

Chelmarsh Parish Council

Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 24th October 2023 at 7.30pm in Chelmarsh Parish Hall.

Present: Cllrs R Woods (Chairman), P Thomas (Vice Chairman), R Bebb, T Cole, A Cadwallader.
Shropshire Cllr R Tindall
Clerk: Mrs F Morris
Parishioners: None

0) **Parishioner's time:** None present.

1) **Apologies for absence:** Noted from Cllrs D and S Garrett, PCSO Fletcher.

2) **Declaration of Interests**

The Localism Act 2011, Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.
Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of member's interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

None declared.

3) **Minutes of last meeting – 26th September 2023:**

These had been circulated with the agenda and were proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED to accept these as a true record.**

4) **Matters arising from minutes:**

a) Clerk's update:

Received this after sending a reminder from PCC Office:

Thank you for your further email sent to PCC John Campion's office.

Your email dated 30th September has been shared with your local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) and as soon as a response is received, an update will be provided to you.

Clerk replied saying that the SNT are aware of the issues. S Cllr Tindall asked Clerk to forward the correspondence and he will follow this up.

Eardington PC:

David is very worried about the amount of traffic which will use Astbury lane during the B4555 roadworks. I shall write and ask for some warning or weight restriction signs to be placed at this end and wonder if you could do the same for the Chelmarsh end.

It was RESOLVED to support Eardington PC, Clerk has already written once regarding this. Cllr Tindall will also follow this up.

Land Registry documents – Playing field and Cricket field:

I have been chasing these, but the Solicitor has been on leave, but will be back Thursday.

b) Any others:

Concern expressed regarding Fix My Street as they are closing problems down without them being resolved.

At this point it was **RESOLVED to bring the Shropshire Cllr's report forward:**

Cllr Tindall had sent the following report:

- The Electoral Boundary Commission England has confirmed that for the Brown Clee Electoral Division (BCED) the following changes are to be made subject to Parliamentary approval and

will come into effect in May 2025 (presumably in time for the Local Government Elections to be held that month?).

- Chelmarsh and Eardington PCs are to stay within BCED.
- Aston Botterell Parish (part of Burwarton Parish Council), Billingsley PC (including Middleton Scriven, Glazeley and Deuxhill Parishes) will be going in with Stottesdon and Highley respectively.
- The original proposal to include Shipton, Stanton Long and Easthope Parishes in BCED have been dropped and they will go, instead into Much Wenlock- as recommended by Shropshire Council.
- BCED will, however, include Astley Abbots

Cllr Tindall reported that the planning application to convert the Swan at Knowle Sands into a private dwelling has been refused.

Just to warn you that I most likely will not attend the November and January meetings - I still have not had the cataract operation so driving at night is somewhat perilous!

Chairman thanked Cllr Tindall for attending and Cllr Tindall left the meeting.

Item 4 b) continued:

Double hedges: Clerk had received an email (responses in blue) from SC saying: 'We are planning some patching works under a road closure along the B4555 – provisional dates being 22nd – 24th. I will be looking to utilise this closure to get a local contractor in to undertake the hedge removal works. As soon as the dates for the closure have been agreed I will let you know.'

A further email was received asking for clarification of the hedges which needed attention. Clerk had sent this to the Chairman who highlighted the hedges and returned this to SC.

Also with the closure only being for 2 days we would probably only have enough time to remove the section of hedge highlighted in Red which from my view looks like the hedge that is causing the most issue. Is this correct from your point of view.

I am not sure we will get all the sites done with the road closure but I will be meeting with our contractor next week so will clarify following the site meeting.

Clerk reply: It would be very much appreciated if as many of these hedges could be dealt with as possible as this is a problem which has been going on for years. I think the size of the second hedge will confirm this.

Will do what we can in the time we have the closure on for with regards to hedge it maybe we can remove some and heavy cut back what we don't have time to remove, will let you know the outcome of the site visit.

After further discussions it was agreed that the hedge opposite Garland House (although not a double hedge) is SC owned (Cllr Cadwallader to let Clerk have plans confirming this asap) and from Ant Lane towards Highley – Chairman will mark a map for Clerk to forward to Highways. **RESOLVED to accept.**

5) Planning applications/permissions/refusals received:

a) Any received after issue of agenda – none received.

Cllr Cole had noticed on the SC Planning portal that there had been Amended plans submitted for the King Arms site - 23/04495/AMP | Non-Material Amendment to planning application number 14/02727/FUL | 3 Kings Arms Court Chelmarsh Shropshire WV16 6BR.

Clerk had not been notified regarding this but as it is an amendment the PC are not always consulted.

Discussions took place regarding this, but the PC has not been asked to comment.

