

**Minutes of the
Annual Parish Meeting
Held on Monday 21 May 2012
at 7.30 p.m.**



Attending: Cllrs Chairman W Mack, Cllrs L Stockford, R Pugh, D Thomas, Mrs J Fox, Mrs P Pardoe, G Vernon, M Walford Apologies: B Green, K Bartlett

Guest Speakers: Mr Colin Emeny (Chairman School Governors), Mr Rob Hartnell (Community Transport), PC Andy Wallace (Community Policing), Eddy Maynard (Community Housing), Rebecca Mayman (Wyre Forest District Council), Andrew Page (Chairman Trustees Education Foundation Trust).

More than 50 residents also attended

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The new Chairman of 5 days, Will Mack, opened the meeting and stated his intention for the Parish Council to be open, honest and democratic. He thanked Councillors, and the Clerk for their support. He also thanked Jonathan Swift for his service to the Parish.

Expenditure had been kept under control and the Precept had been maintained at its current level for the 5th year running. Having obtained a Front Runners Grant of £20k, the Parish Council would be preparing a Neighbourhood Plan which would enable the community to have more of a say in future development in the Parish. A survey had been undertaken on restricted parking in the village, in order to help the local shops, but the survey results had been inconclusive and it had therefore been agreed to re-evaluate this proposal when the outcome of the existing school becomes clearer.

- A new bus shelter had been erected on the A448 and was now in use. We had been unable to fit a wooden structure due to visibility issues.
- Benches in the Community Orchard had been donated by residents and friends which was a real asset to this community facility.
- The Lengthsman scheme continues to be successful litter picking is now part of the contract. However this is something everyone can help with.
- 4 new grit bins had been procured and would be refilled by the Parish Council. The Lengthsman will spread some of this on the pavements in the village when required.
- We do not have sufficient numbers yet to hold a First Aid Course, so if anyone is interested they should contact the clerk.
- On 26 September the Parish Council will be holding an Emergency Plan workshop to test the effectiveness of the Plan.
- Tina Mack has been appointed Footpath Coordinator, supported by Helen Jarrett and Clare Shortt.
- There is currently a vacancy for a Councillor which will be advertised on notice boards shortly. If more than 10 members of the electorate request it an election will be held, if not a new Councillor would be Co-opted. Anyone interested should contact the Clerk.

2. POLICING

PC Andy Wallace introduced himself to residents and outlined the work he had been engaged upon since his appointment. A great deal of time had been spent dealing with incidents of anti-social behavior and this would be pursued if it persists. Incidents should be reported on the new 101 telephone number for non emergencies, or by contacting Kidderminster Police Station. It

was suggested that the Parish should consider setting up a Partners and Communities Together (PACT) team, where representatives could meet with the local policing team to discuss local issues.

3. **COMMUNITY HOUSING**

Eddy Maynard of Community Housing stated that if any resident has problems or concerns with tenants of Wyre Forest Community Housing they can either make contact through the Company website at <http://www.communityhg.com> or the general contact number 08001695454. If the complaint is regarding anti social behavior the ASB unit can be contacted on 08001694002."

4. **COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

Rob Hartnell was seeking support for a new initiative to provide additional community transport in rural areas. Currently they offer a mini bus service for disabled or elderly residents door to door, but this new service could be a community bus service on specific days and times to suit residents. Anyone interested in this should contact the clerk. They were also looking for volunteer drivers.

5. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Rebecca Maynam of Wyre Forest District Council gave a presentation on Neighbourhood Planning. Neighbourhood Planning is an innovative part of the Government's Localism Agenda and will help to ensure that the local community has a major say in shaping development in the area. Through progressing a Neighbourhood Plan in partnership with the District Council, Chaddesley Corbett residents will be able to determine provision of local community facilities, small affordable housing developments and small scale rural employment opportunities. Much work has already been undertaken and we already have a Parish Plan and Design Statement and this will now form the basis for progressing the Neighbourhood Plan.

As it develops, the Neighbourhood Plan will need to undergo extensive community consultation with the local Parish. This will include a local referendum to gauge support before the plan is finally adopted. Once adopted the Plan will form part of the Wyre Forest District Local Development Framework and will be a material consideration in the planning process.

Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council have been awarded a Front Runner Grant of £20,000 to help prepare the Neighbourhood Plan and are currently formulating a Steering Group.

6. **QUEEN'S JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

Cllr Martin Walford outlined the arrangements which have been made to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, which included a picnic on the Orchard with community singing and a Mulberry tree would be planted at 4.00 p.m. Commemorative mugs had been purchased and would be presented to local children, and a muster of the Queen's Music would be performed in St Cassians Church.

7. **NEW SCHOOL**

Colin Emeny Chairman of the School Governors reported that it had taken a considerable time and dedication by all concerned to get planning permission, but once this had been obtained the land was purchased and A & H Construction were awarded the contract to build the school. Work started in January and construction is now well advanced. Much of the hard landscaping had already been done, car parking and the main driveway was in place, playing field had been leveled and seeded and most of the drainage swales and holding ponds were complete and working well. Many trees have been planted around the site and larger and more mature trees will be planted later in the year.

The head teacher, staff and project team are at the detail phase, deciding internal furniture layout, colours and notices, and of course, security. Although there is much work still to be done, it is hoped that remaining highway issues will be solved and the school should open towards the end of November 2012.

The new school will provide a fantastic learning environment for children, large modern classrooms, all having the latest technology, large covered outside learning space for all classes, a separate design and technology room with cooking facilities, a music room with outside access, changing rooms and a hall capable of accommodating all the children at the same time and a venue large enough so that all parents can enjoy the various school activities provided by their children. There will be a forest schools area and a separate nursery facility, all of these when combined with the incredible outside space, with tiered auditorium for outside school concerts, will ensure that the children are well prepared for all the educational challenges yet to come.

There are plans for a swimming pool, but at this stage there are insufficient funds to complete this element of the project and the Trust is exploring grants and other funding sources. In anticipation of having a pool many of the services required for a pool in the energy centre have been installed.

The address will be 'Nethercroft Meadow, Lower Chaddesley Corbett', and everyone can follow progress on the blog provided and updated weekly by Andrew Page ccvaps.wordpress.com.

8. **EXISTING SCHOOL SITE**

Andrew Page reported that now that the school is nearing completion, the Trustees are considering their options with regard to the old school site. It is felt that this is a once in a life time opportunity and it is important that whatever is decided has the backing of the community, whilst at the same time achieving the objectives of the Trust, to achieve the best possible value for the site. The Trustees have not yet given any serious consideration to the future of the site, the options being to dispose of the site and realize a lump sum, or retain the site and re-develop it, either alone or with partners, adding value to the capital asset and providing a regular income for the Foundation. The choice will depend on the benefits, financial or non-financial, that will enable the Trustees to satisfy the Charity Commission that they have achieved best value.

The Trustees are aware that there may well be an opportunity for the needs of the community and the obligations of the Trustees to converge on a mutually beneficial redevelopment scheme, and it has been agreed that the community should be invited to express their views on the future redevelopment of the school site. The Trustees are keen to work with the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Team to form a redevelopment programme.

9. Cllr G Vernon gave a report on work carried out under this scheme over the last 12 months which included siding out footways, clearing grips from carriageways, digging out blocked gullies, rodding to clear outfalls, clearing leaves, tree branches and overgrown vegetation. Substantial drainage works had been completed which would largely eradicate flooding problems, thanks mainly to funding provided by the County Council.

Bill Waldron resigned his post on 31 March, and he was presented with a token of appreciation for all his hard work. The new Lengthsman, Ben Matthews was introduced and some pictures of recent work were shown. Ben moved into Woodrow last year and he has now completed the statutory training courses required by the County Council. New duties will include litter picking and maintenance of the bus shelters.

The Lengthsman and the clerk report potholes to the County Council, but members of the public can report them direct by using the Hub.

10. **OPEN SESSION**

Questions were raised about policing point to point meetings and recent disturbances in the village after a meeting. Organizers of forthcoming events had been asked to ensure there is adequate policing, but the Police could not stop people coming into the village pubs. Any problems should be reported immediately and appropriate action would be taken.

A resident asked why the grass needed to be cut on the bend at the entrance to the Village – this is to aide visibility.

A vote of thanks was extended to the Police on actions taken to combat anti-social behaviour.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.