



## Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council

### Annual Report

2025 / 2026

#### **Chairman's Annual Report**

I'd like to start off by thanking my fellow councillors and clerk for their support and service to our parish over the last 12 months. I would also like to extend my thanks to our volunteers and contractors for all their efforts in keeping our Parish looking its best. A special congratulations to our clerk, Rachel, on obtaining your CiLCA qualification. This requires over 12 months of additional study. It provides our clerk with a broader knowledge of roles, procedures, law, and finance and help ensure our legal compliance.

July – We support the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (the LNRS), which is run & organised by our Councillor Sue Smith. It's a way of involving the public & pupils from our school in how we view our natural environment around the parish & about improving it. The school has been involved in a plot on the allotment, which has now completed a full year from preparing the ground, planting seeds, and harvesting the produce. It's a fun form of education for our pupils. Thank you, Sue and your team, for all your hard work.

September – Despite the very hot weather, we held a very successful VJ Day celebration in August. Organised by the Care Café committee, we had an afternoon tea and a noisy band for entertainment. It really brought our community together. A very enjoyable afternoon. The true spirit of what we are.

Our phone box, now a defibrillator, in the centre of the village opposite the Talbot, had a makeover by a couple of volunteers from the nearby Avoncroft museum. They repainted it to look as good as new again.

October – Councillor Jim Wright reported that the Classic Car & Bike Show, held at the Swan, had raised over £10,000 in aid of ‘The Guide Dogs’. As a reward, they could name 2 dogs; they chose ‘Cassie’, after St. Cassian, and ‘Roy’ in honour of one of the show’s founder members.

Our bus shelter on Briar Hill was dressed up for Halloween.

November – I laid the traditional poppy wreath on the war memorial in front of the church at our Remembrance Service.

December – Our bus stop was decorated for Christmas. Our thanks go to Leo Stockford for his donation of a Christmas tree to go in front of the church wall, which was decorated by Russell, the lengthsman.

March – After 20 years of service, Geoff Vernon of Harvington, decided to step down from the committee due to health issues. We wish him well and hope to see him around the parish soon. We are going to install a bench in recognition of his many years of service, but we have yet to decide where to put it.

We have ongoing issues with badger damage around the allotment area, but we are struggling with how to deal with it. Fencing is going to be around £20,000, so that rules that out, and despite approaching many charities for advice, nobody really has an answer. Any ‘legal’ suggestions would be welcome.

Finally, we reflected on the life of Will Mack, our previous Chairman, who sadly passed away in August from Motor Neurone Disease. He was an inspiration to me and a great leader for the Council. He got involved in many projects for the Parish, one of which was planting daffodil bulbs around the parish; when they come up each year, they remind me of him. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.

I would like to end by thanking our three district councillors, in particular, Marcus Hart, who are represented at every Parish Meeting we hold and are always there to offer help and advice.

That concludes my report for this year. Thank you very much for your attention.

**Mark Page**

**Chairman**

## **LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY 2025/2026**

**The LNRS team have had a busy year trying to help nature, improve our verges & educate the next generation.**

**Did you know that species rich verges store more carbon than 'neat and tidy' verges.**

**Adopting a nature positive way of managing our verges and other grassland areas – such as our village greens and the Community Orchard – we are trying to help regenerate them back into flower rich, biodiverse havens for insects and birds.**

**Poorly-timed cutting regimes are the main cause of decline in species in our roadside verges. If plants are cut back before they are allowed to set seed, then most of them will not be able to grow next year. Over time, this leads to a decline in the abundance of flowering plants and a corresponding loss of insects and birds.**

**We are therefore doing minimal grass cutting between May and August (inclusive) to allow plants to flower and then set seed. Where cutting can't be avoided for safety reasons, paths or narrow edge strips will be cut but we will be leaving some areas uncut as a wildlife refuge.**

**Thanks to the help of volunteers, we have also been busy planting native daffodils & snowdrops & sowing wildflower seeds around the Parish.**

**The allotment holders have also kindly given up their time to educate the children from Chaddesley Corbett school - teaching the children where food comes from, how plants grow & the impact of the different seasons, how to enrich soil with home produced compost. The children found the worms especially fascinating.**

**In the Autumn, the children helped pick some apples for their harvest festival which were donated to the Wyre forest food bank. Some of the apples were also used to show the children how to make apple crumble - which was enjoyed by all.**

**The children have enjoyed their walk to the Community Orchard & allotments where they have taken time to look & listen to the birds in the sky, watch the rabbits & exam the bugs & insects. This is all helping them to appreciate the beauty of nature.**

**It is also proven that a thriving, wildlife-rich environment benefits both physical and mental health.**

**Hopefully we are helping the next generation to be more active, mentally resilient and have better all-round health.**

**If any one wishes to be involved with the LNRS team please contact Cllr Sue Smith.**

### **The Burial Ground**

We still have plots available for both Cremation and Burials.

Pre-sale plots are also available.

Contact the Clerk for more information

### **Financial Report - Annual Audit**

The summary of the financial accounts for the year ending March 2026, along with the internal audit report, is now available on our website.

Additionally, the precept for the financial year 2026/ 27 has no increase.

### **Your Parish Councillors**

Chairman Finance Committee Village Hall Committee	Mark Page
Vice Chairman Finance Committee	David Thomas
Margaret Delabere Charity LNRS	Sue Smith
Finance Committee	Gary Hogan
Trustee Educational Trust	Christine Finnegan
Trustee Educational Trust	Jim Wright
Village Hall Committee	Harry Grove
Finance Committee	Debbie Newbould
Allotments and Burial Ground Emergency Planner	Steve Walker
	Phil Rowberry

Contact the Parish Clerk:

Rachel Jefferies

Email: [clerk@chaddesleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chaddesleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

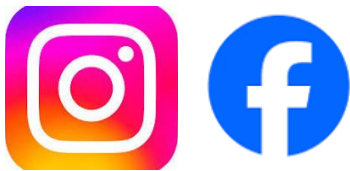
Mobile: 07405 306071

### **Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council Website**

Keep up to date with the latest information on our website, which includes, road closures, notices, agenda's and meeting minutes.

[www.chaddesleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.chaddesleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**We are now on social media.**



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