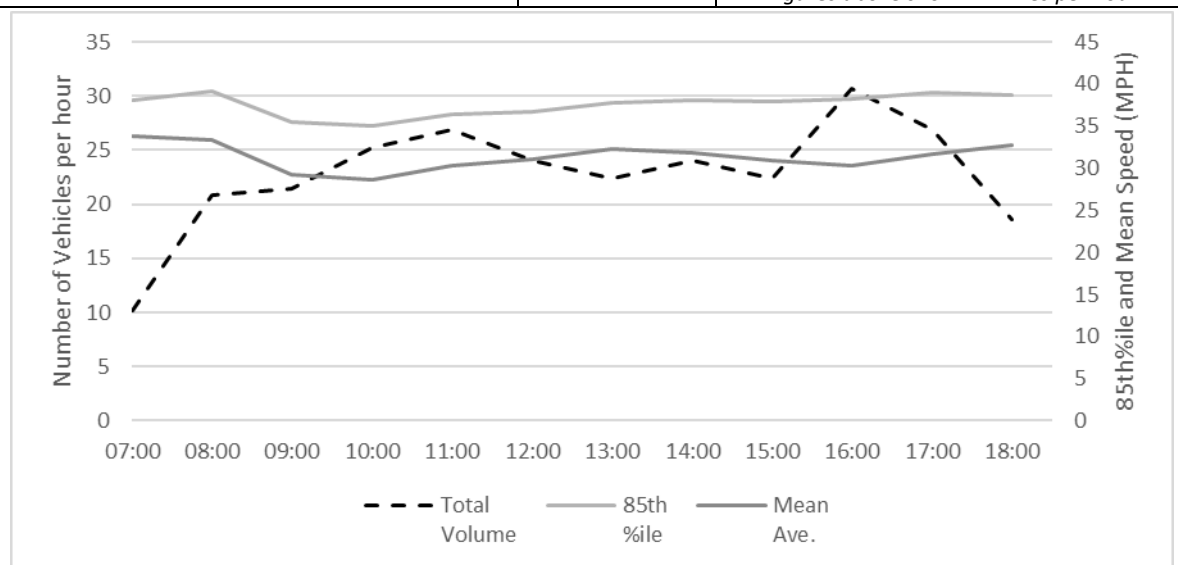
1. As you are aware since I wrote my May report the new pavement for the A448 is completed. I have received very positive feedback from the majority of residents who have commented/contacted me. The final snagging issues and legals are still to be concluded.

In respect of issues **2-8** these are a hang over from the May meeting. I did meet with our new highways officer Dean Caswell on Wednesday 14th May and so there are some meaningful updates now but still some issues outstanding and timing is poor as my next meeting is scheduled tomorrow (Tuesday 8th July) but will update you all in my subsequent reports.

2. As per my previous few reports, I am still dealing with flooding issues in Drayton. I have been sent photos by a number of local residents, one is at Egg Lane as a result of significant discharge of rain water from fields belonging to a third party landowner. WCC are to provide me with an update shortly, apologies this been ongoing for so long.
3. I have spoken with Bill Waldron about the other flooding issue in Drayton and have asked our highways engineer to make contact with him. This has now happened and it is that the drains get blocked due to aggregate as opposed to tarmac being used at the edge of carriageway works in Barrow Hill Lane. It was very helpful for WCC highways to meet with Bill who have undertaken to remedy this issue.
4. In respect of the flooding on the A448 at Fox Lane on the bend, I have asked WCC to look at this with a view to a permanent solution. I have received an update on this last week and WCC are looking at installing additional gullies here to increase capacity so I am very pleased that my persistence will hopefully pay off. This is still ongoing.

5. As you are aware a local resident has contacted me regarding speeding on Tanwood Lane and requesting a reduction in the national speed limit to 30mph. I have the speed data by The Old Chapel in the 30mph limit and in both directions it is well below 30mph. I did meet with the local resident and other residents on 15th March and have agreed to put some further counters down in the national speed limit area and that data is below. As you can see it is well within the speed limit. I have asked WCC regarding verge masters and additional signage at the junction with Bournes Green and this is ongoing.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Site No. | 25000054 | | |
| Site Location (Click for Map): | U13605 Tanwood Ln, Tanwood | | |
| Survey Period: | From 10/04/2025 To 18/04/2025 | | |
| | | | |
| | Daily Volume | Mean Av. Speed | 85th %ile Speed |
| Northbound | 162 | 32 | 39 |
| Southbound | 165 | 31 | 38 |
| Combined | 327 | Figures above shown in miles per hour | |



All surveys are subject to instrument limitation and site variables, figures shown should be viewed as indicative.

6. Hedges obstructing visibility in Drayton near Drayton Grove have been inspected and landowners will be written to. I was out with the highways officer in Drayton inspecting these. WCC highways are still dealing with this.
7. I have chased the siding out of the pavement right from Mustow Green through Winterfold and Redcross on the A448 right through to the village as I first reported this about 3 months ago. I am unhappy it still hasn't been done but WCC say it is in a list. I have stressed it is becoming very urgent on safety grounds.
8. I have raised the flooding on the A448 at Redcross that Mr. Peirson raised in public question time and WCC advise me that all gullies in this location have been inspected and jetted and cleared. Let's see if this problem persists in heavy rainfall is the position of WCC highways.

9. I have been asked to look at the road that links Harkaway House to Hemming Way. I believe this road is owned by CHG but I am investigating. This is still ongoing as I did not receive a reply to my email sent in May to CHG. Last week I wrote to the Chief Executive who did respond promptly and has passed it to his estates team for inspection. At the time of writing I am chasing a reply.
10. I have reported the hedge at Bluntington Cottage, WCC highways have inspected twice and report this has now been cut. I have used the junction today and certainly had no issues with visibility so hopefully this is sorted, at least for now.

New Issues

1. Egg Lane was blocked in Drayton for several days due to a tanker doing work. This was not permitted by Severn Trent and they have been issued with a fine.
2. There have been 3 lots of 4 way lots over the last month or so at Mustow Green. The first the permit was not granted by WCC to Severn Trent but Severn Trent forgot to cancel the traffic management or if they did the traffic management company still turned up and erected the lights. Severn Trent received a fine for this. The next works for weekend working were authorised and I published this on my Facebook Page and they were removed Sunday afternoon. The third set of works were not immediately authorised but Severn Trent asserted they were emergency works and they are authorised to enter the highway without consent and have up to two hours to apply for an emergency permit to work on the highway which they did and then this was duly granted.
3. There was some resurfacing work done in Hillpool near Belne Cottage that was of a poor standard by the contractor Ringway. This was reported to me by a local resident and has now been inspected and Ringway will be remedying the problem in September.
4. There was an RTC with emergency services called at the A450/Deansford Lane/Woodrow junction. I have inspected the location with highways and interrogated the accident data and I requested my highways officer liaise with the road safety team to see if any additional signage was needed but they feel not. This incident was driver error as a driver travelling from deansford Lane failed to stop at the junction with the A450. Surface dressing had taken place but I then asked for fresh give way road markings to be installed which has now happened.

Wyre Forest Issues

Bewdley Bridge is still closed to traffic coming out of Bewdley. It is proposed that during the summer holidays the bridge will be opened up to two way traffic and the work is scheduled to complete by the autumn.

Strategic Issues County Wide

Full Council met on 22nd May to appoint a new leader, Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Council and the various committee chairman and vice-chairman. The new Leader of the County Council is Cllr. Jo Monk, from one of the Redditch Divisions

and the Deputy Leader of the County Council is Cllr. David Taylor from the same Redditch Division and he has cabinet responsibility for 'One Worcestershire'.

There are 10 members in the Cabinet, 4 from Redditch, 3 from Wyre Forest, 1 from Worcester City, 1 from Malvern Hills and 1 from Wychavon. The Leader was elected unopposed by all members of the Council. The new Chairman of the Council is Cllr. Louis Stephen, from the Green Party representing one of the Worcester Divisions and the new Vice-chairman of the Council is Cllr. Paul Bennett, from the Liberal Democrats Party, representing one of the Malvern Hills Divisions were elected by majority vote.

The constitution was amended to allow for substitutes on the scrutiny panels and to allow 14 members to sit on the main Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board, up from 9, this is to allow the 5 Vice-chairman of the scrutiny panels to sit on the Board too. The Chairman of the panels are made up from the opposition parties and the administration have the Vice-chairman. On a personal note I was very pleased to be elected Chairman of the Economy Panel.

By way of a brief devolution and unitary update, the Government has now formally written to the County Council and the six district Councils with its initial feedback from our initial submission.

WCC and the six districts worked together to put in their initial proposals by 21st March and final proposals by 28th November.

There was not total agreement across the seven authorities as some are supporting a unitary in the north and a unitary in the south and some support a unitary for the whole of Worcestershire. Worcestershire County Council's Cabinet met on 20th March to agree to support a Worcestershire Unitary Council and agree the interim plan. We now await to hear from Government on the next steps which is expected in the next few weeks. This feedback was due some weeks ago and is now scheduled for 3rd June, the day of this meeting and so I may be able to provide an update.

Given that the Leader has appointed a Cabinet Member for 'One Worcestershire' I had assumed they supported a one unitary authority for Worcestershire. However, at the recent Worcestershire Leader's Board meeting held on 25th June for the 7 county wide leaders the Leader indicated they have not yet agreed their position on Local Government Reorganisation. They have also not agreed a position on a footprint for a strategic authority.

As it presently stands the Government are scheduled to make a decision in April 2026 albeit I can see this being delayed until after the local elections in May 2026. Between 28th November and their decision they need to undertake statutory consultation.

Cabinet met on 26th June for the first time to approve the 24-25 financial outturn accounts. This was presented by the Deputy Leader of the Council as the Cabinet Member for Finance actually sent apologies for the meeting. This was the only item on the agenda.

With my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr. Marcus J. Hart
County Councillor – Chaddesley Division

Copy to: District Cllr. Ian Hardiman, Wyre Forest District Council
District Cllr. Robin Drew, Wyre Forest District Council
District Cllr. Marcus Hart, Wyre Forest District Council

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