

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
CHADDESLEY CORBETT PARISH COUNCIL  
Held on Monday 5 February 2007  
at Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall  
at 7.30 p.m.**



Present: Chairman, Cllrs Mr J Swift, Mr S Williams, Mrs P Pardoe, Mr K Bartlett, Mr P Tetstall, Mr G Vernon, Mr L Stockford, Mrs J Fox, Clerk Mrs Y Scriven.

Also attending Mr M Waldron (Lengthsman); District Councillor Mrs Pauline Hayward and members of the public.

- Mr David Mills addressed the Council and expressed concern about the proposed increase in Precept for 2007/8 and the effect this large increase would have on some residents. *The Chairman explained that it had been necessary to increase the Precept this year in order to cover projected costs and to replace some of the reserves which had been depleted. However this still represented good value for money for the services provided by the Parish Council.*
- Mr Harry Grove had tabled a letter which was circulated to Councillors. Concern was expressed about an item in the Parish Newsletter which indicated that affordable properties were available in the Parish and alleged 'inaccuracies' in the Parish Council Newsletter. *The Chairman explained that the intention had been to make residents aware of the properties, but did not suggest they were currently available. Any approaches received by the Clerk would be forwarded to Doolittle & Dalley the management agents. The newsletter was intended to give just a broad indication of matters relating to the Parish and did not deal with any item in detail.*
- A resident had asked if the 'Walking Bus' signs could now be removed. *The Clerk was asked to discuss this with Highways who would be responsible for making the decision on when for safety reasons they could be moved.*

1. APOLOGIES: Councillor Mr M Walford.

2. MINUTES OF A MEETING held on 8 January 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

4. WEST MERCIA POLICE: Did not attend. Mr M Gibbs had forwarded a complaint about the lack of police response in Harvington following two attempted burglaries. The Clerk would write direct to the Police on this matter.

5. CLERK'S REPORT ON ITEMS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1 Computer Training Sessions – The Clerk reported that the course to start on 17 April 2007 was now full and there was a further waiting list. Another course would be arranged as soon as possible.

5.2 Computacoach: The present two sessions would end shortly and a follow-on course had been suggested. There was still a problem with location of the coach and it was agreed that if one was arranged, Mr Blakeway should be asked if he would be prepared to host this again.

5.3 Sponsorship of Parish Magazine: No further progress had been made, but further negotiations would continue.

5.4 Bus Bulletin: Revised timetable to be displayed in the Post Office at Chaddesley Corbett.

5.5 Home Composting: New Scheme – notices to be displayed.

5.6 Responses to the Parish Newsletter

Park Lane Survey: Residents in Park Lane had contacted the Clerk regarding a possible suggestion of parking restrictions outside their houses. The houses were over 200 years old and no parking space was available. The clerk had referred them to Worcestershire County Council who had confirmed that parking restrictions would not be imposed in this area. Plans for an extension to the footpath were being formulated for implementation in 2007/8, but were not yet available. Full consultation on these plans would be made at the appropriate time.

Hill Pool – A resident had reported excessive mud on the road which was affecting her business which she conducted from home. The farmer had been approached and had cleared the road as much as possible. The Parish Council sympathised with the resident but understood that farmers had to tend their crops even during adverse weather conditions.

E-Mails had been received from Mr H Grove, Mr M Gibbs and Mr D Mills regarding increases in the precept, the cost of sending out the newsletter, the vacancy for a Parish Councillor, Park Lane Footway, affordable properties owned by the Education Foundation and their availability and the proposed development at the bottom of Briar Hill. All these had been dealt with by the Chairman and the Clerk in accordance with the Complaints Procedure.

Computer Training Course on 21 April over subscribed. Trying to arrange a second course.

5.7 First Aid Course – Saturday 21 April 9.00-4.30 p.m. Village Hall: Still a few places to fill.

## 6. Reports by Cllrs on Consultation Documents:

6.1 West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Consultation Meeting: This had been attended by three Councillors and a Working Group had been set up to prepare a response to the detailed questionnaire. Cllr Mr J Swift reported on the issues which had far reaching implications. The draft response was tabled and Councillors were invited to study the document. The Parish Council agreed that if no further comments were received by the Clerk within 7 days the document, as drafted, would be issued.

6.2 Wyre Forest Community Housing: Cllr Mr G Vernon attended the Quarterly meeting of the Tenants Association. It was felt that in order to circulate tenants with information the Association might be willing to participate and fund articles in future Parish Newsletters. The next regional area meeting would be on 14 February 2007.

6.3 PACT (Police and Community Together): Cllr Mrs J Fox had attended a meeting and tabled a written report. It was noted that up to date information was posted on the web-site at [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk). Whilst there was no immediate plans to do so, Chaddesley Corbett could have its own PACT meeting if required.

6.4 Wyre Forest District Council – Local Development Framework: Cllr Dr M Bird had attended the meeting and tabled a written report. This would need to be kept under review and the Clerk was asked to return the questionnaire registering continued interest.

6.5 Worcestershire County Council Waste Core Strategy Cllr Dr M Bird having studied the document in detail and submitted a written report, concluded there was nothing contentious in it. The proposals had now been submitted to the Inspector.

