

Annual Report
2010/11

The Parish of Chaddesley Corbett includes:

The Village, Bellington, Bluntington, Brockencote, Cakebole, Hill Pool, Drayton, Harvington, Lower Chaddesley, Mustow Green (East), Tanwood, Winterfold, Woodrow, Bourne Green



Artist's Impressions of the new Chaddesley Corbett School

Chairman's Annual Report

I would like to acknowledge and publicly thank all my Council colleagues for their service to the community and to the Parish Council during the past year; their work is very much appreciated.

I also acknowledge and thank Stephen Williams for his sustained service to the Parish, Stephen attends all our meetings as an observer and we all know he is never far away. I'm sure we are all grateful for his continuing role as a District Councillor.

Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council is formally recognised and qualified as a Quality Parish Council and during the past year has successfully reapplied for that recognition. This Quality Status grows ever more important as the responsibility for additional burdens increases.

Much of our work understandably concentrates on issues which cause irritation for many residents: subjects which feature at our meetings and our brief reports will give you some of the high and low points.

- School Flashing Lights
- The new School development
- The Road Speed changes along the A448
- Bus Service
- Parking and Car Parks
- Planning

Other subjects are hopefully less controversial

Neighbourhood Watch	Environment Group	Emergency Planning
Community Orchard	Allotments	Young People Programme
Precept	Burial Ground	Localism
Lengthsman Scheme	Affordable Housing	Parish Notice Boards
Parish Games	The Big Society	

Council members play an active part in the work of other organisations on behalf of the community and will continue to participate in the widest range on behalf of residents and their contribution to the local economy.

- CALC
- The Village Hall
- The Education Foundation Trust
- The Community Housing Group
- CPRE
- Highways Agency
- County Council Parish Conferences
- Neighbourhood Watch
- District and County Councils
- CC Parish Forum
- Wyre Forest District Council Meeting of Town & Parish Chairmen.
- Wyre Forest District Council Ethics & Standards Committee
- Wyre Forest Matters Partnership

Throughout we have re-doubled our efforts to communicate widely without dramatically increasing the cost and have therefore been able to retain the same level of Precept for the fourth successive year. During the year we have started an initiative to construct a greater awareness of the recreational opportunities for young people and now plan to promote services and businesses which already exist in the Parish.

Finally my thanks for her drive and efficiency to Yvonne Scriven, Clerk to the Council.



Jonathan Swift

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday 16 May 2011 and was attended by Parish Councillors and more than 50 residents. A range of speakers addressed the meeting and a full report on matters raised at the meeting is included in this Report.

On behalf of the Parish Council, Jonathan Swift accepted a Certificate of Quality Status from John Duddington of the National Association of Local Councils.



A New School for Chaddesley Corbett

We are pleased to learn that funding for the new school project is now secure and negotiations for purchase of the land are in their final stages, with one or two issues still to be overcome. The project will shortly go for planning approval and it is hoped that the new school will be open for business by September 2012.

The outline designs provided more space for classrooms with an outside play area for each, an assembly hall, a library, staff room, meeting rooms and playgrounds. The aim is to provide a sustainable approach to design, construction and environmental servicing, incorporating sustainable technologies and utilising renewable energy, especially heating and lighting; the design concept is shown below:



By carefully selecting construction materials and techniques to minimise heat loss, with roofs over the classrooms using Sedum matting which will be visually unobtrusive and beneficial to wild life., the design will maximise the natural ventilation techniques of cross ventilation or stack effect through the use of wind driven stacks. Landscaping will offer a variety of settings for children's leisure, learning and sport that is welcoming, safe and secure, ideally suited to meet the needs of the curriculum. The proposed plants and trees are appropriate for the rural setting and of native provenance. The new school will provide a high quality learning environment designed to develop successful individuals.

Colin Emeny – Chairman of School Governors

Proposed Changes to the speed limits on A448

Changes to the existing speed limits have been proposed by Worcestershire County Council, and include:-

- Extending the 40 mph speed limit at Mustow Green east by 580 metres to Gardeners Cottage
- Imposing a 50 mph speed limit on all unrestricted parts of the road from Mustow Green to Bromsgrove
- Increasing the 30 mph speed limit from Brockencote to Rowberry's Nurseries to 40 mph.

The Parish Council, and many residents, do not object to the first two proposals, but there is widespread concern that increasing the existing speed limit of 30 mph through the village area would increase vehicle speeds and cause more accidents. The footpath is very narrow causing distress for people with pushchairs and prams, there are numerous properties with partly unsighted access from this part of the road including Brockencote Hall and the Village Hall, the village, church, pubs, school, shops, petrol station and a busy garden centre. Proposals for a new school next to Rowberry's Nursery have not been taken into account and much of the data on which the survey has been based is out of date. The Parish Council have strongly opposed this and have requested extra time before the matter goes to public consultation, which was now due to commence on 20 June 2011. The public consultation will be advertised in local newspapers and displayed in potential locations and representations should be made direct to the County Council. Contact details will be printed on the notices.

Community Orchard

It had been a quiet year on the Orchard, with trees growing well. 20 trees had been purchased and planted this year making a total of 186 trees, of which only one has been lost. There is still £800 in the bank to purchase more trees. An espalier ring has now been planted in the middle of the field which will be trained over the next few years. It was hoped to arrange some onsite training this year on fruit tree pruning and

maintenance. There are a lot of trees to get around and many hands make light work; volunteers are more than welcome to get involved with this activity.

Seven commemorative benches have been obtained and all have been purchased by residents of the Parish and will be installed at the end of the month. The Management Committee thanks everyone who has donated a bench which are now available for us all to enjoy. Anyone wishing to donate a bench can obtain more information from the Clerk. The grand opening of the community orchard will be at 2pm on Saturday the 3rd of September. There will be a BBQ, Morris Dancers and a raffle and everyone is invited. Why not bring a picnic for a fun day with the family!

Affordable Housing

Nigel Potter, Rural Enabler, and Sally Horne – Wyre Forest District Council, attended the Annual Meeting to report on a proposal to build four affordable properties on the site of the garages at the Green, Chaddesley Corbett. This had been agreed with the Parish Council and a bid for funding had been prepared as well as a full Planning Application.

Questions were raised by the public as to whether four properties were adequate for the need identified in the Housing Needs Survey, and it was accepted that it would not satisfy everyone, but it was a project which could be delivered at a reasonable price.

It was anticipated that subject to funding and planning, building could commence towards the end of this year. Below is an artist's impression of the new properties, which would consist of 1x 3-bedroomed house for 5 people, 3x 2 bedroomed houses for 4 persons, two for rent and two for shared ownership. Properties will be for people with a local connection to Chaddesley Corbett.



There has also been a change to the letting policy on Community Housing owned properties in the Parish. In future when bids are made under the Home Choice Plus scheme, preference will be given to those who have a local connection to the Parish. To qualify you must initially be registered on Wyre Forest District Council's housing list.

Youth People's Initiative

During the year, a working group had been set up to consider ways of identifying with the youth of the parish. There were already a substantial number of groups and organisations which provided educational and recreational facilities and a leaflet showcasing some of these was prepared and distributed to each household. In addition a new Notice Board was erected on Briar Hill in order to promote local organisations to a wider audience. It was agreed there was no magic solution to anti-social behaviour, but existing Chaddesley Corbett organisations should prepare volunteers to set up and run special events for young people.

Lengthsman Scheme

May last year saw our Lengthsman, Bill Waldron, as an Award Winner in the Council Worker of the Year Scheme. This award clearly reflected the value of his services to both the Community and Parish Council.

Flooding has, over the year, been less of a problem than previously experienced. The only serious flooding in June last year was in the Barnett Hill/Tandy's Lane area, and remedial steps have now been taken. Emergency Parish Council funding has enabled substantial ditching works to be carried out at Drayton Road and Woodrow, which should further reduce or alleviate flood risks.

We had the opportunity to provide input to the County Council's 2010/2011 winter service policy and despite excessive snowfall and frosts access to and from the village was well maintained.

Day to day Lengthsman works have continued, and emergency contingency funds were again made available by the Parish Council for substantial overdue maintenance at The Green, Malvern View and Briar Hill. The Holloway was also cleared of overhanging trees and debris.

Theft of highway gully tops and street furniture is becoming an increasing problem and it is hoped that the Police will be more proactive in apprehending the parties involved.

The Lengthsman Scheme will continue to be supported by both the Parish and County Councils because the benefits are there for everyone to see.

Parish Games

The Parish has entered the Wyre Forest Parish Games for the last 4 years and last year we came joint fifth. We started well in the competition by coming second in the crib but had gradually slipped down the table since. Our usually successful Bridge Team had a dismal night, our Dominoes Team fared no better!! However, having won the Quiz element of the games, Chaddesley Corbett finished in fourth place with Stourport the winners.

There was some criticism of the way the Games were organised by Wyre Forest who had not always responded to communications or acted upon suggestions. It had not been possible to organise a cricket team due to numerous health and safety problems and it was also not a good idea to hold an archery game on the weekend of the Royal Wedding. Unfortunately Hilary Boden, who has run this for the last three years, is unable to continue as coordinator of the Games and if anyone would like to volunteer to take this over please contact the Clerk.

The Environment Group

The UK produces 434 million tons of rubbish every year - that is enough to fill the Royal Albert Hall every 2 hours! To help mitigate this problem the Environment Group have written about :

- * Recycling everything that is possible and purchase with recyclability in mind.
- * Try to avoid buying food and products that have excess packaging
- * Buy locally produced food etc to reduce packaging and transport impact on the environment.
- * Try to avoid using plastic bags, which finish up in landfill or worse still as litter.

CO2 Emissions - to help mitigate climate change they have written about :

- * Focus on insulating our homes - reduce waste of heat and light - upgrade to most modern boilers if possible
- * Bulk of CO2 emissions in the UK still arise from heating - homes/offices/factories and industrial energy needs (approx 72% of total)
- * Try to reduce unnecessary car journeys - (road transport is approx 22% of CO2 emissions in UK)
- * Interestingly Air Travel only accounts for about 3% of CO2 emissions.

All this information has been published in the Parish Magazine and is available to read on line - Go to www.chaddesleyparishCouncil.org.uk - click on

Community Services - then click on **Environmental**. The group would welcome everyone's feedback and comments and would like the parish magazine to be more widely distributed within the parish to reach as many residents as possible.

Martin Kenrick and Tom Westley

BUS SERVICE CONSULTATION

As part of a wider programme of efficiency measures the County Council have published a series of proposals for reducing the costs of bus services. The original proposal, to withdraw services on 75 routes, has now been modified to withdraw only 25 routes, with reductions to the level of service on others. As well as the possible withdrawal of the 133 service, the services along the A448 are also at risk:

- 333 – proposals to withdraw these early morning and evening services
- 334 – proposed to withdraw this Sunday service
- X3 – no changes proposed

The Parish Council has responded strongly to the two stages of consultation, urging the County Council to give further consideration to retaining at least the 133 service, because of its importance to residents of the Parish. The final outcome is unclear as the consultation closes on 18 May, but it seems likely that some reduction in bus services will happen. It was agreed that we should also seek some sort of Sunday service along the A448. Residents suggested that if the 133 was withdrawn, the X3 should once again be re-routed to come through Harvington, Woodrow and the Village, for two or three times a day.

If valuable bus services are lost, then alternative means of getting residents to local services needs to be considered, which might need additional resources and volunteer drivers

Community Transport Helpline

This is a voluntary car service for people who cannot use public transport on their own, or do not have a bus service, for essential journeys to medical, day care and social appointments. The aim is to help individuals by collecting them from their homes in private cars, guiding them into appointments if needed, and returning them home afterwards.

Volunteers give their time freely, but the charity does reimburse the running cost of cars at a mileage rate approved by Worcestershire County Council and Inland Revenue. To recover this cost they charge passengers fares, with the costs of the call-centre and administration office being supported by donations and grants.

They currently have no volunteer drivers in our area. To help our parishioners they presently have to locate and send volunteers from Kidderminster, Stourport or Bewdley, with increased time and costs. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Mr Vince Taylor, Chief Officer on **01299 405832**, or by e-mail: www.cthltd@gotadsl.co.uk

Burial Ground

This year there were five burials, there are still a few new plots available to local people and the burial ground will be open for many years for second burials. It is still hoped that when the school moves there may be an opportunity to acquire extra adjacent land to extend the burial ground. The site is maintained by Don Robbins our contractor and last year made a profit of £2,500, after taking into account a contribution from Wyre Forest District Council.

ALLOTMENTS

All the plots are taken and there is a small waiting list. This year we arranged for the site to be tidied by using people under the Community Payback Scheme, and it is planned to repeat this about twice a year.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee - Monday 4 June, 2012.

A committee has been set up to decide on possible celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4 June 2012. It has been agreed that a street party would be appropriate which would be self funding and non profit making, with the accent on young people. Groups and societies are asked to make suggestions for entertainments, games or other activities. Currently enquiries are being made about closing the village for the celebrations.

Cllr Jonathan Swift

Report from the Police

The Neighbourhood Watch scheme is working well and several reports have been made of suspicious behaviour. There have been a number of small thefts in the Parish, but generally Chaddesley Corbett is a safe place to live. If you see anything suspicious, please do not hesitate to contact the Police on **0300 333 3000** immediately, no matter how small, it could be part of a bigger picture! The loss of road signs and drain covers is irritating and dangerous and the police are following up a number of leads. Another way to report incidents is to visit the Doctor's Surgery where you will find PACT postcards which are collected regularly by the Community Support Officer; please use these so that each incident is registered and followed up.

The Localism Bill

There has been a lot of talk about the BIG SOCIETY, and a White Paper is currently going through parliament which will give Parish Councils a lot more say in how the Parish is run. These are some of the issues which directly affect us:

- General power of competence – new powers to give local authorities legal capacity to do anything that an individual could do, which is not specifically banned by other law. Will give more freedom to work with others in new ways to drive down costs and be more creative and innovative.
- Abolition of Standards Board – local authorities will run their own schemes.
- Predetermination – Councillors must come to discussions with open mind and should not be liable to legal challenge as a result.
- Council tax increase referendums – public have power to veto excessive council tax rises.
- Referendums on other issues – right to put any local issue to a local vote if 5% of the electorate in an area agree.
- Community right to challenge and bid to take on service.
- Community Assets – list of assets of community value to be maintained by local authority – communities can nominate assets for inclusion on list and when they come up for sale or change of ownership, community can bid to buy.
- Abolition of regional strategies – this includes housing targets set by central government.
- Neighbourhood Development Plans – local communities can influence the future of the place where they live.
- Community right to build – local councils can bring forward small developments houses, businesses, shops. Will require 50% support through a referendum.
- Developer Community Consultations – developers must consult local communities before submitting planning applications for large developments.

- Community infrastructure levy – new developments will attract a community levy, payable to the Parish or Town Council.
- Local Plan Reform – greater freedom for local councils.

District Councillor – Steve Williams

The District Council has announced the award of the construction contract for its new headquarters. It has been awarded to a local company Thomas Vale plc and the contract is worth £6.9m; this is £600k lower than expected.

When completed the accommodation is expected to provide revenue savings of £500,000 a year.

The construction period under the contract will be 52 weeks and is due for completion in mid 2012.

Changes to the District councils cabinet have been announced with a reduction of one position. Cllr John Champion retains the leadership with Cllr Marcus Hart as deputy leader. Cllrs Nathan Desmond Tracey Onslow & Julian Philips complete the team. Cllr Ann Hingley leaves the cabinet to be Mayor of Kidderminster & Cllr Stephen Clee becomes chairman of Wyre Forest District Council.

County Councillor Stephen Clee

I would like to pay tribute to the strong representations that your Parish Council makes to the County and the District Councils on behalf of the residents of Chaddesley Corbett. We value greatly Chaddesley Corbett's contribution and long may that relationship continue.

I no longer have the position of Cabinet Member for Corporate Services. At Wyre Forest District Council, I have taken on the role this year as Chairman of the Council for 2011/12, a job I hope will help enhance the role I do as County Councillor for Chaddesley Corbett and the surrounding villages in Wyre Forest. At County Hall, the support and funding is secured for the new Chaddesley Corbett Primary School on the land adjoining Rowberry Nurseries. I will continue, on behalf of Chaddesley Corbett, to push to ensure that these works take place sensitively and quickly.

The County Council are also undertaking currently a speed review across Worcestershire where the 30 mph in and around school locations are being considered. Chaddesley Corbett will also have that review take place for the villages and surrounding countryside. I will pay particular attention to the comments received from the Parish Council when that review is undertaken for implementation.

Financial Report - Annual Audit

This will take place on 20 June 2011 and records may be inspected by contacting the Clerk. There has been no increase in the Precept for the fourth consecutive year..

A summary of the accounts for the year ended March 2010 is given below:

Receipts

Annual Precept	£21,783
Section 136 Funding	£ 2,777
Donations (Community Orchard)	£ 807
Burial Ground	£ 3,077
Burial Grant Wyre Forest DC	£ 690
Interest on Deposit Account	£ 6
Lengthsman Scheme	£ 2,646
Drainage Grant Wyre Forest DC	£ 800
Urban Grass Cutting	£ 1,278
Allotment Fees	£ 645
Advertising Fees	£ 100
Postage Costs Worcs CC	£ 218
Other Receipts	£ 254
VAT Reclaimed	£ 1,052
TOTAL	£36,133

Expenditure

Clerk's salary	£ 6,661
Expenses, mileage, etc.	£ 603
Communication, postage, printing, web-site, Newsletter and reports, telephone, Broadband, etc	£ 3,687
Meeting Costs	£ 414
Audit	£ 440
Sundries	£ 472
Insurance	£ 652
Lengthsman Scheme	£ 4,035
Drainage Work	£ 940
Waste Bins	£ 506
Steps Hemmingway	£ 452
Allotments	£ 564
Burial Ground	£ 1,314
Parish Paths	£ 210
Parish Magazine	£ 350
Notice Boards and General Maintenance	£ 344
Training Costs	£ 301
Urban Grass Cutting	£ 1,457
Benches for Community Orchard	£ 2,307
Trees for Community Orchard	£ 207
Subscriptions	£ 740
TOTAL	£26,655

* Benches have since been sold to donators.

Open for Business “Live Local, Trade Local, Play Local, Stay Local”

The Parish Council likes to utilise local services wherever possible and therefore help to support the local economy. There are many local businesses but we have no details of how many or the type of interest, let alone the number of people engaged, including those who work from home.

Worcestershire County Council have prepared a Local Broadband Plan to introduce high speed Broadband to as many areas as possible. It would therefore be helpful if the Parish Council had some knowledge of how many people are employed, self employed or work from home. We have included a short questionnaire and would be grateful if residents could complete this and return to the clerk either by post or e-mail. This information will enable the Parish Council to better understand the needs of residents and businesses in the Parish.

If you offer a service of any kind whether self employed or a business, get in touch with us – there are 1700 residents in the Parish who could be potential customers. Please send details of your website, contact details and advertising materials to clerk@chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Parking in the Village

The continuing efforts by residents to limit congestion by not parking their cars in the village are very much appreciated, but congestion still occurs. If any resident currently parking in the street can manage to park elsewhere it would be much appreciated, and we again ask the business owners to encourage their staff to use either their own parking spaces or the amenity area on the allotments. Ideally, as much of the limited on-street parking space in the village as possible should be left free for visitors and shop customers. We will also continue our discussions with the school about a range of initiatives aimed at reducing congestion. For example, teaching staff could make use of the Fox car park, which has been kindly offered to them free of charge.

Planning Applications

The Parish Council hold a Planning Committee meeting each month to consider current planning applications. If you would like to be notified of any planning applications in your area please go to our website at www.chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk and click on “Community Services” and then Planning Applications. Click on the link which will send an e-mail to the clerk who will add you to the circulation list.

St Cassians Fete

This year’s Fete will be held on Saturday 20 August. Please come along and help support many of our local charitable organisations.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chairman	Jonathan Swift	01562 777268	jonathan.swift@chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Vice Chairman Burial Ground	Ken Bartlett	01562 777453	ken.bartlett@chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Chairman Planning Allotments Community Orchard	Leo Stockford	01562 777746	leo.stockford@chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Vice Chairman Planning Transport	Dave Thomas	01562 777315	dave.thomas@chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Police Consultative Committee	Janet Fox	01562 777559	janfox.fox@virgin.net
Trustee Education Foundation Trust	Bob Green	01562 731681	bobandhelgagreen@yahoo.co.uk
Trustee Education Foundation Trust and Village Hall Trustee Margaret Delabare Charity	Phyllis Pardoe	01562 777969	phyllispardoe@btinternet.com
Agricultural Advisor Worcs CALC	Richard Pugh	01562 777419	rpugh@doorbars.co.uk
Lengthsman Scheme Tenants Association	Geoff Vernon	01562 777365	
Worcs CALC Youth Policy	Martin Walford	01562 777325	martin.walford@virgin.net
Parish Plan	Will Mack	01562 777789	w_mack@btinternet.com

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Parish Council Web-Site: www.chaddesleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Worcestershire Hub: www.worcestershire.gov.uk and enter your postcode.

Village Web-Site: www.chaddesley-corbett.co.uk

Village Hall: www.chaddesley-corbett.co.uk/village_hall.htm The ideal venue for business or social events.

