

Chelmarsh Parish Council

Chelmarsh Parish Council meeting was held on Friday 31st January 2025 at 7.30pm in Chelmarsh Parish Hall.

Present: Cllrs P Thomas (Vice-Chairman, who Chaired the meeting), A Cadwallader, T Cole, D Garrett, S Garrett and R Bebb.

0) Parishioner's time: None present.

1) Apologies for absence: Received and noted from Cllr Woods, S Cllr R Tindall, 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.

Cllr Thomas declared an interest in item 5a as family work at The Astbury.

3) Minutes of last meeting – 26th November 2024:

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

4) Matters arising from minutes:

a) Clerk's update:

Email received regarding speeding from MP:

Thank you for your enquiry, dated 2nd December 2024, regarding traffic issues and specifically a request for lowering the speed limit through Chelmarsh.

We confirm that this site/ request has been added to our list to assess/ review, which will be taken forward in line with other priorities and available funding. Funding is extremely limited and needs to consider many demands and needs across the county, with current funding primarily focussed on cluster accident locations/ sites. Although there have been a couple of minor personal injury accidents through Chelmarsh it is not classed as a 'cluster accident site' and accessible to specific funding, with other funding opportunities therefore to be looked at and work progressed when funding can be made available/ is allocated.

In the interim we will monitor this location, which will be in line with the current vehicle activated signs present and the area being a police speed check area.

We also acknowledge the request for a pedestrian crossing at this location. There is no footway on the opposite side of the road and no obvious need for a pedestrian desire line other than to the bus stop. The cost of a formal crossing (zebra or signal crossing) could therefore not be justified for access to a bus stop only. In addition, the road is not wide enough to accommodate a pedestrian refuge. A drop crossing at this point has already been provided so mobility impaired etc have access to and from the bus stop location.

Traffic Engineering Team

Clerk had chased the SUTTON signpost, and this was ready for the printing on the arms. Clerk asked that she is notified as soon as this is ready in order to consult with SC for the repositioning of this.

b) Any others - none.

5) Planning applications/permissions/refusals received:

a) Reference: 24/04769/FUL (validated: 15/01/2025)

Address: Astbury Hall, Astbury, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6AT

Proposal: Part demolition of existing (previous extension) building and replacement extension to form club house and pro shop

Applicant: Mr J Hammond

Cllr Thomas declared an interest and did not partake in this item.

Cllrs discussed this and raised no objections.

b) Reference: 24/04242/FUL (validated: 08/11/2024)

Address: 9 Cobblers Row, Chelmarsh, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6BA

Proposal: Erection of ground floor rear and side extensions and associated works

Decision: **Grant Permission**

c) Reference: 24/03635/FUL (validated: 26/09/2024)

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

Proposal: Change of use of the existing farmstead from agricultural to Class F1 and the installation of a accessible wc to regularise the operations of the charity Bethphage

Decision: **Grant Permission**

b) Any received after issue of agenda – no further plans received.

6) Reports: (if available)

a) Shropshire Councillor's report – no report.

b) Police – no report.

c) Parish Hall, including email re: Hall security, lights, and heating:

Hello everyone

This is a gentle reminder note to all regular users of the Hall from the Committee.

We have had a few problems lately with the hall being left unlocked, and with lights and the heat pump being left on.

Please could the Committee make a general request to all regular users to:

a) Please double check every time you leave that the hall is locked up securely. If you use the key in the key safe, please also check that it is replaced in the safe, and the code scrambled.

b) Please also double check before leaving that all lights, switches, and sockets are off, including in the toilets, and if you have used the heat pump or ceiling heaters, or the heaters in the Committee room, that they are also all switched off.

Thank you, we really appreciate your diligence with keeping the hall secure and not wasting electricity!

We will be changing the code for the key safe in the new year, so I will advise those of you that use the safe of the new code once it has changed.

Best wishes to all for a happy and relaxing festive season, we look forward to seeing you all in 2025, and thank you for your support of Chelmarsh Parish Hall.

No other report available, email noted.

7) Finance:

a) Accounts for payment:

- Clerks' salary – standing order. £18.69 difference in salary/standing order.

- HMRC PAYE - £120.20
E-on Annual Maintenance Report 2024-2025 – Quote £3398.28 (replace electric street pole/light). This was discussed at length and it was **RESOLVED to write to Eon asking for a quote to remove the lamp/post altogether, a condition survey report on the remaining posts and also a timer to switch the remaining lights off between 11.30pm and 07.00am, as per the SC maintained lights.**

It was felt that this could be a deterrent for speeding vehicles as well as saving money.

- Any other accounts received after issue of agenda:
- Parish Hall hire - £100. **RESOLVED that all accounts paid, except for Eon.**

b) Income since last meeting – £3.78 (Nov), £3.47 (Dec) clothes bank

c) Precept – to set/approve – paperwork sent out previously:

This was meticulously worked through.

Clerk suggested to Cllrs that there may be some work currently carried out by SC that they may require PCs to carry out, so we need to be aware of this.

The EMG (Lengthsman scheme) is also perhaps an expense the PC did not need, as the PC must match fund with SC. It was **RESOLVED to drop this contract with SC and ask RJM not to carry out any work until requested by the PC and the PC will look into the work as/when required.** It was suggested that the Parish Hall could pay for the playing field to be cut for the fete.

The figure for the precept for the coming year was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED to be £14,214.72, showing an increase of 2% on the Council Tax bills, but the PC had not raised their precept for a few years.**

Clerk also suggested providing a Blood kit in both defibrillator cases, cost being approx. £100. This is not only for stab injuries, but any other accident where there is a loss of blood. It was **RESOLVED to bring this up at the Annual Parish meeting.**

8) Parish problems:

Problems raised by Cllrs:

- ✓ Drains blocked in Hampton Loade – Clerk will report again!
- ✓ Grit bin requested by the railway bridge as this road gets very icy. Clerk asked if Cllr Cole could request this on Fix My Street as she could pinpoint where it was needed.
- Footpath dangerous along the riverbank and there are safety concerns over the conditions of the bridges – photos provided! Clerk was asked to report to Shona Butter at SC.
- ✓ NCN 45, Severn Valley Railway. Cllrs attended one meeting and offered to help fund bridge survey, but costs are required. Lots of emails have been sent out, but Cllrs agreed to wait for more information regarding contribution/costs etc.
- ✓ Water flooding the road from The Astbury Golf course.
- ✓ Potholes along the main road.
- ✓ Dog mess complaints – Clerk gave Cllr Garrett the new signs received from SC. Highley PC Clerk offered to stencil onto the pavements, when she receives the spray, on behalf of the PC. It was agreed to accept the offer and ask for this to be done outside Dave Kelley's house and the Garretts house.
- Any others: - none.

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

- SALC Information Bulletins
- Electoral Roll alterations
- SALC Nature Recovery Conference 6th December

- CrimeStoppers: Report crime and remain anonymous [#379292821]
- Police - Anti-social behaviour guidance [#379287069]
- Police - Speeding Vehicles B4555 Eardington [#378030190 – checks taken 13/1/25.]
- Lord-Lieutenant's Shropshire Garden Party 2025 response
- Lower Sutton Farm - Coffee Morning -1/2/25 11.00am-1.00pm
- Our Best-Selling Hedges for Parish Projects
- Parkinson Partnership Upcoming & New Courses - January to March 2025
- Best Kept Village and Community Competition
- Chairs' Network Meeting - Wednesday 15th January 2025 – any feedback? Next Chairs' Network Meeting - Wednesday 12th March 2025, via
- Bridgnorth and Shifnal Area Committee - draft minutes, next meeting 19th March 7.00pm via Zoom
- 'Change NHS Share your views locally to shape the NHS service nationally'.
- Church street, Bridgnorth road closure 1st February 91 day)
- Reply from MP re: speeding sent out in December – dealt with earlier.
- **Local Nature Recovery**
- **Any other after issue of agenda**

10) Date of next meeting: 25th February 2025, plus dates for 2025 to be agreed

Payments approved:

Mrs F Morris – salary £xx standing order – to be amended next month.

Mrs F Morris - £18.69 – difference in salary to standing order.

HMRC - £120.20

Chelmarsh Parish Hall - £100

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.07pm

Signed: Chairman

Date: