

Chelmarsh Parish Council

Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 29th April 2025 following the Annual Parish meeting in Chelmarsh Parish Hall.

Present: Cllrs R Woods (Chairman), P Thomas (Vice-Chairman), D Garrett, S Garrett, T Cole, R. Bebb, A Cadwallader.

Public: none

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

0) Parishioner's time: None present.

1) Apologies for absence: Police.

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 received.

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

These were circulated with the agenda and were proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to sign as a true record.

4) Matters arising from minutes:

a) Clerk's update:

Following the complaints of neighbours regarding the removal of the streetlight, Clerk reported the following again received from E.On:

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 replace as there is the structural integrity of the concrete column have 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.

This matter had been discussed for several months, with quotes being received, and the Cllrs agreed for the removal of this due to costs involved.

When E-On went to remove the pole on 8th April residents opposed this and Clerk was contacted by E-On as neighbours were opposing the removal as they had not been consulted, removes light to the area and security of their properties.

After discussions with 2 Cllrs, the pole was removed and the residents intended to come to he meeting tonight to express their concerns, but they have not attended.

Clerk pointed out that she had been in touch with SALC for advice, who confirmed that as this had been an agenda item, agendas put on notice boards and website then the PC had complied with rules/regulations. As per our Standing Orders this matter cannot be revisited for 6 months and perhaps the matter could be discussed again then. PC regret that all neighbours had not been consulted.

b) Any others: none.

5) Planning applications/permissions/refusals received:

a) Reference: 25/01112/FUL (validated: 21/03/2025)

Address: The Uplands, Glazeley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6AB

Proposal: Conversion of existing outbuilding into an annexe

Applicant: Mr G York

Cllrs raised no objections.

b) Any others received after issue of the agenda – none received.

6) Reports:

a) Shropshire Councillor's report. Not available.

b) Police – Neighbourhood details sent out to those signed up for this.

c) Parish Hall – request Parish Hall Container: *The Parish Hall Management Committee has been discussing the container located on the playing field. The container is extremely difficult to open and close but the main problem is that vermin are eating the contents which means that the gazebos used for the fete stored in the container are being destroyed on a regular basis and this is becoming quite costly. One of our members has sourced a different kind of container which would be airtight and, therefore, vermin proof and we are considering the possibility of changing the container (it would also look better).*

We would welcome the views of the Parish Council on the viability of this course of action and ask whether there would be any objections. Also, I have been asked to enquire whether there would be any objections to turning the container sideways so that the doors clear the gate - I think the logistics of doing this would out-way any advantages and so it would not be practical, or indeed possible, but I need to ask the question.

Cllrs discussed this but would ask that the container is deposited onto the field off the vehicle from the lane, not entering the playground and had no objection to turning it sideways.

The Parish Hall Committee have also agreed to make a donation towards the grass cutting of the playing field for fete day. Clerk was asked to email Rich Millington for costs involved.

7) Finance:

a) Accounts for payment:

- Clerks' salary – standing order
- HMRC PAYE - £147.83
- E-ON Quote 44513 - Account - £596.17 (Lamp post/light removal) + VAT = £715.40
- E-on - £35.68 – second half yearly maintenance agreement – overpaid, so credit on account
- Street Lighting Joint Energy Agreement 2025/2026 - Chelmarsh Parish Council - new annual charge will be £273.35 plus VAT. Clerk has written to E-On for new inventory following the removal of one lamppost. **RESOLVED to accept SC quote.**
- Any other accounts received after issue of agenda.

b) Income since last meeting –£2.76 clothes bank, £40 Cricket Club, £46.23 wayleave, 27p on savings account.

c) Donations: Toddlers, Cricket Club. Agreed to make the donations of £100 each to Toddlers and Cricket Club but to notify them that they will have to apply in future as per our grants policy.

8) Parish problems:

- Problems raised by Cllrs:
 - ✓ Speeding/overtaking along Bulls Head straight. Recent 'near miss' involved a van waiting to turn into Bakehouse Lane when a car tried to overtake at the same time, which resulted into an altercation of the drivers, but the car was overtaking on double white lines!
 - ✓ Cars racing each other along this stretch of road.
 - ✓ Accident outside Church Lane entrance. Cllrs requested a 'Concealed entrance' sign to be erected just before the bends prior to the Church entrance.

