

Chetwynd Parish Council

Chairman Municipal Year 2024/ 25 – Cllr Derrick Clancy

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MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING

(draft until signed at a subsequent meeting)

Held

MONDAY 13th January 2025

in

The Village Hall, Sambrook

Members Present:

Cllrs: CLANCY- Chairman, HUMPHREYS, PHILLIPS, ROBSON, STEFAN, WILLIAMSON, WILKINSON

In Attendance:

Sheila Atkinson – retiring clerk
Stephen de Launey – newly appointed clerk
Cllr Steve Burrell – Edgmond Ward

59-24/25 The Chairman began the meeting by introducing the council members and welcoming Mr Stephen de Launey to the meeting as the new Clerk & RFO to the council. Mr de Launey provided a summary as to his credentials, previous experiences as a clerk and standing councillor on Wellington Town Council.

Cllr Robson welcomed Mr de Launey and expressed his thanks and that of all councillors, to the outgoing clerk.

60/24-25 **APOLOGIES** for **ABSENCE**, were received from:-

Cllr BUTLER – unwell, and Newport Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)

61-24/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none

62-24/25 **Councillor Vacancy due to the resignation of Kevin Grimston**

The Chairman expressed his sadness that the vacancy had occurred but recognised the reason being due to long-term health problems.

Following the advertisement of the causal vacancy by public notice between 9th December and 3rd January NO requests were received for a by-election therefore it is for the Parish Council to seek a candidate for co-option. A notice for candidates will be issued. Discussion regarding the wider reach of advertising resulted in Cllr Robson being tasked to contact Nova News to place the advert, along with the usual publication on the web-site, notice boards and in the Sambrook Parish Magazine. Members will also canvas their acquaintances.

63-24/25 Members **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Meeting held on MONDAY 18th November 2024 Proposed by Cllr Robson and seconded Cllr Phillips

64-24/25 **Public Session – T&W Matters Cllr Burrell**

As there were no other members of the public present at the meeting, the order of the agenda was changed for Cllr Burrell to update the council on T&W matters effecting Edgmond Ward.

He informed members that there was no further progress on the contentious planning application that he has called in and is still awaiting a date for Plans Board.

However, he is concerned with the recent central government revisions to the NPPF and the increase to housing development numbers. Cllr Burrell has been assured that T&W have a 5.2 year housing supply identified within the current Local Development Plan (LDP) and of the security of the adopted planning policies HO10 & HO11 of the LDP.

Members were informed that T&W have set their budget with an increase of 4.99% inc. 2% for social care. Once publicised there will be the figures provided for the cost of road works on the A41.

He was pleased to inform council that a £250.00 grant has been approved from his ward fund to match-fund a notice board in the vicinity of Chetwynd Church. He is liaising with a PCC member regarding the project.

Members raised questions and discussed the overgrown hedgerows and verges at Standford Junction and the A41 – communication with the contractor and highways is on-going.

65-24/25 Chairman's Report and Correspondence

Cllr Derrick Clancy presented the latest bank statement, and updates on various project were received:-

a. Cllr Robson – Grit Bins and Upgrade to Defibrator

Discussion regarding the replacements of Parish Council owned broken bins and re-filling of T&W owned bins was discussed. Members will continue to pursue this project and provide photos and exact locations to T&W.

b. The pads on the Defibrator located at the Sambrook Village Hall have been replaced within the time frame insuring that the unit remains compliant and registered.

c. Cllr Stefan – Rights of Way Projects

Cllr Stefan will continue to chase and follow up progress on the identified projects, following a meeting with an officer and contractor from T&W back in October which included the re-location of the style and finger post on footpath 21.

d. Cllr Philips – Web-site update

The web-site is being updated and maintained by Cllr Phillips with the help of the clerk.

e. A list of correspondence distributed to Cllrs was tabled, and members received a verbal update of correspondence received from the Sambrook Village Hall committee regarding waste bins, and the responsibility of users to clear up after use of the hall.

f.

FINANCE

66-24/25 Ward Councillors Pride Fund 2024

Members received the formal notice that Chetwynd Parish Council has been successful in receiving a grant from the Councillors Pride Fund 2024 and have been awarded £250.00 to be used to install a community notice board at All Saints Church, Chetwynd to provide those living nearby with information on news and events in the parish.

67-24/25 Financial Report

1. Members received a list of payments from April 2024 to date, and **AGREED to authorise payment and signing of cheques No. 674 to 677 Totalling £819.80. Cheque were signed by authorised signatory's Cllr Clancy and Cllr Robson.**
2. All Members viewed the list of payments, invoices and ratified with the bank statements. Closing statement balance as of 9th December is £9,099.03

68-24/25 BUDGET

Members considered the setting of a Budget for the financial year 1st April 2025/26, and reviewed the updated budget sheet with proposals agreed at the November meeting.

Members discussed robustly and in depth aspects of each line entry recognising that due to inflation there will be some increases in costs. Members also acknowledge that there is some committed expenditure in the form of ear-marked reserves (grants *to* and *from* organisations) and money to be carried forward to complete outstanding projects. (*street light upgrade, painting of phone boxes, grit bin purchase etc*).

Following much discussion and some disagreement members **RESOLVED to set the budget figures with an increase of approximately 4% per household, thereby requiring a precept of £7,000.**

69-24/25 PARISH PRECEPT 2025/26

Members authorised signing the precept demand to meet the expenditure of this parish council for the sum of £7,000. Form signed by Chairman Cllr Clancy and Cllrs Phillips and Humphreys.

70-24/25 PLANNING

1. Cllr Humphreys as chairman of CPC Planning Committee provided a briefing on planning matter within the parish. Members were informed that as stated by Cllr Burrell earlier, there is as yet no progress on the application TWC/2024/0756 the self-build dwelling. However, Cllr Phillips has agreed that she will speak on behalf of the parish council at plans board when the application is heard.
2. Members noted, with some disappointment that application TWC/2024/0558 has been **“Full Refused”** <https://secure.telford.gov.uk/planning/pa-documents-documents-public.aspx?Applicationnumber=TWC/2024/0558>
3. There are currently no new planning applications for the parish.
4. Members discussed at some length Keeper's Cottage and the implications of enforcement and planning development.

71-24/25 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM PRIORITIES

Members noted and discussed the written report/update on each of the existing priorities:-

Speeding

The SNT are aware of issues in and around the village and are taking steps to address these. Officers have carried out Speed Surveys at specific locations and will continue into the new year. Whilst residents have reported speeding vehicles travelling through the village when officers undertake surveys/enforcement speeds have been recorded well below the limit. That is down to our presence and not a true reflection of what is happening. We will continue to monitor.

Anti-Social behaviour

Reported ASB calls to the police are low at the moment. This is partly down to the time of the year and weather. No doubt this will change as the year goes on and things start to warm up. Any reported or ongoing issues will be dealt with by the Safer Neighbourhood Team. Hi Vis patrols will continue to be carried out and any issues addressed. We will continue to monitor.

Thefts

Thankfully, reports of rural type thefts are low. The Safer Neighbourhood Team carry out regular patrols in the more remote locations that will be deterring offenders. Hare coursing has been reported locally and arrests have been made. Although this activity isn't technically theft, if unwanted persons are on property there is a concern it may lead to other things. Hopefully the arrests will send a message and deter others.

72-24/25 MEETING DATES May 2025

Members **RESOLVED** to set the following dates for meetings in the next municipal year:-

- 12th May 2025**
- 14th July 2025**
- 13th October 2025**
- 12th January 2026**

Signed

Dated