

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON  
MONDAY 1st September 2025  
AT CHADDESLEY CORBETT VILLAGE HALL  
AT 7:00 pm

**Attending:** Chairman Cllr M Page, Cllrs, H Grove, J Wright, G Vernon, P Rowberry, D Thomas, Mrs S Smith, C Finnegan, D Newbould, County Cllr Marcus Hart.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs G Hogan, S Walker, Clerk Mrs R Jefferies.
2. **Remembering William Mack** – The Chairman recounted his fond memories of our past Chairman's leadership of the Parish Council and voiced his hope that Will would live on in our memories of him, and his contribution to the Parish.
3. **Police Report:** No incidents reported relating to Chaddesley Corbett. Speed enforcement had taken place in several neighbouring areas. Cllr J Wright queried the reasoning for setting up speed enforcement on Bromsgrove Road on the same day as the Classic Car event was held in the Village.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** – Mr C Rowberry stated that the weeds beside the road and new footway to the school were long enough to create a visibility problem. Since the construction of the footway, he was no longer able to carry out any maintenance on that strip of the verge. He later raised this with Cllr Hart, who said he would follow up with Highways.

Mr Rowberry also reported that the Post Office were proposing a consultation about its future operation, and urged the Parish Council to take part in the consultation. It is understood that this relates to the Government's national consultation (Green Paper) on the future of the Post Office. Anyone, including members of the public, can respond. The deadline for responses is 6 October.

5. A) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – DPI's or ODI's – **NONE**  
B) DISPENSATIONS – As previously agreed - **NONE**  
C) REQUESTS FOR NEW DISPENSATIONS – **NONE**
6. The minutes of the meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman. Cllr Newbould had been unable to attend the meeting, and asked for more information about item 7.3.2 (informal meeting with A&H re potential development along Woodrow). Cllr Thomas recapped the report that had previously been made. A Planning Application is expected to follow in the near future
7. **Planning**
  - 7.1.1 No new applications
  - 7.2 **Planning Approvals/Rejections from WFDC**
    - 7.2.1 25/0521/AG - Erection of a steel portal frame agricultural hay and machinery store Redhouse Farm Worcester Road Harvington – **Approved**
8. **Councillor's Reports**

8.1.1 **District Councillors Reports** – Cllr Marcus Hart summarised the main points. District Councillors have been dealing with the usual routine casework, reporting litter and fly tipping on the main A roads and along the country lanes and continue to monitor all enforcement issues. In particular, we have reported fly tipping along Curslow Lane.

8.1.2 **County Councillors Report** –Cllr Marcus Hart reported that “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 still investigating and whilst I have had updates they are basically that WCC are still looking into this issue! I will update when I can.

In respect of the flooding on the A448 at Fox Lane on the bend, you will be aware that I have asked WCC to look at this with a view to a permanent solution. I am very pleased that my persistence has paid off and a new gully has been installed since I reported to you on this in July.

As you are aware a local resident has contacted me regarding speeding on Tanwood Lane and requesting a reduction in speed limit in the national speed limit but the speed data did not support this. I have been out again with our highways officer and met Mrs Powell at Tanwood Cross Farm and we are looking at installing some farm warning signage in this location.

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.

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 5 months ago now. 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. I have now raised this with the Assistant Director.

Regarding the road that links Harkaway House to Hemming Way I did liaise with CHG and they have confirmed ownership and accept it will not be sufficient just to fill the potholes and are going to resurface it fully.

I met with Cllr. Dave Thomas together with my WCC highways officer after your July meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July, having been contacted by your clerk. We looked at parking in the village street outside St. Cassian's Church. I am keen not to restrict parking for residents and visitors and increasing the length of double yellow lines can be a bit of a hornets nest and we have agreed to leave things as they are.

8.1.3 Cllrs J Wright and G Vernon raised again the concerns about parking restricting visibility when exiting St Cassian's Way and The Talbot. Cllr Hart stated there were no vehicles parked in these areas during his visit, and asked if there was any photographic evidence.

### 9.3 **Councillors' Reports –**

9.3.1 Cllr J Wright reported that the classic car event had gone very well, raising approximately £10,000 for charity

9.3.2 Cllr S Smith reported that the VJ event had been very successful, despite the heat. The organisers had checked with the GP Surgery about whether to proceed given the weather, and this was approved. The Care Café organisers had thanked the Parish Council for supporting the event.

9.3.3 Cllr Vernon asked if there was any progress with the suggestion to use the Village Hall for blood transfusion services. The Chairman reported that the Transfusion Service had shown interest, and discussions were continuing.

#### 9.4 **Clerk's Report**

- 9.4.1 The Clerk had prepared comprehensive notes that, in her absence, would assist the discussion of the remaining points on the agenda.

### 10. **CHADDESLEY CORBETT MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION OR DECISION**

- 10.1.1 **Allotment Deposit** – discussion on a proposal to require a £50 deposit from new allotment holders that would be returned if the allotment was later given up in a good condition, but retained (in full or in part) if remedial works were required to clear the site for a new occupier. There was some discussion whether £50 was sufficient to cover remedial work, but it was felt that any more might deter new holders. Cllr G Vernon suggested that new allotment holders could be assisted if they took on an allotment in poor condition by offering a number of months rent-free. The proposal for a £50 deposit was agreed. Cllr J Wright queried whether allotment holders should be described as tenants or licensees.
- 10.2 **St Cassians Way update** – see references in the County Councillor'
- 10.3 **Projects and events** – based on the success of the VJ day event, Cllr Sue Smith suggested holding similar community events on an annual basis. Use of the Village Hall would likely mean a lower cost and less dependence on the weather. There was general support for this proposal.
- 10.4 **Mobile signal** – Cllr H Grove commended the Clerk for a very well-crafted letter; he criticised the Ofcom response for not distinguishing between '999' calls to emergency services and the need in an emergency for a resident to contact healthcare or other support services. Cllr D Newbould suggested that we should publicise the Ofcom Mobile Coverage Checker as that might help residents decision making when choosing a mobile network provider. This could be done via social media, the Parish Magazine and our next Newsletter.
- 10.5 **Review of Worcestershire County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan.** Cllr S Smith volunteered to work with the Clerk to prepare a response to this consultation. It was noted that any member of the public could respond.
- 10.6 **Dates for next year's meetings.** These were noted. Cllr G Vernon queried why we were not meeting every month; the Chairman explained that there was usually very little to discuss in some months (eg January) and the reduced number of meetings had been agreed in a previous meeting.
- 10.7 **Review the ICCM Subscription.** It was agreed not to renew our membership.
- 10.8 **Community Orchard activity proposal.** A proposal had been received from a company offering to host a community apple pressing event on the orchard, and supply bottled raw juice (shelf life up to 7 days). The pasteurised juice supplied via the current arrangements was preferred.
- 10.9 **Notice of Conclusion of Audit:** The review was completed without any issues; it has now been published on our website and notice board. This was noted.
- 10.10 **Donation for Avoncroft** – Cllr D Thomas explained that the painters from Avoncroft had completed the work and their travel costs had been reimbursed. There had been no charge for the paint. In approving these arrangements via email between Councillors a suggestion had been made to make a donation to the Avoncroft charity. A donation of £100 was agreed.
- 10.11 **An opportunity for Councillors to request an item of information to be considered for the next agenda.** – The following matters were raised:
- 10.11.1 – Should we establish a Committee to manage the Community Orchard? [Cllr S Smith]

- 10.11.2 – Should we consider a groundskeeping charity for some of our grass cutting work [Cllr S Smith]
- 10.11.3 – Cllr P Rowberry raised the matter of parking congestion on Briar Hill and also by the top exit from The Green. It was suggested that this matter could be raised directly with Cllr Hart as an urgent item.
- 10.11.4 – Changing the code for the defibrillator phone box to deter the storage of traffic cones, as they were a potential hazard for accessing the defibrillator.

10.12 **Maintenance Works** – Nothing of note to report.

#### 11.0. **Financial Report and Actions**

- 11.1 A schedule of payments and receipts for July 2025 had been circulated - **Approved**.  
Cllr D Thomas reported that additional payments had been made in September to reimburse the Chairman for flowers for the funeral of Will Mack, and to reimburse the costs relating to painting the defibrillator phone box. We had been notified of the national pay award for the Clerk and this has been implemented, backdated to 1 April.
- 11.2 To approve Bank Reconciliation for month ended July 2025.
- 12. Date of next Parish meeting Monday 6th October 2025 at 7pm.