Clerk was asked to report all these incidents to PC Nolan as not all accidents are reported and ask for his support regarding signs, traffic calming, and to bring to his attention of the following incidents:

- ✓ Break in at barn at Ingram Lane.
 - ✓ Trailer theft from Sailing Club
 - ✓ Vandalised bird hide at Hampton Loade – Clerk received text of offer to repair this, but this does not belong to the PC. Clerk will reply asking resident to notify South Staffs Water as it is on their land.
 - ✓ Noticeboard disappeared from Hampton Loade – Cllr Cole will check with Railway at the weekend.
- NCN 45, Severn Valley Railway – any updates – nothing further received.
 - The Glebe, Chelmarsh – pavement. Clerk has reported this again as the refuse lorry had to drive across this new footpath, due to parked cars. It was felt that if complaints keep being made, residents might be asked to take their bins to an allocated place for collection and asked Clerk to reply to resident with this information but report it to STAR Housing again.
 - Any others:

Concern expressed that after witnessing children getting off the school bus, opposite the Bulls Head and trying to cross the road, there is no safety in place for these children and other bus users. Clerk was asked to raise this with SC again, together with lowering the speed limit.

With regards to the complaints received about the dust from the silt removal by South Staffs. There is also a lot of road edge damage/deterioration in Hampton Loade, which needs looking into. It was **RESOLVED to ask South Staffs back to a meeting to discuss this problem with residents and Cllrs and discuss options of using a different access to their fields.**

Road signage for forthcoming road closures needs to be improved on – ask Cllr Tindall to help. Clerk pointed out that she had already requested 'Businesses open as usual' signs to be erected where they put road closed signs.

9) Correspondence: *including Emails sent to Cllrs: Noted as read, unless comments made:*

- SALC Information Bulletins
- Email from Cricket Club re: drainage of pitch – dealt with last month
- Electoral Roll alterations
- Election – Statement of Persons Nominated/co-option

- Chairs' Network Meeting - Thursday 19th June 2025, 6pm via Zoom
- B4555 Highley (Section 1) – road closure in sections
- Removal of telephone kiosks at Hampton Loade and Chelmarsh – reply from SC confirming our reply to remove these.
- SALC Training Programme – UPDATED
- Route 45/Jack Mytton Way – reply re; motorcycles/signage: Reply:

I am sorry to hear of the problems you have been experiencing on the Public Rights of Way near Chelmarsh reservoir- from your description I am taking it that the route to which you refer is Bridleway 6/1.

To clarify, unauthorised vehicular activity along a public right of way is a criminal offence, thus this is a police matter which you will need to report direct to the police. I note you had copied in West Mercia police into the email you sent to us, thus I have also copied them into my reply for clarity.

*Further to your email, I contacted Brian Hickson (the Area Officer from our Practical Team who's area includes Chelmarsh Parish), he is on leave at present but he plans to visit the site to review the signage along Bridleway 6/1 as soon as he is able, and he will erect further waymark posts to clarify the route and status, if he finds this is needed. This should hopefully also assist in reinforcing the route's status is a **bridleway** and therefore only carries the rights for the **public to use it on horseback, bicycle or on foot**.*

New signs have been erected.

- SALC - Your Area Committee Needs You - Appointment of Councillor Representatives
- Theft of Trailer [#426051547] – Chelmarsh Sailing Club
- Any other after issue of agenda:
- Highley PC– enquired regarding the Local Nature Recover Strategy. Cllrs not interested.
- Bird Hide damaged at Chelmarsh Reservoir – offer of repair. Dealt with earlier.

10) Date of next meeting: 20th May – Annual Parish Council meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Payments Confirmed:

Eon- £596.17 + VAT = £715.40
 SALC Affiliation fees - £348.95
 Clerk's fees – s/order - £xx
 HMRC - £147.83
 Donations:
 Toddlers - £100
 Cricket Club - £100

Signed: Chairman

Date: