

At a meeting of Chetton Parish Council held on 18th September , 2024

Present. P.Verney (Chairman) Linda Jackson, Pam Downing,
Mark Clarke

Apologies E. Crawford Clarke, Fleur Whittingham R,Fox, S.Jordan

In attendance Shrop. Cllr. Robert Tindall

1. Any declarations of interest
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the previous meeting
The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from those minutes not appearing under other headings.

Co-option of new Councillor The Clerk explained the process and it was agreed that the co-option should be postponed until the next meeting

- 4, Correspondence All SALC Bulletins had been forwarded to Councillors and other circulars.

5. Highways The Chairman had asked Cllr.Tindall if he would explore the possibility of local residents undertaking minor work on the highways including pothole filling.

The Lengthsman currently worked for £250 per month which was below the Current minimum wage. It was agreed that consideration should be given to increasing sum in the new financial year.

6. Planning There were no planning matters to consider

7. Reports Shropshire Councillor Cllr.Tindall said that he had made enquiries about the Minor Highways scheme in Devon where residents could be trained to undertake minor Highways work. He had contacted Shropshire Highways but as yet he had not received a reply.

The collection of garden waste would cease in October unless householders had opted to pay the collection fee. The Veolia site in Bridgnorth would remain open and residents would book a time to deposit waste.

Chairman The Chairman had asked Cllr.Tindall if he would explore the possibility of local residents undertaking minor work on the highways including pothole filling.

He asked the clerk to circulate the dates of future meetings and said that in future Councillors would be requested to sign an attendance book.

The Chairman also asked about the regulations regarding the Web-site.

Village Hall The V.Hall representative reported that an application for £600 from the Grimmit Trust to help finance Chetton Active Friends.

An application had been made to the Lottery for a grant towards repairs to the fencing and re-surfacing the Car Park.

A comment was made regarding VAT recovery on Village Hall purchases.

Chetton Folk Club would be closing on 27th November.

Clerk reported briefly on forthcoming road closures.

She then spoke about the 34 years she had spent with the Parish Council and said that reluctantly she had decided to retire. She would continue in post until the end of December.

8. Finance

Councillors agreed unanimously that the following payments be made -
Clerk £ 277.46, HMRC £69.20, Lengthsman £550, Freethought Web-site £35

9. Any Parish matters or problems to be placed on the next agenda.

10. Date of next meeting Wednesday, 20th, November, 2024

Budget considerations for the next financial year.

	2014	2015
Lengthsman	£3850	£3850
Clerk's salary/tax	£2080	?
P.C.Insurance	£205	£205
Internal Audit	£75	£75
Defibrillator	£108	?
Donations	£300	?
Information Comm.	£40	£40

There will be a Parish Council election in 2025 and the cost will be passed on to the Parish

Precept for 2023/4 was set at £6000

The past two months have been relatively quiet due to holidays but highway problems have continued with the bridge closure at Harpswood being one of them. There will be a further closure of the Ludlow Road on Tuesday, 24th September between the bridge and The Down, to enable Road Marking work to take place. There was a problem for Oldfield and Middleton Scriven residents when on 18th August the overhead cable was cut during hedge cutting work – it resulted in there being no 'phone or internet connection for two weeks – there will be another road closure on 7th October when the pole will be replaced.

- On 10th September I completed 34 years as Clerk to Chetton P.C. having been appointed by Nick Tart who was the Chairman. When Mrs.Bache retired, she was presented with an oil painting by Mrs.Howarth who lived in the Parish. After Mrs Bache died and the painting was returned to the Parish Council and it was hung in the Hall over the serving hatch. P.C. Meetings had been held at the school but on 4th November, 1991 meetings moved to the Village Hall where they have remained.
- Things have moved on over the years and I have enjoyed being the clerk but I have decided that now is the time to retire and hand over to a new Clerk. I shall continue in office for the remainder to this year i.e. 31st December and will notify SALC and ask them to advertise for a Clerk to fill the vacancy. I shall be sorry to hand over the duties, after so long it has become part of my life but I think this is the right time.

VILLAGE HALL MEETING MINUTES

Grant of £600 from The Grimmit Trust for Chetton Active Friends.

The Folk Club is finishing in November

3 more sessions have been booked for the Slow Flow and Sound Bath Sessions - £15 per session.

Hooded Crow on the ¹²~~15~~th October

Fencing repairs quote is £795.00. Sue has applied to the National Lottery for grants of £1000 towards fencing repairs and £5000 for aggregate to repair the carpark.

If Chetton Parish Council were trustees of the Village Hall then the VAT could be claimed back.

Biggest cost currently is for Electricity. Charles has negotiated a 3 year deal at 30p per day standing charge, 27.9 kwh day and 20p night rates with EON.

Village insurance is due in November of £800