



Cheswick Green Parish Council

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CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 9th October 2025 7pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present: Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Simon Coles, Linda Heslington, Daniel Makarenko, Aimee Moloney and Mick Swain.

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

4 members of the public

98. Apologies for Absence and to approve, if thought fit, the reasons if any given, for absence from the meeting.

98.1 An apology was received from Cllr. Gosling, this was accepted.

98.2 It was noted Cllr. Gosling may not be able to attend the next meeting, due to undergoing an operation. It was pointed out that Cllr. Heslington and Cllr. Swain would not be able to attend the next meeting. Cllrs. Coles, Makarenko and Moloney would be able to attend the November meeting, which was the minimum number of Councillors required for the meeting to be quorate. It was agreed Cllr. Coles would Chair the November meeting.

99. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations.

99.1 There were none.

100. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

100.1 Cllr. Heslington said the Parish Council (PC) had received a reply from Solihull MBC, regarding people planting on grass verges, not belonging to them, in response to one particular place on Foxland Close. The resident had been given 28 days to cut back foliage, if this was not done, Solihull MBC would arrange for the work to be carried out and charge the resident. Cllr. Heslington went on to say, she had enquired how this would be managed moving forward, if for example, the current residents moved.

100.1.1 Another area was referred to, where there was very dense foliage. Cllr. Heslington said Solihull MBC had said this area was not on its mapping, it would be added. Cllr. Swain said there were several areas not mapped in Cheswick Green, this was after CG had been established for over 50 years, this may also become an issue for Blythe Valley (BV). He added that there had also been an issue with some lampposts having the same number.

100.1.2 A resident commented about cutting foliage overhanging roads.

101. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 11th September 2025 (circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).

Resolved: proposed Cllr. Heslington, seconded Cllr. Moloney – the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

102. To receive a report on the finances of the Council and to approve any payments made since the last meeting and any payments to be made (issued to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).

Payee	Reason	Total
Countrywide GM	Monthly grounds maintenance September 2025	£918.72
M. Zizzi	Reimbursement for Instant ink	£13.49
Countrywide GM	Erect two signs on Recreation Ground	£451.37
Countrywide GM	Secure benches	£547.36
M. Zizzi	Reimbursement for a donation to Marie Curie on behalf of CGPC	£117.00
M. Zizzi	Reimbursement for 2 poppy wreaths for Remembrance Sunday plus donation to the RBL	£120.00
M. Zizzi	Reimbursement for ink purchased for office printer	£67.00
More in confidential section.		

Transfer of funds from savings into UTB current account for October payments £3000.

Quotes £4445.13 (including VAT) from Kompan, repairs to wet pour safety surfacing on Recreation Ground; it was noted this work had now been carried out, Kompan had done a good job, it was agreed this payment could be set up and authorised.
£2217.68 (including VAT) from Countrywide GM; for work on trees by the garages on Saxon Wood Road; this quote was accepted, however it was agreed to check if there were any Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), before work went ahead.

102.1 It was noted Sydney Mitchell solicitors had estimated costs, to sort out a lease for the Parish Council (PC), with the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC), for the Village Hall, would be £2000.

Resolved: proposed Cllr. Coles, seconded Cllr. Heslington – all payments and quotes were approved.

103. To receive quarterly comparison (budget/actual expenditure April-Sept 2025) and bank reconciliation *(issued to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).*

103.1 There were no comments.

104. To discuss 2026-27 budget.

104.1 The Clerk had sent all Cllrs. details of expenditure April to September 2025; predicted/expected expenditure October 2025 to March 2026, with 2025/26 budget set.

104.2 It was agreed Cllr. Swain and the Clerk could put something together for 2026-27 budget, for everyone to consider.

104.3 It was queried whether there was a budget for BV. It was noted BVRA was looking into CCTV; a meeting with stakeholders was due to take place in a couple of weeks.

104.3.1 It was stated it would be nice to have a Christmas tree and lights for BV. It was suggested a piece of land outside the Dementia Care Home could possibly be used.

104.4 Cllr. Coles explained the total precept was divided by the total number of houses in the parish. There were various comments about the precept and what to spend it on.

104.5 Residents from BV spoke about the issues with this being a new development, regarding younger children/people and antisocial behaviour. It was stated there were issues with shop lifting, carrying knives and graffiti. BVRA was trying to manage the graffiti; they needed proper kits. It was stated the PC was happy to support and provide items required.

Clerk to contact Love Solihull regarding graffiti kits.

105. To discuss CGPC insurance renewal.

105.1 It was noted the Long-Term Agreement the PC had with Zurich was coming to an end this November. Renew costs had been given for 1 year and/or 3 years.

105.2 Cllr. Swain spoke about the VHMCs insurance with Allied Westminster (AW). He explained for the residents present, the PC owned the Village Hall, however a separate VHMC managed the VH. Currently the PC was looking into setting up a lease for the VHMC. There were some implications in relation to insurance and which groups paid for what.

105.3 It was agreed to leave this for now, until the lease was sorted out. It was pointed out the PC needed to renew its insurance before 17th November 2025. It was possible the PC could need to insure the VH building.

106. To consider planning applications and to discuss local developments Blythe Valley, including defibrillator, and Cheswick Place, including adoption by SMBC.

PL/2025/01703/TPO - 14 Boscobel Road Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4JY; Crown reduce oak tree T1 by 2.5 metres (previous pruning points) and crown lift to 4 metres, to allow more light into garden.

PL/2025/01813/MINFHO - 15 Illshaw Heath Road Hockley Heath Solihull B94 6RT; Loft conversion with rear dormer and Velux roof light.

PL/2025/01870/MINFHO - 97 Coppice Walk Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4HZ; Single storey side extension.

106.1 There were no comments to be submitted for any of these.

106.2 Cllr. Swain said he had seen a sign for a tree on Tanworth Lane, Solihull MBC was proposing to remove this tree, because it was damaging a property; the drive on the property was coming up. It was stated this was a beautiful Monkey Puzzle tree. It was queried why the PC had not been consulted or notified about this.

106.3 There were comments about new developments in CG, proposals for 760 houses on land at Dog Kennel Lane and 450 on the Stratford Road opposite the Regency Hotel. It was stated CGPC had objected to the application for Dog Kennel Lane.

106.3.1 It was stated there were legal arguments for why developments should not go ahead. Cllr. Swain said the PC may know more at the end of November, or it could be January before more was known.

106.3.2 It was stated Solihull MBC had appointed Arup, to look at greenbelt land. There were comments about Solihull MBCs Call for Sites, which was being looked at, to come up with a plan. Cllr. Swain said they could not discuss some things.

106.3.3 There were comments about traffic getting worse and worse; about access/egress from new development sites, for drivers to get to the motorway they would need to turn around and go back on themselves; about traffic on the Stratford Road; about schools and Doctors/medical facilities.

106.3.4 There were comments about BV being built, schools taking children for other areas, Alderbrook school being expanded, Tudor Grange school being very dated, that the birth rate had dropped and about in the 80's people had 3-4 children, now most only had 1.

106.3.5 It was stated education departments knew about births, that schools were not driven by Councils now, due to Academies.

106.3.6 There were comments about CG Primary School being expanded; it was thought children from the Dog Kennel Lane development would end up coming to CG.

106.3.7 It was stated CG Primary School pupils' parents had been asked for £20 donations; that schools were always asking for donations, there was no incentive for government organisations to invest in education, because it was too short term.

106.3.8 There were more comments about the expansion of CG Primary School and then the school asking for funding. It was stated there was a PTA, however most of what it did was very boring, with parents being asked for items to be donated for fayres etc.

106.3.9 It was felt the development on Dog Kennel Lane could be nice, as it was Taylor Wimpey that were dealing with this.

106.4 It was noted the defibrillator on BV had recently had to be accessed and it had almost been used. There was an issue with the code number.

107. To discuss monthly site audits of Parish Council owned land.

107.1 There were comments about a dead tree on the Village Green, that had not been included in the recent report. Clerk to ask CGPC Grounds maintenance contractor to look at this tree (opposite No. 1 Greenside).

107.1.1 There were comments about a Willow tree that had come down on the Village Green, this had all been cleared away now.

108. To discuss the Recreation Ground, including a new shelter and other CGPC owned land.

108.1 Cllr. Swain said he had been expecting certain residents to be present at this meeting, but they were not. For the benefit of residents in attendance from BV, it was explained that the PC had carried out a survey in relation to installing a shelter, in the Recreation Ground. It was mainly dog walkers and people who wanted somewhere to shelter, from the rain/sun, that would like a shelter.

108.1.1 It was noted three Councillors had spent considerable time looking for shelters, there was not much to choose from. However, the PC had agreed on one, the company had confirmed it would hold the price.

108.1.2 It was noted Solihull MBC had put forward a proposal, for the PC to consider for youth provision for the parish. It was stated some people could prefer £15k to be spent on this, rather than on a shelter.

108.1.3 It was agreed to discuss the proposal and to review progressing with a shelter in January.

108.2 The new signs for the Recreation Ground were noted; it was stated one had been graffitied already. It was noted a policy had also been written, for what were acceptable and what were not acceptable activities, for the Recreation Ground.

109. To discuss the car park, Remembrance Sunday, Christmas and Starlink.

109.1 In relation to the car park; nothing had been received from the managing agents for the shops, and no update regarding EV Charging points from Solihull MBC.

109.1.1 It was agreed to get on with repairing the car park. Cllr. Coles to obtain a new quote from MacDonalds.

109.2 In relation to Remembrance Sunday; poppy waterfall to possibly be installed, refreshments in the Village Hall to be arranged. It was noted only Cllr. Coles and Cllr. Moloney would be able to assist. A few other residents were mentioned, who could help.

109.3 In relation to Christmas, for the Bingo; Cllr. Makarenko to produce a notice (copy to be sent to BV RA and to be displayed on the notice board at BV). A budget had already been agreed for prizes, tea/coffee and other refreshments to be served. For the turning on of the Christmas tree lights and disco, everything was sorted except Shirley Round Table had not yet confirmed about Father Christmas.

109.4 In relation to Starlink; the Clerk had submitted the paperwork to the Co-op bank for a credit card, once the PC had this Starlink could be progressed.

110. To discuss CGPC website.

110.1 It was noted there was a legal requirement for PCs to have a website. Cllr. Makarenko suggested members looked at Tanworth-in-Arden PCs website, he said it was really good. It was stated Cllr. Makarenko could liaise with the PCs website provider, to improve and update CGPCs website.

111. To receive any reports from Councillors and/or the Clerk.

111.1 Cllr. Moloney said she had been working some unusual shifts, which had resulted in driving on Tanworth Lane, when it was dark. She said numerous times, she had seen two cars side by side, flying up the road. It was stated some of Tanworth Lane was in CG parish. Cllr. Moloney said it was possible, it was being used as a racetrack. She added she had seen enough to be concerned.

111.1.1 It was stated there was a house that had been driven into four times by cars, near the Crossroads garage.

111.1.2 It was noted the PCs speed sign had been on Tanworth Lane and Solihull MBC, had also placed a speed sign on Tanworth Lane. It was suggested to ask Solihull MBC to put a speed sign there again, or to have the PCs sign there for one or two weeks. Cllr. Heslington said her contact for this at SMBC was away at present, to wait until he returned to work, then to see what SMBC could do.

111.2 It was stated there were issues with speeding in BV, Stroudley Road was mentioned. Cllr. Swain said with the Clerk, he had quarterly meetings with the Heads of Highways; he would raise this at the next meeting.

111.3 There were comments about having the speed sign in Illshaw Heath.

111.4 A resident spoke about a gate to farmland on Box Trees Lane, they said there appeared to be a lot of empty cars parked there, with towels draped over the windows. They explained the location was as you came out of BV, towards Hockley Heath, there was a metal gate and a concreted piece of land, there were cars, vans, camper vans and lots of activity at all times. It was pointed out there was a bit of woodland area there. It was suggested to highlight this to the farmer.

111.5 Stroudley Road was referred to as being an issue. Cllr. Swain said at the last Solihull Area Meeting (SAM), issues concerning BV had been raised with the Police Chief Inspector. There were comments about a near miss waiting to happen on Stroudley Road, there were no seats and people sat on the kerb, there were parked cars, it was a high-risk area, it was a design fault, more bollards were needed.

111.5.1 It was noted roads in BV were not adopted by SMBC. It was stated IM Properties was responsible for traffic maintenance and parking, IM could issue tickets. When the Dementia Home was opened, tickets had been issued.

111.5.2 There were comments about whether IM was carrying out its duties; about it being too costly, about there being no road markings stating, 'no parking', that some land was classed as private. It was noted there was to be a meeting with IM about this and other issues, such as drain covers collapsing, wheelchairs and prams having to go in the roads, to avoid parked cars on the pavements; the Borough Councillors were aware of the issues. Cllr. Swain said he would raise these issues at the quarterly meeting. There were comments about TROs and accidents.

111.5.3 Cllr. Swain spoke about land near Longleat Drive, he said a resident had wanted access, they had contacted SMBCs call centre and been told the land had been sold, to contact Savill's; then Savill's had said it could not confirm or deny if it had purchased the land. The Clerk had contacted SMBC and it was not true, the land had not been sold.

111.6 Cllr. Coles read from the SMBC youth provision proposal. It stated Bromford Housing had commissioned some work for youth provision at BV; it was stated this had not happened.

111.1.1 The proposal was for 8- to 13-year-olds and 13- to 17-year-olds; for the PC to fund this using detached youth workers, there was a bus, which hosted things including a play station; the proposal included details about a youth club and a youth board.

111.1.2 There were comments about where the bus could park in Illshaw Heath, it was stated there were not many youths in Illshaw Heath.

111.1.3 It was stated children travelled between the villages; it had been suggested CGPC could combine with DHPC. It was queried whether the PC was willing to fund this and if the PC was interested.

111.1.4 It was felt the bus sounded okay for BV; it could be set up by the BMX area.

111.1.5 Cllr. Coles said the Boys Brigade could possibly help out on a Thursday evening, with the 8- to 13-year-olds.

111.1.6 Cllr. Swain said there was a mass of demographics in the proposal, but it was short on detail. He said some of this would need to be discussed by the VHMC. It was noted there was a lack of availability for use of the VH. It was currently available on Fridays from 630pm.

111.1.7 There were comments about problems with older youths, in relation to drugs and sex.

111.1.8 It was noted the proposal was to set up a pilot, to then handover to the PC. It was stated specific knowledge was required to set this up.

111.1.9 There were comments about damage to the VH and what if there was any trouble, who would deal with this, pay for damage etc. It was stated there would need to be an agreement in place and pointed out hall users had to agree to the terms and conditions for use.

111.1.10 A resident from BV spoke about the facilities at the Blythe Rose Dementia Care Home, which included a cinema. It was queried if this could be used.

111.1.11 Cllr. Moloney said more details were needed, to see if there was an appetite for this, to explore things further, when and where, how would it work. Cllr. Swain queried how it would all link up.

111.1.12 It was suggested to invite the person who had put the proposal together, to the next PC meeting, to provide a presentation and to allow questions to be asked. It was felt the proposal needed to be followed up with more detail.

111.1.13 It was stated an update on youth provision and having conversations with Parish Councils, was an agenda item for the Solihull Area Meeting (SAM), next week.

112. Update/report from Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC).

112.1 Proposals for a lease to be drafted had been circulated, to members of both the PC and the VHMC. This was currently ongoing.

113. To discuss issues raised with SMBC/speed sign/TROs/EV Charging point.

113.1 In relation to TROs, Cllr. Swain referred to the triangle of land at the top of Vicarage Road. It was suggested to extend the double yellow lines on Creynolds Lane, down the hill. There were comments about corners and junctions that were blocked.

113.1.1 Cllr. Swain said Solihull MBC was seeking the PCs views. There were comments about Coppice Walk and having double yellow lines, from the layby to the corner by the junction of Noble Way.

114. To discuss CGPCs Action Plan.

114.1 Item deferred.

115. To consider and resolve any action(s) in relation to items of correspondence received *(issued to Parish Councillors with the agenda)*.

115.1 Items on the list included the WALC AGM taking place online on Wednesday 11th November; the SAM on Thursday 16th October – Cllr. Coles and Cllr. Heslington or Cllr. Moloney to attend. The invitation to SMBCs Remembrance Sunday event. An email from SMBC regarding use of the car park, which lead to comments about the expansion of CG Primary school and the PC pointing out what would happen, which was now happening. An email from SMBC regarding Borough Emergency Planning/Humanitarian Assistance – it was stated the VHMC had already signed up for this.

116. To discuss and resolve any actions in relation to the ongoing CGPC action list *(issued to Parish Councillors with the agenda)*.

116.1 Item deferred.

117. Agenda items for next meeting.

117.1 There were none.

118. To resolve that due to the special nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

118.1 There was nothing future to discuss. Cllr. Swain thanked everyone for attending.

119. To discuss and resolve any actions regarding any items of correspondence or matters considered confidential.

119.1 There was nothing to discuss.

120. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.

120.1 In confidential section of the minutes.

Meeting closed 9:10pm

Signed

Dated