6) Reports:

- a) Shropshire Councillor's report – received earlier.
- b) Police – none.
- c) Parish Hall – Chairman reported that there had been a meeting when next year's fete was discussed. Bookings are OK but they have agreed a reduction in rate during the winter period for regular users. They are in a good financial position with a new committee and new ideas.

7) Finance:

a) Accounts for payment:

- Clerks' salary – standing order, but additional top up of wages increase back dated to April as agreed last month - £159.14. Standing Order will be altered for next month's salary.
- HMRC PAYE – £140.20
- Lamp post poppies - £30 approved to purchase six @£5 – delivery 27th October.
- To approve donation to defib batteries at The Unicorn Inn – this was £220. After discussions it was **RESOLVED to pay the full amount to Highley First Responders as the defib is for community use**. Clerk suggested that the clothes bank money could pay this.
- Any other accounts received since issue of agenda – none.

RESOLVED that all these accounts are paid via Bank Transfer (online banking)

- b) Income since last meeting – £19.26 clothes bank (Sept), £6.84 (October).

c) Quarterly bank reconciliation: These had been sent to Cllrs via email, Clerk explained the figures and produced the corresponding bank statements, which all agreed It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED that these be accepted, and Chairman signed these.**

d) To consider adopting Grant Awarding Policy – this had been sent separately to Cllrs. After discussions it was to alter the dates in this, which will be sent to all Cllrs ready for the Chairman to sign and return to Clerk for this to be put on the PC website and a message on the Facebook page. **RESOLVED to accept the amendments.**

8) Parish problems:

Problems raised by Cllrs:

- Drains not been cleaned out in Hampton Loade and a resident had been clearing these due to the recent flooding. They have been reported numerous times on Fix My Street by residents, Cllrs, and Clerk. These had caused properties to flood. Clerk will report again but pointed out that the EMG grant covers the Lengthsman to carry out this work.
- Lorries stuck down Hampton Loade again as they cannot get under the bridge. The bridge has been hit again which is a huge worry for residents living down there.
- Hedge needs cutting down Hampton Loade as this is causing problems. Clerk asked if the landowner was known – Stuart Bebb. Clerk asked Cllr Bebb if he could ask his son to cut this asap.
- 2 gates had been left open on a farm and the farmer is considering installing CCTV. Cllrs confirmed that this is OK providing signs are put up saying CCTV is in operation.
- 2 recent accidents have taken place on the Kings Arms corner. It was noted that the Chevron sign is covered by overgrown hedge. Clerk will report but this is work that is covered under the EMG.
- Clerk asked Cllr Bebb when the finger post will be removed at Sutton. He said he hadn't been contacted by Alan Walker regarding it, so Clerk asked Cllr Bebb to contact him. There needs to be 3 arms on there – Highley, Billingsley and Bridgnorth.
- Clerk has asked John Roberts to cut the hedge against the footpath along the Bulls Head straight, which he has promised to do.

- Highley Health and Wellbeing Group/Medical Practice – Chairman had emailed information out on 18/10/23 giving brief overview. Feedback regarding the new Dr's has been good. Meetings are now quarterly.
- Any others – none.

9) **Correspondence:** including Emails sent to Cllrs, noted as received unless comments made:

- SALC Information Bulletins
- Electoral Roll alterations
- SALC's 74th AGM – 3rd November – now via Zoom
- SC - Recycle Week 2023 - 16th to 22nd October.
- SALC/SC - Local Organisations Join Forces to Tackle High Blood Pressure – *questioned why not in Shropshire?*
- Announcing the Launch of South Shropshire Climate Action's new website
- Next Conference mail out 17th November - event for Town and Parish Councils
- SALC - Upcoming Shropshire HR training events
- SALC - Emergency Planning training (4-part event) - online using Zoom 4-part event.
- PCC makes £150k available to improve road safety in West Mercia
- Final recommendations for Shropshire published – Boundary Commission
- Good Neighbour Schemes - information for clerks of town and parish councils – *already on notice boards.*
- SC - App No 015-2023 (S) Archie Groves – Glazeley – affordable home eligibility confirmation letter
- Shropshire Council - Polling District, Polling Place and Polling Station Review 2023 – *no change for Chelmarsh.*
- Police Newsletter

Any other after issue of agenda:

- Free Trees for Community Groups and Schools
- **Road Closure:** B4555 Chelmarsh to Upper Forge
Start Date: 22nd November 2023
End Date: 24th November 2023
Purpose: Multevo Carriageway repair works
- **Road Closure:** B4555 Eardington to Bridgnorth
Start Date: 10th November 2023
End Date: 13th November 2023
Purpose: Multevo Carriageway repair works

10) **Date of next meeting:** 28th November 2023

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.33pm.

Payments made:

Clerk's salary - £xx standing order
HMRC - £140.20
Mrs F Morris – salary top up - £159.14
RBL Poppies - £30.00
Dave Fulton – Highley First Responders - £220.00

Signed: Chairman

Date: