

CHEDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 8th DECEMBER 2025

PRESENT: Mr D Broad (Chairman), Mrs B Amory, Mr G Broad, Mr M Dentith, Mr A Kingsley, Mr A McLellan, Mr I Morgan & Mrs E Broad (Clerk)
County & District Councillor Mr P Hodgkinson

The Chairman read out a prepared statement explaining what Parish Council's do.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th November 2025 were agreed and signed as a true record with on amendment to page 1, "Mrs Amory" was amended to "Mr Dentith" and "Mr Dentith" was amended to "Mr Morgan".

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: The Chairman to remind Councillors of the need to declare interests as necessary.

OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Councillor Hodgkinson gave a brief update which included local government reorganisation, stating that both GCC and CDC are supporting the whole of Gloucestershire Unitary option. The GCC proposed budget which included extra money for highways and road safety. He gave a brief update on the camping site at Pinkwell, it was in hand with CDC and Cllr. Hodgkinson would chase again if nothing further was heard by mid-January. Mr Robertson gave a brief update on his neighbour, Mr Speak's, concerns about the proposed new play area.

The Chairman brought the Play Area item forward on the agenda as Mrs Amory had to leave the meeting early.

Playground behind the Village Hall:

- a) Update: Two emails expressing concerns about the project had been received, both asking for a decision on funding to be deferred until more consultation had taken place. Mrs Amory presented the plans from Sovereign Playgrounds for four items on the playing field which would cost around £30,000. A draft questionnaire for residents was considered by Councillors, it was proposed by Mrs Amory and seconded by Mr Dentith to approve this, agreed. The basic layout on the Playing Field was proposed by Mrs Amory and seconded by Mr Morgan, agreed. Mrs Amory asked for a start-up fund to be considered as there would be expenses, after some discussion it was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr G Broad to allow up to £500 from Parish Council funds, agreed. The consultation would be undertaken in January, and two other quotations would also be required. The Chairman agreed to take the plans around and speak to close neighbours.
- b) To allocate the CIL monies just received towards the playground: It was agreed to consider this at a future date.

FURTHER OPEN SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC: Mr Musgrave spoke about the draft minutes on the Parish Council website prior to a meeting not allowing members of the public to comment before they are agreed by Council. The Chairman said that comments on the accuracy of the minutes by members of the public could be accommodated before the minutes are approved by Council. Mr Musgrave then thanked the Parish Councillors for all they do on a voluntary basis. Mr Musgrave then spoke about KCH 47 and the need for another type of gate, rather than the

Chairman.....

garage door with a door in it, at the Green Lane end. Mr Robertson spoke about the setting of the precept, what the Parish Council is here for and how to encourage more members the public to attend Parish Council meetings.

PLANNING:

25/03582/TCONR Green Lane Cottage - Tree Works – Noted.

Conservation Area: This was raised by Graham Rebek at the May meeting. An email reply had been received from CDC. It was felt there would need to be a consultation with the village if this was to be progressed. Mr Dentith agreed to speak to Mr Rebek asking if he wishes to take the lead on the project to progress this.

Local Green Spaces: The Clerk reported that after speaking to the officer dealing with the submissions at CDC, the whole Conservation Area was too large and did not fit the criteria. The Parish Council land at the Village Hall would require evidence to support the submission. Ben Pridgeon had also made a submission, but it was not known what areas he had submitted.

CDC Local Plan Consultation: It was noted that the consultation period was open.

Dark Skies: Mr Morgan reported that discussion had recently taken place on this subject on The Hub. The Parish Council had a dark skies policy; it was agreed to find this and put on the Parish Council website.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Traffic in Village and Road Matters:

a) Roadside Verges: Nothing further.

Councillor Hodgkinson reported on the following item from his recent meeting with Anne Johns.

b) Cooks Hill, Reduced Width: This was on the list with Anne Johns but was a low priority.

Mrs Amory left the meeting at this point.

c) Tuns Hill Waterfall & The Stream: Mr Morgan gave a brief update; contractors had arrived on site to clear the pipes from the waterfall this morning but were unable to do the works as there was too much water running down. They will need to return when it has dried up. Mr Harrison was invited to speak about this. Cllr. Hodgkinson would take this up again with Dan Tiffney at GCC. The Chairman and Mr Morgan would try to arrange a meeting with Seb Clarke at the Manor to discuss the water coming from the Manor pond.

d) Road Safety around St Andrews School: Nothing further.

e) Traffic Speed on Fields Road:

i) Provision of Interactive Speed Sign: Nothing further. Cllr. Hodgkinson reported that he understood that the speed signs were due to be installed in December.

ii) Chedworth Parish Speed Limits: Nothing further.

Councillor Hodgkinson reported on the following item from his recent meeting with Anne Johns.

f) Road Maintenance: The road surfacing on Tuns Hill was going to cost between £60,000 to £85,000 but was due to be done in this financial year.

g) Cutting of Tuns Hill Triangle: This had not been done. The Clerk was asked to chase up Andy Cox.

Camping Site on Calmsden Road: Cllr Hodgkinson had reported on this earlier in the meeting.

Chairman.....

Footpaths:

- a) KCH 47: The path was shown on the OS Map as a track. The Chairman had photographed the doors at the Green Lane end of the path. It was agreed that these were not the type of gates for a public footpath. It was agreed to send the photos to GCC PROW and ask them to take action.
- b) KCH 20: An email had been received from Ros Jess bringing the Council's attention to the fact that part of KCH 20 had been diverted into the field to avoid the muddy track. This was a permissive diversion and was not officially recorded on the Definitive Map. It was agreed to monitor the situation and reply to Mrs Jess advising her of this.

Playing Field:

- a) Nets for Goal Posts: The goal nets have been found in the Village Hall but the fixings on the goal posts had been damaged. It was agreed to get some figures for replacement goal post for the next meeting, meanwhile Mr Dentith would have a look at the existing goal post to see if they could be mended.

The Grass Keep Field:

- a) Tree Planting on Ford's Field: Nothing further.

Supporting the Seven Tuns: Mr Dentith gave a brief update and reported that the Seven Tuns had been sold to a local resident. It was agreed to write and thank Patricia Langley and her team at STAG for all of their work on behalf of the community.

Defibrillators:

- a) Xbox Cabinet Repairs: Nothing further had been heard about the replacement switch required for the Xbox cabinet.
- b) Seven Tuns Defibrillator Cabinet: Quotes had been received from the Community Heartbeat Trust for a replacement cabinet. Mr Morgan had made enquiries and found that similar cabinets could be purchased at a lower price elsewhere. The Clerk had made enquiries, and VAT could be recovered on item bought by an individual and reimbursed by the Parish Council if the invoice was made out to Chedworth Parish Council. After some discussion about whether a lock on the cabinet was required, it was proposed from the Chair and seconded by Mr Dentith to obtain a replacement cabinet without a lock. Mr Morgan agreed to purchase this from his contact on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chairman stated that he thought that all the defibrillator cabinets needed replacing as the parts were now obsolete. It was also agreed to write to the new owner and enquire when the electricity was going to be reconnected at the Seven Tuns.

Benches: Nothing further.

First Aid Courses: Nothing further.

Battery Backup for Grass Keep Phone Mast: Nothing further.

Christmas Lights: Mr Dentith reported that the Chedworth Society had paid for the purchase of lights for the tree at the Village Hall.

Matter for considering prior to the December meeting: Mr Dentith had forwarded an email from Ben Pridgeon regarding procedures at meetings. It was agreed that there is a problem with agenda items not being specified clearly enough and lacking supporting papers. The problem has been

Chairman.....

identified as the lack of information being supplied to the Council and efforts will have to be made to ensure that people can understand what is to be considered. There are issues with putting documents online, such as GDPR and confidentiality of quotes, which mean many documents cannot be put online but generally where proposals needing a decision are put forward ready for a decision, this should not be a problem if they are received in good time for publication with the agenda. The draft minutes being put online was also discussed, the Clerk agreed to get the draft minutes posted online promptly, as soon as they are prepared.

FINANCE:

1. E Broad (Quarterly Salary) £754.00, prop. A McLellan, sec. A Kingsley
2. E Broad (Quarterly Mileage) £9.65, prop. M Dentith, sec. A Kingsley
3. IONOS (Hosting of Village Website) £7.20 Direct Debit, prop. G Broad, sec. I Morgan
4. IONOS (Hosting of Parish Council Website) £8.40 Direct Debit, prop. G Broad, sec. A McLellan
5. Chedworth Village Hall (St Andrew's School Film Night 13.2.25) £52.25, prop. G Broad, sec. A Kingsley
6. A G Robinson (Fitting Hose Union Tap to Trough in GK Field) £95.00, prop. D Broad, sec. A Kingsley
7. Castle Water £46.43 Retrospective, prop. D Broad, sec. G Broad
8. Community Heartbeat Trust (Pads & Safety Kit) (£108.00 + VAT & Carriage) £137.94 Retrospective, prop. D Broad, sec. G Broad
9. Bank Service Charge (November 2025) £6.75, prop. D Broad, sec. D Broad
10. Internet Banking – To consider whether to register for Internet Banking and agree how payments are authorised – Mr Dentith suggested that the Parish Council sign up for this. The Clerk had made enquiries, and it was permissible for Parish Council's to do this. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Dentith and seconded by Mr Kingsley that it would be set up so that the Clerk set up the payments and then two Councillors would go online to authorise the payment, agreed.
11. Council in receipt of £24.51 Part Water Reimbursement from HVLTC
12. 2026/2027 Precept – It was noted that the precept had to be returned to CDC by 31st January. It was agreed to write to the Village Hall and ask if we could be informed of any plans the hall has to seek Parish Council funding for 26/27 by 12th January so it can be factored into future projections.
13. Recovery of VAT on items purchased on behalf of the Council by a third party: The Clerk had made enquires from SLCC and it is acceptable for third parties to make purchases on behalf of the Parish Council and then the money reimbursed and the VAT reclaimed if the invoice was made payable to the Parish Council.

Mr McLellan asked that a further pallet of salt be requested from GCC Highways as the Parish Council has found itself faced with an unforeseen situation, in that drainage works scheduled by GCC Highways for earlier this year, have not been completed and water flows down Tuns Hill and freezes forming a large ice sheet near the bottom of Gallows Lane. As a direct result, large amounts of salt are having to be used to make the road at least useable, and stocks are rapidly running out as there seems to be no immediate prospect of the water issue being resolved.

The Chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and closed the meeting at 9.50pm.

NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Meeting – Monday 12th January 2026 at 7.30pm.
Additional Budget Meeting, Monday 26th January 2026 at 7.30pm.

Chairman.....Date.....