

Minutes of the meeting of Chetton Parish Council
held on Wednesday 20th November 2024

Present Councillors Clarke, Downing, Fox, Jackson, Jordan, and Verney (Chair)

Apologies Councillors Crawford Clarke and Whittingham
Shropshire Councillor Tindall

1. Any declarations of interest There were none declared.
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.

Open Session for Parishioners There were none present.

3. Matters arising from those minutes not appearing under other headings
 - a. Appointment of new Clerk. The position had been advertised and there had been three applicants. It was agreed that an interview panel should be set to meet as soon as possible.
 - b. Appointment of a new Councillor. The Chair would publicise the current vacancy on local notice boards again.
 - c. Parish Council website. Enquiries would be made regarding the website.
4. Correspondence
All SALC bulletins have been forwarded to Councillors.
5. Highways
It was reported that repairs had been made to Eudon Lane.

A collapsed drain at Little Scotlands Farm had been reported to 'Fix my Street' but although it had been acknowledged by Shropshire Council, no action had yet been taken.

The Chair was concerned that the Lengthsman was not receiving the correct remuneration for his work. The matter would be further discussed at the next meeting.

6. Reports

a. Shropshire Councillor

- i. As Cllr. Tindall was unable to attend the meeting, he had sent a written report which is filed with the minutes.

b. Chair

- i. Nothing further to report

c. Clerk

- i. The clerk spoke briefly of the time she had spent with the Parish Council. The full report is filed with the minutes.

d. Village Hall

- i. The hall had recently received several grants including £6,000 from Awards for All. The full report is filed with the minutes.

7. Finance

a. Cheques required:

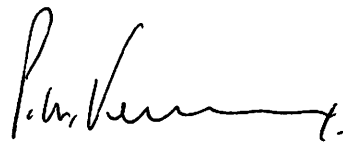
- i. Clerk £277.46
- ii. HMRC £69.20
- iii. Lengthsman £550.00

The above payments were unanimously approved.

Consideration of next year's budget. A discussion was held regarding the budget requirements and next year's precept.

8. Any Parish matters to be placed on the next agenda

9. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 22nd January 2025



22/01/25

It feels very strange that I am attending my last Parish Council meeting at Chetton after 34 years. The old saying is that all good things come to an end and I have to accept that.

There have been vast changes in the Parish during that time – the biggest one regarding the local area was the demise of Bridgnorth District Council which meant that all local Parishes became part of Shropshire Council.

Local people fought long and hard against the plan, with Mrs.Elizabeth Yeomans leading the campaign but eventually, despite her great efforts the plan went ahead.

Following that all local services previously managed by Bridgnorth, fell under the remit of S.Council where they remain to this day.

Since then, the Parish Council has been informed of all activities taking place within the Parish and is able to give its views on both Highways and Planning matters, P and anything else which directly affects the Parish.

A great asset has been the recruitment of a local Lengthsman – S.Council grants an amount each year and the P.Council has to match that sum. Our length-man does great work on all local highways and it is hoped that the Grant will be continued.

I hope I am leaving the Council in good condition and I wish you and your new clerk the very best for the future.

Eileen Reynolds 20.11.24

Shropshire Councillor's report

- **Matters arising from the last meeting held on the 18th September.**

I was able to contact the Councillor at Devon County Council who has responsibility for that county's highways and Devon does indeed have a trained and financed team of DIY pothole repairers who are also able to deal with some other straightforward highway repairs. I have passed the details of the Devon County Scheme to Paul. It is highly unlikely that Shropshire Council will be able to offer such a service given that state of its finances.

- **New matters**

1. The Planning Inspectors have, in a surprise move, called a halt to further investigation/consideration of Shropshire Council's Local Plan which sets future housing and commercial construction targets. No reasons have yet been given.
2. It seems that councils, including Parish Councils may be allowed to resume holding meetings virtually as was the case during the Covid pandemic- the Clerk has probably up to date news from SALC on this topic.

If there are any problems or queries, I will be pleased to see if I can help resolve them.