



Cheswick Green Parish Council

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CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 13th November 2025 7pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present: Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Simon Coles, Margaret Gosling (Vice Chair) and Aimee Moloney.

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

4 members of the public

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

121.1 Apologies were received from Cllr. Heslington, Cllr. Makarenko and Cllr. Swain: these were all accepted.

122. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations.

122.1 There were none.

123. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

123.1 A member of BVRA was present, they spoke about going back and forth, in relation to sorting out a Christmas tree for BV. A location had been found, which residents were happy with, a tree had been sourced via Steve's tree; it was queried how big the tree was, it was 10-12 feet. The issues now were installation and lights.

123.1.1 There were comments about solar lights, the PCs contact at SMBC had said solar lights would not work, due to the lack of day light during the winter months. The BV resident said some commercial solar lights would work, the Chair of BVRA had looked into commercial solar lights, he thought they would work. There were comments about a battery for these and that they could be stolen. It was stated the price quoted was £699.

123.1.2 It was noted someone from Encore (the managing agents for BV), had contacted the PC about this. There had been discussions about digging a hole in the ground, for the tree and/or having a pot for it.

123.1.3 It was queried who would be responsible for H&S; It was noted BV was not yet adopted by SMBC. It was queried where the location for the proposed Christmas tree was. It was stated a grassed area in the middle of BV, there was no electricity, the nearest lampposts were within 10 feet of the site.

123.1.4 Cllr. Coles spoke about the PC looking to have a memorial tree for residents, and experiencing the same issues with this as BVRA were currently having.

123.1.5 It was stated having the Christmas tree in front of the BV care home had been considered, however this area was subject to flooding. There were comments about a plot of land on the way to Illshaw Heath, where there were lampposts.

123.1.6 It was stated there was no point in getting lights, if there was no tree. It was queried whether a tree could be put in place permanently and if so, who would own/maintain the land. The BV resident said they would send a link to the PC and talk with other BVRA members. It was thought it may be difficult to sort something out for this year, hopefully something could be done for next year.

123.1.7 The BVRA member said they had investigated solar CCTV, which was mounted on poles. Commercial planning permission was required for this, the contact at Encore was applying for this. It was stated anything Encore paid for, was split across BV residents. The PC was asked to reserve £10k for CCTV for BV.

123.1.8 Cllr. Gosling said the PC wanted to share resources with everyone in the parish, not the few. It was stated the PC has some funds in reserves.

123.1.9 It was noted previously BVRA had spoken about cleaning graffiti; the Clerk had sent two messages to Love Solihull, one in October after the PC meeting and another in November; no replies had been received. Clerk to chase this again (kits/materials to help remove graffiti).

123.1.10 The Youth offer discussed at the previous meeting was referred to, with the youth bus. Cllr. Coles said a meeting was taking place on Monday 17th November to discuss this, BVRA was invited to attend. Borough Cllr. Green said he had met with the SMBC Officer dealing with this. Blythe was the first Ward getting attention in relation to this. CG/DH/BV and Illshaw Heath were being offered exclusive support, before SMBC reached out to other areas. He advised the groups to take whatever they could. It was stated, it was possible CG/BV and Illshaw Heath could possibly combine with DH on this.

123.1.11 It was noted the VHMC had concerns about any damage/breakage.

123.1.12 There were comments about proposals for a Business Park in Solihull, in the Hockley Heath ward, a mirror image of BV on the opposite side. Cllr. Green referred to Dog Kennel Lane proposals, he said there were rumours of this possibly going through in December, as it was in the old plan, for the Richborough application at the front, opposite the Regency. It was felt this was a ridiculous proposal, due to traffic already queuing now. It was stated in reality, it was going to happen, it was queried what materials would be used, to make sure it was better and that lessons were learnt from the Bloor Homes developments. It was suggested a separate meeting was set up to discuss this, to arrange a date and time.

123.1.13 There were comments about 12-1300 more homes/houses/dwellings, about sports fields, a Country Park and the Taylor Wimpey proposals.

Note: At 7:25pm Borough Cllr. Green and the BVRA rep left the meeting. It was noted BVRA had a meeting due to take place on Wednesday 3rd December, it was agreed some members of CGPC should attend.

124. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 9th October 2025 (*circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda*).

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

125. 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 October 2025	£918.72
M. Zizzi	Reimbursement for Instant ink	£13.49
Kompan	Repairs to wet pour safety surface	£4445.13
Vision ICT	Hosted email and backup	£425.22
Zurich	Annual insurance premium	£1284.56
Colin Mander	DJ for children's Christmas party	£220.00
Sydney Mitchell	Money on account for work on CG Village Hall	£600.00
Solicitors	in relation to lease with PC and VHMC	

More in confidential section.

Transfer of funds from savings into UTB current account for November payments £10,000.

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Coles, seconded Cllr. Gosling – all payments were approved.

126. To discuss 2026-27 budget.

126.1 A suggested budget had been circulated to members of the PC on 3rd November 2025; it was £76,000. It was noted the current precept was £66,528, this was less than the 2025-26 budget. It was stated the cost was currently about £34 per Band D household.

126.2 It was suggested the precept could be increased to £80k, which would still only be £45 per Band D household. It was agreed this could be decided next month. It was queried how much the PC had in Reserves. Clerk to confirm by email tomorrow.

127. To discuss CGPC insurance renewal.

127.1 It was noted the £1284.56 annual premium, was for a 3-year long term agreement.

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

PL/2025/01704/TPO - 12 Boscobel Road Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4JY; Crown reduce oak tree T1 by 2.5 metres (previous pruning points), crown lift to 4 metres, 10% crown thin and cut back from neighbouring property by 2.5 metres. T2 Hornbeam tree, crown reduce by

2.5 metres (previous pruning points) crown lift to 4 metres, and 10% crown thin with both trees to allow light into theirs and neighbouring gardens, and with T1 to clear neighbours' roof.

PL/2024/01089/MINFHO - 9 Saxon Wood Road Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4JN; Removal of conifer trees and replacement of dilapidated timber fence with composite fence. Whilst the new fence is in excess of 1000mm in height, it is lower than the original fence it replaced.

128.1 There were no comments to be submitted for either planning application.

128.2 In relation to Cheswick Place; it was stated the site was still not adopted by SMBC. It was pointed out the swales were more and more overgrown, they were like a forest, this would cause them to silt up. It was stated the brook could not be seen.

128.3 In relation to BV; it was stated the site was not adopted by SMBC yet.

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

129.1 In relation to Saxon Wood Road, the bark chipping on the path had been done, there was some fly tipping and it was proposed to install a path. Clerk to send letter to Mr. & Mrs. Lang, in response to their letter about tree concerns.

129.2 Cllr. Coles spoke about some wear on the chains/swings. He said there was 40% wear, before this reached 80%, they needed to be replaced. He suggested when they were replaced, the next strength/thickness of chain was used.

129.3 There were comments about the concrete table tennis table, it was stated it was not used much, if at all, that people sat on it. It was suggested to get rid of it.

130. To discuss the RoSPA reports.

130.1 The report had also highlighted wear on the swing chains, as well as some bolts that were missing/loose.

130.2 There had been various comments/suggestions about the football goalposts. It was noted new ones had been purchased in 2017, at a cost of about £800. It had been suggested to purchase new ones, rather than to pay to repair the existing ones, it was thought this could cost about £1000.

130.2.1 It was suggested the PC liaised with its ground's maintenance contractor, regarding disposal of the existing ones and installing new ones, to possibly get these delivered directly to the ground's maintenance contractor. It was also suggested to sell the old ones for scrap metal.

130.3 It was noted the basketball hoop net was damaged.

130.4 It was agreed to obtain a cost for goalposts/nets and netting for the basketball hoop, to put forward a cost for these with the shelter, and to get all these done next year.

131. To discuss the car park, EV Charging points, Christmas and PC credit card.

131.1 It was pointed out the car park was linked with the EV Charging points. The PC was waiting for an update from SMBC about the EV Charging points. A section of the car park would need to be resurfaced, when this was done, the PC could get the other parts it owned repaired.

131.2 A resident had offered to do the Bingo calling, prizes need to be obtained. It was noted Ethel's café had offered a voucher as a prize, this needed to be collected. It was suggested to ask the local hairdressers, if they were willing to donate a prize. Then it was a case of seeing who turned up.

131.3 The day after the Bingo was the Christmas tree lights switch on and children's disco.

Everything was in order; the DJ was booked and being paid with the November PC payments.

131.4 The forms to apply for a credit card via Unity Trust Bank, had now been signed and completed.

132. To discuss CGPC website.

132.1 Cllr. Moloney said there were issues with this, it was out of date and not linked to any of the PCs social media.

132.2 It was agreed it needed changing, updating and redesigning, as well as tidying up. It was stated the drop down 'recent news' was out of date and needed sorting out.

132.3 It was suggested Cllr. Makarenko could assist with this and to look at costs.

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

133.1 Cllr. Gosling said she would like to thank everyone who had helped her, Cllrs., friends and neighbours, they had all done so much. Cllr. Moloney had brought her to the meeting this evening. Cllr. Coles had done lots to help her, it was possible she would not have been able to keep her dog, without all the help she had received. People had been great.

133.2 It was noted the Clerk had updated and slightly amended the Events Application form. It was agreed this should replace what was currently on the website.

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

134.1 Item deferred.

135. To discuss issues raised with SMBC/speed sign.

135.1 Cllr. Swain and the Clerk had attended the quarterly meeting with SMBCs Head of Highways. Notes from this meeting had been circulated to all PC members.

135.2 To discuss the speed sign was deferred. It was pointed out the PC may need to purchase a second sign.

136. To discuss CGPCs Action Plan.

136.1 Item deferred.

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

137.1 Correspondence from a local resident, in relation to a free bus pass for her son was noted; It was stated this issue had been going on for years. Cllr. Gosling said an ex-Cllr. had done a lot of work on this previously. It was stated it was not safe to walk down Tanworth Lane; there were comments about the 3-mile limit and safe transport, about not providing schools and about legally having to walk the route, every so many years etc. Cllr. Moloney said she was happy to follow up on this.

137.2 An email from Ethel's was noted, the PC were grateful for the offer of a voucher for a prize for the Christmas Bingo event. It was suggested to ask Ethel's, if it was interested in providing catering for events.

137.3 Information regarding BTs Digital Voice was noted; it was stated this would never happen, as the internet service was too slow.

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

138.1 Noted.

139. Agenda items for next meeting.

139.1 2026-27 Precept. The Recreation Ground (shelter, goalposts, basketball net).

140. 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.

140.1 There was nothing future to discuss. Cllr. Gosling thanked everyone for attending.

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

141.1 There was nothing to discuss.

142. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.

142.1 In confidential section of the minutes.

Meeting closed 8:10pm

Signed

Dated