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CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 11th September 2025 7pm Cheswick Green Village Hall

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

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

5 members of the public

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

78.1 Not applicable all Parish Councillors present.

79. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations.

79.1 There were none.

80. Public Participation (15 Minutes).

80.1 A member of the public referred to abandoned cars on the car park; they said a couple had been there for 6 months; it was stated a BMW had been moved around the car park three times, the other car was a silver Civic Smart car. It was stated three cars were taking up four spaces; one had a SORN, one had no MOT, the Smart car was taxed and had an MOT, but there was a brick underneath a tyre.

80.1.1 It was stated the cars were parked in parts of the car park, the brewery and the shop owner were responsible for. It was stated the car park was always full and people were often looking for somewhere to park.

80.1.2 It was noted the Parish Council had put notices on cars previously, which had resulted in them being moved. It was suggested the Parish Council did this again.

80.2 Cllr. Swain referred to a meeting he had attended with Cllr. Heslington; he said Antisocial Behaviour had been discussed; he said since this meeting, there were two huge vehicles, dumping nitrous oxide/laughing gas cannisters, as well as boxes of balloons on the car park, in broad daylight. He said these vehicles had a company name on them; they were both landscaping companies. It was stated CCTV footage had been sent to the police, but nothing had been done. It was suggested to send this to the companies as shown on the vehicles. It was noted the cannisters had been removed, they were in the Parish Council office, there were two boxes of 12. It was suggested to invite Police Constable Clare Flynn to a future Parish Council meeting.

80.2 A resident said there had been reports of a man standing in the hedges, behind the stream, watching children playing; the police had been informed but did not seem to be interested; it was suggested to report this to SMBC. The person who had reported this wanted a flagpole; it was suggested the CCTV was looked at.

80.3 Cllr. Swain said a few years ago with Cllr. Gosling, he had attended a walk around Cheswick Green, with a representative from SMBC, to look at various issues including overgrowth; it had then taken 3 months before anything had been done.

80.3.1 Cllr. Heslington referred to emails sent to SMBC, about people planting on grass verges/land that did not belong to them; she said the problem was, when people moved no-one took responsibility for what had been planted, she referred to an area that was meant to be inspected; it was suggested she contacted Chris Barr (SMBCs Head of Public Realm).

There were comments about bricks along a kerb to be removed and a tree, that had been chopped down, which had now sprouted and was overgrown.

80.3.2 It was stated there was overgrowth by 11 Saxon Wood Road, which prevented people from walking past.

80.4 A resident from Blythe Valley, said they were the Vice Chair of BV RA and introduced the BV RA secretary, who was also present. They spoke about when the BV RA had been set up and the person who had instigated this, who had now sold their house and moved on; therefore this person was no longer the Chairman of the BV RA, there was a new Chairman; the resident went on to say, the intention was to have two BV RA reps to attend Parish Council meetings, adding that BV RA now had 19 members.

80.4.1 It was stated the BV RA had more members than the former CG RA had. It was noted there would be a new email address for BV RA.

80.4.2 The resident from BV said they would like to arrange a meeting, with the Blythe Borough Councillors to discuss Stroudley Road and the barrier coming up. They said this was an issue on BV, someone had already been hospitalised. They added the business side were opposed to having it lifted, as they thought it would make things worse. It was queried what the Parish Council could do; Cllr. Swain said the PC would support BV RA.

80.4.3 The BV resident asked if the PC could purchase another speed sign, to enable more use at BV, as it was only there for 4 weeks. Cllr. Heslington said she had altered the rota now and BV would get it more often and longer in the future.

80.4.4 There were comments about Crest Nicholson not tarmacking all the roads yet, and about where the speed sign could be located; it was suggested near to the Virgin Active centre; it was queried who owned the road and the lamppost by Virgin Active.

80.4.5 Cllr. Heslington said she had looked at sites, to share the speed sign more fairly, where it was located in BV was the only place it could be put, until more roads were adopted. Cllr. Gosling said some land on BV was private land.

80.4.5 Borough Cllr. Green spoke about SMBCs website, showing all the roads it had adopted. There were comments about roads parallel to pavements, parked cars and people walking in the road.

80.4.6 In relation to Stroudley Road, it was noted it was a big bend and children sat on the floor, buses cut the corner and went onto the pavement, it was an accident waiting to happen.

80.4.7 It was stated Virgin Active was on Blythe Gate. Cllr. Heslington asked the BV residents if they would like the data from the speed camera, they said they would. Cllr. Heslington explained the battery had not been working around the August bank holiday, she had contacted SMBC about this; she had July's data and there would be future data.

80.5 It was stated things at Winterton Farm had seemed to have calmed down; it was noted CGPC Chairman and Clerk had quarterly meetings with SMBCs Heads of Highways; SMBC could not say much about this matter, however it was thought SMBC wanted Winterton Farm to pay for the rectification works and that due to contaminated soil, the path would not be reinstated in November.

80.6 Cllr. Swain said at a recent Solihull Area Meeting (SAM), the Police Chief Inspector had been present, she had asked about problems in relation to antisocial behaviour; he said the BV issues had been put forward; they had been told BV RA had tried to hold meetings about this, however no-one from the Housing Association had attended.

80.6.1 A BV resident said the BMX area had been vandalised and graffitied, the area was constantly being damaged; the netting at the children's play area had been ripped down/slashed; they referred to £7k insurance. There were comments about asking the BV Managing Company for CCTV, but there being no power for this, it was stated solar energy could be used. There were comments about having CCTV for the BMX area and the children's play area, where groups gathered and destroyed things. It was stated if costs were obtained, the PC would see if it could assist.

80.6.2 It was stated the Co-op area had CCTV; it was noted a GDPR policy was needed for CCTV; Cllr. Swain said he would look into if the PC was permitted to spend on CCTV for BV.

80.7 It was noted there was still one vacancy on the PC; that it would be good to have someone from BV; it was explained that a Councillor ceased to be a member, if they did not attend 6 consecutive meetings.

80.8 Cllr. Heslington said she would ask SMBC about Stroudley Road, in relation to the speed camera.

80.9 Cllr. Coles suggested BV RA looked at Stellifii, in relation to CCTV, as it provided wireless 360-degree coverage.

80.10 There were comments about SMBCs Green Belt Assessment and 'washed over' land. It was stated this could not be discussed, as it was currently confidential. It was noted CGPC did not have a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

80.11 Borough Cllr. Green spoke about proposals for the Lloyds TSB site; Gas Street Church was looking at it, the land was being surveyed; the intention was to keep the existing buildings as they were, to build some social housing; there were big plans, but not to alter the footprint; there was a brochure outlining the plans. The organisation was looking to see if it could afford the land. It was stated this would only require building regulations and not a planning application. It was stated St. Patricks knew all about it; the organisation was looking to see if it could finance this with 35 houses. It was stated the site was like a big hotel and it already had a swimming pool. It was noted Gas Street Church held Sunday services at Tudor Grange School, it was part of the Church of England.

Note: at 19:47 Borough Cllr. Green left the meeting.

81. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 10th July 2025 *(circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda).*

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

82. 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 July 2025	£918.72
M. Zizzi	Instant ink	£13.49
Moore	External audit y/e/ 31/03/2025	£378.00
The Acorn Workshop	2 x signs for Rec. Ground	£2724.00
Community	Defib/installation etc. for Blythe Valley	£2335.00
Heartbeat Trust		
Vision ICT	Hosted email account October 2025 - September 2026	£96.00
DM Payroll Services	Administration of payroll 1 st April – 30 th September 2025	£120.00
Countrywide GM	Monthly grounds maintenance August 2025	£918.72
M. Zizzi	Instant ink	£13.49
Countrywide GM	Tree work	£180.00

More in confidential section.

Transfer of funds from savings into UTB current account for August payments £6335.00

No transfer needed for September, as second half of the precept and VAT refund both paid into UTB current account. Petty cash £83.14.

82.1 It was unanimously agreed to donate £100 to Marie Curie, in memory of Mrs. Cresswell; it was noted Mrs. Cresswell had done a lot for the community, including being a School Governor for numerous years.

Resolved: proposed Cllr. Swain, seconded Cllr. Coles – all payments were approved.

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

PL/2025/01271/MINFHO - 262 Creynolds Lane Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4ET; Timber frame garden office built off a concrete base at the end of the garden.

PL/2025/01421/MINFHO - 196 Creynolds Lane Cheswick Green Solihull B90 4ES; Construction of new boundary wall with pillars and railings, and relocation of entrance and exit points for the residential building.

PL/2025/01513/MINFHO - 18 And 20 Box Trees Lane Blythe Valley Park Shirley Solihull; New front porch to No.s 18 and 20 Box Trees Lane.

83.1 The above three applications were received after the July 2025 Parish Council meeting, but before this meeting. They were circulated by email and it was agreed there were no comments to be submitted for any of these.

PL/2024/00598/PPOL - Land South Of Dog Kennel Lane Shirley Solihull; Outline planning permission is sought with all matters reserved for future determination, save for the means of access via Stratford Road and Dog Kennel Lane for: up to 550 dwellings (comprising use Class C3), public open spaces and children's play areas, ecological habitats, sustainable drainage features, walking and cycle routes, highway improvements, and ancillary works.

83.1.1 The above application was received after the July 2025 Parish Council meeting, but before this meeting. It was circulated by email and agreed to submit that CGPC had

submitted objections to this proposal previously, it was felt what had already been submitted, was still the same for objecting to this application. It was stated the issue was more to do with infrastructure, roads/traffic, medical/doctors' facilities/provisions and schooling, than the actual development itself. This had been reiterated, in an email sent to the officer dealing with this application. It was pointed out amendments kept on being submitted.

82.2 In relation to BV; it was noted the defibrillator had now been installed; the Parish Council was thanked for sorting this out. It was noted Mid-counties Co-op, had sent information about online training 'How to use a Community Defibrillator' and how to access this training to the Clerk. This was taking place on Monday 29th September 2025 6-8pm; Clerk to forward details/poster to BV RA.

82.3 In relation to Cheswick Place; Cllr. Gosling said the swales and stream could hardly be seen, the area was so overgrown, there was too much and it was too high; this caused silting and this would result in more flooding. Cllr. Swain said this had been raised at the quarterly meeting with SMBC; the gate had been fixed, as well as four new gates to the culverts. It was suggested to contact the EA about this. It was stated nothing had been done for 7-8 years.

Cllr. Swain spoke about a line of interwoven fencing at the back of units in BV, he said a brilliant job had been done with this. It was stated Bloor had done nothing for SMBC to take over the site; the PC had made a point that if matters were not dealt with, SMBC would inherit them.

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

84.1 Cllr. Swain spoke about the red BT kiosk used as a book swap, he said it was being abused, it was 2-feet deep with books on the floor; it was noted there was a sign asking people not to leave stuff on the floor; there were books/CDs/DVDs/videos/games; it was suggested to close or suspend it temporarily. Cllr. Gosling said it was not just here this happened. It was agreed to ask the PCs grounds maintenance contractor, if they could arrange to remove these items and get rid of them on a monthly basis, and if so, how much this would cost.

84.2 Cllr. Gosling said an issue with a tree stump had been resolved; this was attracting wildlife; she had thanked the person who had provided the PC with some advice. In relation to Saxon Wood Road, it was noted the path needed barking and the hedges would need trimming.

84.3 In relation to the Mount; it was stated the overhanging tree had been cut, possibly by a local resident; a resident wanted the bushes lowered so they could see what was going on inside the Mount. It was noted some logs had been set on fire/burnt; it was stated this was not good, especially during the dry warm/hot weather, as there were lots of branches and it was at the back of the school, to keep an eye on this.

84.4 In relation to the Recreation Ground; Cllr. Coles spoke about the wet pour surface, he said around the swings was bad; he had a quote to repair this it was £3728 + VAT; the other option was to take the edging out and grass it; it was agreed this needed to be done. There were comments about the costs for all black wet pour, and whether this would save any money. It was agreed a proper repair was needed, and queried whether to do this now or in January/February.

84.4.1 It was noted this was a trip hazard and the PC was responsible; the area was used a lot and therefore, there would be wear and tear. It was suggested next time to use wood chip, however, there were concerns about this attracting animals. It was agreed the work to repair this should go ahead.

84.4.2 Cllr. Coles said a hole had been dug for bikes to jump, at the side of the drain; it probably needed filling back in, as it had exposed the drain, however it had been done with good intentions and it was being well used; those that had done this and that were using it were not being intimidating; it was suggested to refill the hole, but to leave the lip as it was for bike jumping.

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

85.1 It was noted two signs were to be installed for the Recreation Ground; one by the Village Hall entrance and the other as people came off the bridge; Clerk to inform the PCs grounds maintenance contractor, to dig the holes somewhere in this area, as long as the sign was visible when people entered the Recreation Ground.

85.2 It was agreed once the signs had been erected, the new casual use policy should be published, on the PCs website, Facebook page and other social media.

85.3 It was stated after the last meeting, suggestions for a shelter had been circulated and one had been agreed on. It was discussed whether to look at having this installed now or in the new year. It was pointed out Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, had recently reseeded the ground. It was thought the ground would be too hard in January, but the shelter should be installed after Christmas. It was suggested to order it now, to maintain the current cost but to ask for it to be installed in the Spring.

85.4 Cllr. Coles spoke about a pump-track, he said to have something like there was at BV, was a major investment, which required lots of planning. He said he had obtained a quote for a Day Hire of equipment and he queried if the PC wanted to go ahead with this. It was suggested possibly during the May half-term, for a week, to see if it was worth doing and then whether to expand on this. It was thought this could take place when the shelter was installed next year. It was agreed to add this to the event/actions list, to discuss after Christmas. It was stated there could be a family fun day next year. It was pointed out how difficult it had been to get any volunteers to help out at events.

85.5 Cllr. Coles said he had a new Youth Offer Development Lead contact, who had requested a meeting, as both CG and DH had been assessed as missing having youth provision. He spoke about having a budget allocated for 11–18-year-olds. He said there were detached youth workers, who travelled around, they had a bus which had things like a play station onboard.

85.5.1 Cllr. Coles said they could visit CG and BV; he said they wanted to use the Village Hall (VH), once a week, to offer food and workshops. It was stated there was no availability to use the VH.

85.5.2 Cllr. Coles said there were trained youth workers and this was being proposed, to attempt to stop antisocial behaviour. He said the PC could provide funds, for example £10k per annum.

85.5.3 It was queried who recruited the volunteers; it was stated it was possible parents would help out. The Youth Workers wanted to use the bus and the VH; it was stated they could not do this in BV, as there was no VH and no where to park the bus.

85.5.4 It was pointed out the car park outside the VH was full all the time.

85.5.5 It was stated lack/no youth provision was linked with antisocial behaviour.

85.5.6 Cllr. Swain said financially this was a seventh of the precept; he said almost half of the precept came from BV, but the PC could not offer BV much. He referred to the PC trying to set aside some CIL money for BV, but it being unable to do this. It was stated there would be an increase in housing in the future.

85.5.7 It was felt the PC could afford to do something like this, looking at the budget and the figures.

85.5.8 Cllr. Coles said there had been talk about Ubers for BV. It was queried why there was no VH at BV. This led to comments about proposed flats in Solihull Town Centre, but no provision for parking and that 18–25-year-olds learning to drive, being at its lowest rate ever.

85.5.9 It was thought the PC liked the idea in principle and that it would consider providing a budget, this could be considered in November. Cllr. Moloney said something was needed; she referred to the earlier comments about the dumping of used nitrous oxide/laughing gas cannisters etc. Members did not know how this would work for BV or Illshaw Heath, to make it fair.

85.5.10 It was stated the Youth providers would come up with a proposal and to see what £10k could do. It was pointed out that DHPC was onboard with this already. It was stated there was an issue in DH, with people speeding through DH and driving the wrong way round roundabouts, which was causing mayhem, 17–18-year-olds were doing this.

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

86.1 Cllr. Coles and Cllr. Heslington had met with a representative from SMBC, in relation to installing Electric Charging Points and representatives from SMBCs partner operator Qwello; the idea had altered from 3 to 5 points, with 2 double mounted power stations, on the hatched area of the car park, providing 22 kilo watt chargers, as a destination stop for VH, the Surgery, the pub and shops users.

86.1.1 It was stated good lighting would come with these; the power point would be between the two garages, where part of the car park would need to be dug up, which would require

the landlord's permission. The car park would need to be closed for a weekend, to install the points and for a week to carry out resurfacing.

86.1.2 It was felt the suggested timescales were not viable. It was queried whether the VHMC needed to be involved. It was noted 50% of members of the PC had electric cars. It was stated that realistically this was needed, for the future.

86.1.3 It was noted having these would generate some income. It was pointed out the VHMC was responsible for the inside of the VH, the PC was responsible for anything on the outside. It was reiterated having these would light the area well. It was stated the points could not be policed, unless cars were dumped in the spaces. It was felt people would park in the spaces and that usage would be small.

86.1.4 Cllr. Coles explained there was a separate minute charging rate, and about a destination charger for the daytime and for the nighttime, for locals who had someone staying over. It was stated a car could be left parked overnight, however if it was fully charged and left, there was a cost.

86.1.5 Cllr. Heslington felt they should have these installed, but was concerned about any delay to having the car park repaired.

86.1.6 It was noted since a recent meeting with the shops/landowner, the brewery had said it would get involved and repair a part of the car park it owned; however, things had since gone cold again. It was agreed the PC would inform the shops/land-owner, the PC was going ahead with both the EV charging points and the work on the car park; everyone was in favour, it was agreed to inform the shops/landowner managing agents and if no reply was received, by a deadline date, the PC would be going ahead.

86.1.7 There were comments about the Surfco quote and about the costs being equally shared; it was pointed out the shops/landowner was responsible for slightly more of the car park than the PC.

86.2 In relation to Remembrance Sunday, the VH was booked 10-3 on Sunday 9th November.

86.3 In relation to the Christmas Bingo, the VH was booked Saturday 6th December from 630pm. Cllr. Coles proposed a budget of £250 for some decent prizes; this was agreed; there were comments about having a meat box, possibly a vegetarian option and decent wine. It was agreed to think about the prizes and to possibly have a cash prize or some vouchers. It was noted the tables and chairs would need to be set up and refreshments provided.

86.4 Most things were already in place for the Christmas tree lights switch on; Shirley Roundtables Father Christmas needed to be confirmed.

86.5 In relation to Starlink, the Clerk was submitting the application form for a PC credit card tomorrow. Cllr. Gosling made some comments about the need for a flat roof and that Starlink was not 100% reliable. There were comments about the CCTV and about Starlink equipment being mounted on a pole. It was noted both Cllr. Heslington and Cllr. Makarenko used Starlink, they said it worked well, it had already been agreed to proceed with this.

86.5.1 Cllr. Gosling spoke about BT switching off the copper soon, and the effects this would have on people who relied on landlines, who did not use the internet.

86.5.2 It was stated the maximum contract with Starlink was for 12 months and there was a 30-day trial. It was pointed out the PC landline/phone line and a message needed to be sorted out.

87. To discuss CGPC website.

87.1 Item deferred.

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

88.1 Cllr. Swain said with the Clerk he had attended the quarterly meeting with SMBCs Head of Highways; two or three issues had been dealt with, however the old fencing at Watery Lane had not been removed; a formal complaint had already been made and if this was not taken away, there would be another formal complaint.

88.1.1 Cllr. Swain said not all the rotten fencing had been replaced. Cllr. Moloney queried why the fencing was all so different. It was felt what had been done, was not a good job.

88.1.2 Cllr. Swain said there had been several queries in relation to Cheswick Place for Bloor Homes, he added the fencing had been done at Cheswick Place.

88.1.3 Cllr. Swain said SMBCs Head of Highways had asked if the PC wanted to propose any further TROs (Temporary Road Orders); he referred to the triangle of land at the top of Vicarage Road, where cars parked on land outside the school/church; it was agreed if something were done there, it would just push the problem elsewhere.

88.1.4 Cllr. Moloney spoke about the corner of Coppice and the entrance to Noble Way, she said cars drove on the wrong side of the road, you could not see if something was coming,

cars drove very fast round there. It was queried what could be done and stated if the PC came up with an idea, to put it forward to SMBC, it would be considered. It was suggested double yellow lines were used.

88.1.5 Cllr. Swain said it was a 2-year process, there would be a feasibility study, it would have to be looked at by the legal department and then go to Full Council for approval, before anything happened. Cllr. Swain to speak to his contact about this.

88.1.6 There were comment about outside the school, whether SMBC would look at alternatives and the first hurdle being the Head of Highways; as well as about further down Creynolds Lane having double yellow lines.

88.1.7 It was stated BV was a whole different conversation and there were comments about enforcing restrictions. It was stated TROs were only in relation to parking restrictions, nothing to do with speed, however this could be raised. It was stated there were no speed cameras on Tanworth Lane and that where cars drove on pavements, one day something would go wrong; a BMW and Skoda were mentioned. It was stated the speed camera would be going on the bend of Coppice Walk next. It was agreed to discuss TROs again at the next meeting, to finalise what the PC wanted to put forward to SMBC.

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

89.1 Cllr. Swain said the toilets had been redecorated, the loft had been insulated and a ladder had been installed, and the floor in the large hall stripped and re-sealed. He said the VH cleaner had resigned.

89.2 Cllr. Swain said the VHMC was now a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Members of the PC congratulated the VHMC on achieving this status.

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

90.1 All these items had been covered.

91. To discuss CGPCs Action Plan.

91.1 Item deferred.

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

92.1 Emails from a resident in relation to her son's school bus pass, were noted, this was ongoing.

92.2 An email and photographs from Cllr. Swain regarding the VH gutters being cleared, suggesting this was added to the maintenance schedule was noted.

92.3 An email from an Officer from SMBC, regarding people planting on grass verges, had already been discussed and this was to be followed up.

92.4 An email about the annual RoSPA safety inspection was noted. Cllr. Coles had requested demo, in relation to taking control of your playground inspections, this had not been received.

92.5 An email from 'Slow Ways' about putting your community on the map was referred to. It was suggested to ask SMBC if it was aware of this.

92.6 Several other items on the list were noted and had already been covered during the meeting.

92.7 It was agreed to invite the police for the local area to a future meeting. It was stated the police contacted the PC when it wanted to look at CCTV footage; however, the police were not responsive when the PC sent the police CCTV to look at.

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

93.1 Item deferred.

94. Agenda items for next meeting.

94.1 There were none.

95. 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.

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

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

97. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.

97.1 In confidential section of the minutes.

Meeting closed 9:20pm

Signed

Dated