

Chelmarsh Parish Council

Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 25th March, 2025 at 7.30pm in Chelmarsh Parish Hall.

Present: Cllrs R Woods (chairman), T Cole, S Garrett, D Garrett, A Cadwallader.

Parishioners: None

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

0) Parishioner's time: None present.

1) Apologies for absence: Received and noted from Cllr Thomas. No apologies received from Cllr Bebb and S Cllr Tindall is in purdah.

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.

3) Minutes of last meeting – 25th February 2025:

These had been circulated with the agenda, and it was proposed, seconded, **and RESOLVED to sign as a true record.**

4) Matters arising from minutes:

a) Clerk's update: Clerk will forward electronically copy to Cllrs, but reported the following: RJM – message on 3/3/25 that he was going to spray the car park with weedkiller on his way home and would need to chain harrow the mole tumps, then roll the complete playing field, then catch the moles, hopefully this week.

Although this work had not been requested to be done it was agreed that it does need doing, but not sure if it has been done.

- Pavement at The Glebe has been completed, but the hedge still remains uncut!

- **Bridge at Chelmarsh – Hampton Loade:**

The bridge has been repaired, and I also spoke to a land owner on the other side of the stream and we talked about the stile and this has also been sorted.

- Potholes: Reply from SC:

Thank you for your email. I have checked our system for the 2 Enquiry Nos you have provided, which is helpful to quickly investigate the issues, however Ref 14171880 is not recognised as a Fix My Street reference.

Reference 14168405 was reported on 2nd February by a member of the public. The location of this defect is in close proximity to the location provided by the member of public on their Fix My Street enquiry and a Job has been raised to our contractor to repair.

This road is inspected on a monthly basis and the latest safety inspection was undertaken yesterday 25th February. Defects have been identified, and Jobs have been raised to our contractor for repair in accordance with our Inspection policy.

- Dog signs have been put up by Cllr Garrett. Clerk has requested more from SC.

b) Any others – none.

5) Planning applications/permissions/refusals received:

a) Any received after issue of the agenda:

Reference: 25/00656/FUL (validated: 18/03/2025)

Address: Lower Sutton Farm, Hampton Loade, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6BQ

Proposal: Erection of a building to be used for educational purposes, a building to be used for storage of farm and gardening equipment as well as workshop space, and the conversion of an existing garage to create a new farm shop, creation of 30 parking spaces for staff and visitors and associated hard surfacing

Applicant: Mr Chris Stephens (8 Longbow Close, Harlescote Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1 3GZ)

Cllrs discussed this application fully and raised no objections but expressed the following concerns:

The nearest BUS STOP is at Sutton and there is no footpath along this busy main road to the entrance of this property.

Highways should look into traffic, particularly traffic coming from the Highley direction as there is a bend just up from this entrance. If there happens to be a vehicle waiting to turn into this entrance from the Highley direction, then there is a potential risk of an accident. Coming from the Bridgnorth direction visibility is better. There needs to be some traffic calming in this area. Picture 2.1 Ingram Lane in your transport Statement shows the bend in the road clearly, which we are concerned about.

With regards to your 'accident analysis', these figures are during Covid when the roads were no doubt quieter, but we are aware that there has been several accidents in this area recently, perhaps not reported, one involving a tractor with an implement on the back getting 'tangled' with wire in the hedge (problem hedge now removed).

Again Cllrs fully support this application, with the proposals being a good asset to the village. We hope our comments will be taken into consideration.

b) no others received.

6) Reports: (if available)

a) Shropshire Councillor's report – nothing received.

b) Police: [Sorry I can't attend the parish meeting. Just wanted to share that SNT conducted a speed survey, the average speed recorded was 36.6 mph, though we did catch one vehicle doing 48 mph in a 40 zone \(This person will be dealt with NFD\). The only incidents we've had in Chelmarsh have been domestic-related.](#)

c) Parish Hall: Cllr Woods elected as Vice Chairman with Sue Jackman carrying on as Chair. Cllr Cole also attended. There is now wi-fi fitted in the hall. They are busy arranging the fete. The committee will be happy to make a donation towards cutting the playing field ready for the fete.

7) Finance:

a) Accounts for payment:

- Clerks' salary – standing order.

- HMRC PAYE - £120.40
- The annual report regarding streetlights received from E-on as follows:
I have received the Annual Maintenance Report for 2024-2025, please see below our findings.

Col 2 Bakehouse Lane O/S Bungalow – this now needs to be replaced as the structural integrity of the concrete column has now reduced.

Pole Light 1 Highley Road opp the church – Pole Light missing.

Please let me know if you wish for me to send you a quote for a new column.

Quote received:

1. To Disconnect and remove existing concrete column.
2. Supply/install 1 x new 5m Galvanised Post Top Steel Column – Reuse existing lantern – Transfer Service
3. To provide replacement Pole light - Transfer Service
4. Provide test cert and permanently reinstate.

Sub Total: £ 2823.57

VAT: £ 564.71

Total: £ 3388.28

Cllrs asked for a quote to remove this and install timers and the other lights, which is as follows:

E-ON Quote 44513 - Removal and Time switches - £598.17 (Lamp post/light removal) and £691.10(5 timers) + VAT. Quote to remove.

After much consideration Cllrs **agreed** for the removal of the lamp, £598.17 + VAT but not to install the timers for the street lamps as there was insufficient payback for the cost of time switches based on the electricity we pay for this to be worthwhile.

- E-on - £35.68 – second half yearly maintenance agreement
- Information Solutions - £14.99 (domain name renewal)
- Any other accounts received after issue of agenda:
- Clerk's expenses £71.00

It was **RESOLVED** to instruct E-on to remove the lamppost asap and to pay other accounts.

b) Income since last meeting –£1.88 clothes bank.

c) Application for Grant – Chelmarsh Sports & Social Club:

Application received from Alison Palmer, Committee member for £1000 towards Chelfest, total project cost of £5,000. This is a fundraiser for Cancer Research.

After discussion Clerk was instructed to write and confirm that unfortunately, the application was refused as grant requests should be made before 31st December and a maximum of £100, as per our policy; therefore, the deadline was missed this year. Any further applications could be considered for 2026.

We are sure that you are aware that in light of the current Shropshire Council situation and burdens on the Parish Councils this amount cannot be met.

8) Parish problems:

- Problems raised by Cllrs:
- Cllr Cadwallader asked for the contact details of the person who repaired the bridge at Hampton Loade – Clerk will forward this.
- NCN 45, Severn Valley Railway – any updates. No.
- The Glebe, Chelmarsh – pavement – dealt with earlier.
- Any others:
Cllr Thomas sent an email asking for the following to Cllrs:
- An issue that I'd like to raise is, we are getting motor bikes / off road scrambling bikes going up the route 45 Myton Way, being behind the reservoir, yes it's a bridle way and foot path but these motor bikes are dangerous and are not supposed to be on that route, can you raise it with the police please.
- Shropshire county council need to be informed that we are no longer in the environmental scheme and as such they need to cut and manage the visibility splay at the top of the Hampton Loade turn, when they undertake their regular grass cuts in the village, they did one last Wednesday 19th.
- Can you liaise with the clerks of Much Wenlock and Cross Houses (both on the A458 towards Shrewsbury) to understand what procedure they went through for the recent reductions and extension of their speed limits.
- I think we need to follow their model so as to try and extend and reduce our speed limit beyond the immediate village to further out towards Highley and towards Eardington.

It was agreed that Clerk looks into these matters.

9) Correspondence: including Emails sent to Cllrs: All note as received/read unless comments made:

- SALC Information Bulletins
- Electoral Roll alterations
- Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Out of Hours Contract Request for Assurance
- BT consultation on their proposals to remove 61 operational payphones. **RESOLVED to remove these.**
- Chairs' Network Meeting - Thursday 19th June 2025, 6pm via Zoom
- Road Closure: B4555 Main Road, Highley, 09.30-16.00 for carriageway repairs
- Witness Appeal [#403632099] (dogs)
- Police - E-Scooters [#404000385]
- Stolen Vehicle in Cleobury Mortimer [#405801923]
- Highley Police Station: Severn Centre, Highley will be used as a base on a much more consistent and regular basis. -
- Lodge delivery to The Astbury – Tuesday 18th March.

- Any other after issue of agenda:
- Clerk has left several messages for Alan Walker regarding the Sutton signpost but has not received a reply, but Cllr Bebb was asked last month to try to contact him.
- **Land Registry documents - Chelmarsh car park:**
- Clerk had chased this, and it was confirmed by the Solicitors that it was still with Land Registry and could take up to two years for first registration.

- **Operation Ankara [#412671663]**

On the afternoon and evening of Thursday 20th March, PC Nolan from Cleobury and Highley SNT (accompanied by PCSO Scott) conducted High visibility patrols of hotspot areas linked to Anti-social driving. Several vehicles were checked, and intelligence has been submitted. These operations are a regular feature of the work conducted by the Safer Neighbourhood Team, as well as other operations that target rural crime, drugs and speeding. Further operations will continue to be conducted in the area.

- **Hare Coursing [#413602450]** – Kinlet area, vehicle seized.

10) Date of next meeting: 29th April – Annual Parish meeting 7 pm followed by monthly PC meeting.

Chairman suggested inviting Sutton Farm (Blossom Barns) to come along and talk about their aims etc in Chelmarsh. All agreed.

Payments:

Clerks' salary – standing order.

HMRC - £120-.20

Information Solutions - £14.99

E-on - £35.68

Clerks' expenses (July-March) - £71.00

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date: