

## Chelmarsh Parish Council

**Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm in Chelmarsh Parish Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs P Thomas (Vice-Chairman, who chaired the meeting), T Cole, A Cadwallader, D Garrett, S Garrett.

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

Parishioners: Nil

**0) Parishioner's time:** None present.

**1) Apologies for absence:** Received and noted from Cllrs R Woods, R Bebb. Shropshire Cllr R Tindall and 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 declared.

### **3) Minutes of last meeting – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024:**

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

### **4) Matters arising from minutes:**

a) Clerk's update:

Clerk contacted Mr S Bebb regarding the overgrown hedges at Hampton Loade and he dealt with these very promptly.

b) Any others – nothing further raised.

### **5) Planning applications/permissions/refusals received:**

a) 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

Applicant: Mr Adrian Jones

After discussions Cllrs raised no objections to this application, subject to all Building Regs etc being adhered to.

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

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 an accessible wc to regularise the operations of the charity Bethphage

Decision: **Grant Permission**

## 6) Reports: (if available)

a) Shropshire Councillor's report: (via email)

I have little to report for this evening's meeting other than I have been in touch with Shona Butter (SC Rights of Way Officer) and others regarding the NCN 45 Cycle route and following my discussion with Cllr Colin Taylor there seems to be quite some action. I am available if anyone would like me to participate further.

Meanwhile if there are any Parish problems or concerns, please let me know.

b) Police: via email from PCSO Fletcher:

Over the past few months SNT have patrolled Chelmarsh on a regular basis and done a few reassurance visits, also we conducted speed surveys in Chelmarsh. The result for the last speed survey was that the average speed was 33.6.

I have looked and there were no incidents reported during September 2024 and now.

3 priorities also requested: 1. Speeding, 2. ASB, 3. Thefts.

Clerk confirmed that no reply had been received from SC Traffic Management and it was **RESOLVED to write to the MP seeking his help.**

Tools Stolen in Neen Savage. [#350836866]

c) Parish Hall: no meeting held, but Chairman kindly put the portrait of King Charles up in the committee room.

## 7) Finance:

a) Accounts for payment:

- Clerks' salary – standing order. HMRC PAYE - £115.60
- Wellers Hedley's Solicitors - £1140.00 Land Registration
- Information Solutions - £36.00 receipt noted.
- Clerks National pay award – Clerk explained that the increase applied earlier this year were in fact last year's figures which should have been implemented from the previous year. It was **RESOLVED to accept the new figures and for D M Malley Payroll Services to implement the changes from November pay backdated to April.**
- Any other accounts received after issue of agenda:
- D Malley Payroll Services £52.00 (half year).

- SLCC – a contribution is normally made to Stottesdon & Sidbury PC as they normally pay this on behalf of both Councils. It was **RESOLVED to contribute £70 as the subs have increased to £190.**  
**RESOLVED to pay all these accounts.**

b) Income since last meeting – £2.71 clothes bank

#### 8) Parish problems:

- Problems raised by Cllrs:
- Water coming off golf course cannot get away.
- Blocked drain Tinswell House side and by the Scrape, which is causing the road to flood as drains are blocked. Cllr Cadwallader reported that a letter had been sent to residents regarding meeting with SC to discuss the problems, but this never happened – she would look to see if she still had the letter.
- Mud on the road at Hampton Loade.
- Stile replaced by kissing wicket – School Lane/playing field.
- Hedge removal – opposite Garland House – Clerk read email from Highley resident, which had been acknowledged. As both Highley and Chelmarsh PCs had complained regarding this double hedge for many years along this road, SC removed this but had not notified the PC of intended work/time. A fence is to be installed. If the complainant wished to make further comments, these should be directed to SC.
- NCN 45, Severn Valley Railway:

This has become a very highly contentious issue. All correspondence has been forwarded to Cllrs, who were aware of a contribution towards the £12,000 figure quoted and then a yearly contribution has been requested. This would mean that the Council Tax would have to increase to cover this cost.

After much discussion Cllrs felt that more information/clarification was needed before a decision could be made and requested that the Clerk requests the following:

- ✓ What is the breakdown of the £12,000 per annum costs? Can we have a copy of the breakdown please. Who was involved / consulted with to advise this figure?
- ✓ Has a Risk Assessment been carried out for the Parishes involved? If so, please provide a copy.
- ✓ Who will be liable for the route passing through our parishes, owned by Severn Valley? We will not take liability for this, through Chelmarsh Parish.
- ✓ Has a Conditions Survey been undertaken? What recommendations for a safe, compliant, useable, maintainable state have been made? Please provide a copy.
- ✓ Has there been any consideration for other parts/sections of the route 45 that are outside of Severn Valley Railway holdings/property/ownership? Has there been a condition survey and associated risk assessments for these sections undertaken.

The route has been in existence for a considerable period of time, its condition is now in a poor state with sections and structures requiring extensive works that fall outside the scope of simple maintenance. There needs to be a clear understanding of what is needed to return the route to a safe, compliant and maintainable condition.

In any event, sections / parts of the route and the footbridge structures are now in a potentially unsafe condition, action needs to be taken by SVR to ensure the safety of those using the route that is on their land, either that, or close the route until adequate repairs are made to return to a safe, compliant, usable state.

We believe that we are acting with due diligence.

- Any others: none.

- 9) **Correspondence:** including Emails sent to Cllrs: All noted, as received, unless comments made.
- Shropshire Council - Review of Banners, Bunting and Festive lighting Policy and Process: questionnaire. It was **RESOLVED to oppose this, Clerk will complete.**
  - SALC - Communications training delivered by Breakthrough Communications
  - Fly tipping briefing note.
  - SALC Information Bulletins
  - Electoral Roll alterations
  - SALC Nature Recovery Conference 6th December
  - November Budget - Employers NI Update
  - Lord-Lieutenant's Shropshire Garden Party 2025: Nominate Barbara Theobald and Glenys Williams for all the work they carry out in the parish.
  - For sharing: myrecovery app (free app for people registered with a GP practice in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin – posters put on notice board.
  - Any other after issue of agenda

10) **Date of next meeting: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Payments:

Mrs F Morris – salary – s/o

HMRC – PAYE - £115.60

D Malley Payroll services - £52.00

SLCC – £70.00

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

**Signed: Chairman**

**Date:**