- 6.6 Wolverhampton Airport: South Staffordshire Council is preparing a Local Development Framework to help shape a sustainable future and a policy document for Wolverhampton Airport. An Issues and Options paper had been circulated for consultation which set out its initial thoughts on the key issues relating to the Airport. The key issues included; Role of the Airport; Expansion; New development; existing buildings and support uses; future use' aviation use; wartime heritage. Cllr Mr M Bird would collate views from Cllrs and residents. A letter had also been received from the Action Group, a copy of which was circulated. A meeting would be held on 11 February which Cllr Dr Bird would attend and a report would be issued at the next meeting.
- 6.7 CALC Best Practice Guide – Officers of the Council: Noted.
- 6.8 NALC Policy Briefing – VAT on Mileage and Internet Purchases – Noted.
7. Matters for Decision/Debate
- 7.1 Report on Meeting no. 3 of the Parish Plan Working Group had been circulated and was noted. The following actions had been recommended:
1. Village Design Statement: It was agreed that this work should proceed and the Parish Council would consider a small amount of funding to cover room hire, printing and postage costs. However, further investigations would take place about possible external funding opportunities.
- A6 – Survey of Housing Needs: An independent survey of housing needs in the Parish had been recommended. Cllr Mr S Williams stated that this was the responsibility of the District Council and the District Enabler who should be involved in such a process if the results were to carry weight and be validated. Cllrs expressed reservations about the way the previous survey had been carried out and it was agreed that any questionnaire would need to be approved by the Parish Council. It was agreed to make this an Agenda item at the next meeting for further discussion. The Clerk would circulate a copy of the previous Housing Needs Survey with the next Agenda.
- A7 – Brownfield Sites: It was agreed that more information was required and the Clerk was asked to contact the District Council for further advice.
- B10 – Historical Information/Places of Interest: Information would be assembled and placed on the web-page for further consideration.
- C14 – Notice Boards: - The Clerk was asked to investigate possible locations for two new Notice Boards and to ascertain approximate costings.
- 7.2 Parish Plans – The Clerk and Mrs D Dolley would attend the 'Blue Sky Thinking' Seminar on 14 March.
- 7.3 Notice of Vacancy for a Parish Councillor: The District Council had advised that 25 residents had requested an Election, and therefore a Notice of Election would be issued shortly. The cost to the Parish would be approximately £1,800.
- 7.4 Appointment of Trustees and Representatives of the Village Hall Committee: It was agreed that Cllr Mrs P Pardoe would be re-elected and Mrs J Fox would also be elected. Both would serve as Trustees and Representatives.
- 7.5 Date of May Meeting: It was agreed that as this clashed with a Bank Holiday the May meeting would be held on 30 April 2007 at 7.30 p.m.
8. Chairman's Report: No progress had been made on sponsorship of the Parish Magazine due to difficulties over distribution. Negotiations would continue.

9. Reports from Councillors Representing Outside Bodies:

- 9.1 Village Hall: Nothing to report.
- 9.2 Chaddesley Corbett First Endowed School: Still awaiting advice from the Planning Authority. When information was available a small presentation would take place in the Village.
- 9.3 Charity Trusts: A meeting had taken place to discuss routine maintenance of the properties, which would be carried out shortly.
- 9.4 Wyre Forest Area CALC: Meeting in March.
- 9.5 Clerk tabled a report on Clerk's Gathering with featured the Worcestershire Hub.

10. Worcestershire Association of Local Councils: Newsletter had been circulated.

11. Allotments

- 11.1 Cllr Mr L Stockford reported that all the existing allotments had been let and there was now a waiting list. Consideration would now be given to laying on a water supply. No information had been received from the District Council about their intention to provide a water supply on all their allotments.
- 11.2 No progress had been made on plans for the larger field.

12. Burial Ground

- 12.1 Cllr Mr K Bartlett reported that the rubbish had not been cleared nor had the site been tidied up. The Clerk said she would attend to this as soon as possible but was experiencing difficulty in getting the usual contractor to carry out the work. It may be necessary to reconsider the method of rubbish disposal.
- 12.2 Plot B54: A request for a memorial and exclusive rights had been received and was approved.
- 12.3 The Clerk gave preliminary information about new HSE requirements to anchor monuments. Initial indications were that a survey of monuments would cost £5 per unit, a possible total cost of £1,200-£1,600. Any remedial work required would be the responsibility of the relatives, but past experience indicated that many could no longer be traced. The Clerk was asked to make further enquiries and report to a future meeting.

13. Lengthsman Scheme

Cllr Mr P Tetstall reported on work carried out during the month which included work on Woodrow drainage, A448 Brockencote path clearance, Deansford Lane soil clearance from carriageway, Park Lane Harvington drainage, Drayton Road ditches and litter collection in various locations.

14. Financial Report

- 14.1 Schedule of Receipts and Payments: The following were approved for payment:
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|---|---------------|
| CC Village Hall – Room Hire                       | £ 12.00       |
| Lengthsman  | £430.00       |
| Worcs CALC  | £ 20.00       |
| Advert for allotments                             | £ 19.40 + VAT |
| Postage for Newsletter                            | £150.42       |
| Maintenance of Web Site Qtrly                     | £ 62.50       |
| Emergency tree clearance allotments               | £185.00 + VAT |
| Annual Inspection of War Memorial & Burial Ground | £ 50.00 + VAT |
| Clerk's mileage August-January 2007               | £148.50       |

Receipts

Contribution from Wyre Forest District Council to Burial Ground Maintenance Costs	£615.00
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Invoiced

Worcs County Council Lengthsman Scheme	£590.00
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14.2 The Village Hall Committee had reduced charges for room hire to £20.00.

15. New Highways Issues

The clerk reported that items placed with the Hub were not being processed. Representations should be made to Worcestershire County Council.

16. Items for next meeting

Post Office Closures – Representations

Date of next meeting Monday 5 March 2007 at 7.30 p.m.