



*Cheswick Green Parish Council*

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## CHESWICK GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 7pm Cheswick Green Village Hall**

**Present:** Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Simon Coles, Margaret Gosling (Vice Chair), Linda Heslington, Daniel Makarenko, Aimee Moloney and Mick Swain (Chairman).  
Clerk: Marie Zizzi 6 members of the public

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

164.1 Not applicable all Parish Councillors present.

### **165. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations.**

165.1 There were none.

### **166. Public Participation (15 Minutes).**

166.1 A member of the BVRA was present, they enquired about the request for the PC to provide £10k for CCTV for BV. It was queried what the £10k would cover; it was stated installation of two CCTV cameras on poles and anything necessary to get these up and running. It was stated the Managing Agent for BV, Encore, already had a company it used and were obtaining quotes/costs. There were comments about an annual fee, it was stated this information was not known yet, things were not at this stage.

166.1.1 There were comments about SMBC adopting BV. It was stated the PC needed to pay an organisation and not an individual person. It was pointed out the PC usually required three quotes. However, as Encore was using the company it already worked with, this should be okay, it was justified. Cllr. Swain explained how the PC had managed to do this, in relation to the new playground equipment.

166.1.2 The BVRA member said a meeting was taking place next week, on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 10am, any questions could be put forward at this meeting.

166.1.3 Cllr. Swain referred to a formal complaint made by another member of BVRA, to SMBC, he queried whether this had been dealt with. The BVRA member said they were not aware of this, however they would try to find out.

166.1.4 There were comments about repairs to pavements/highways and Crest Nicholson finishing these off.

166.1.5 It was noted there had been a meeting about youth provision. It was stated Bromford Housing had been carrying out things for youths, for over a year, however no-one appeared to know about this. Cllr. Swain referred to a meeting he was having on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January, he said he would ask about this, as well as when BV would be adopted by SMBC.

166.1.6 It was noted the defibrillator training had still not taken place. The Clerk had sent three emails to the Co-operative about this, but had not received any reply.

166.1.7 The speed sign was mentioned, having a Bingo night at BV possibly at the Care Home was referred to. It was stated the PC wanted community events for BV. It was stated Virgin Active was not very supportive. There were comments about a minibus and the need for a budget/cost. Note at 7:10pm the BVRA member left the meeting.

166.2 A local resident asked about an update on the results of the survey, for a shelter for the park; It was stated this had been posted on Facebook, shared with the community and included in CGPC minutes. The resident was not aware of this and asked what the results were. It was stated there had been about 120 completed questionnaires, with mixed views, most people did not want more than £10k to be spent. This had caused problems as one

could not be obtained for that price. Four members of the PC had tried to obtain quotes. It was stated structures like this were built for America/Canada, at a cost of about £200k.  
166.2.1 It was stated the PC had looked at various options, one shelter had been agreed on, the company had been asked if it would hold the price.

166.2.2 Cllr. Moloney located the summary of the results of the questionnaire/survey; she said there had been 124 responses, 75% wanted a shelter to be made from recycled materials, the average amount people wanted spent was £10k, under 45s wanted it located by the play area, over 45s wanted it nearer the nature reserve area. People had included suggestions for other things, this information had been posted on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

166.2.3 There were comments about final discussions taking place in March/April; deciding whether to do it or not, due to things the PC had needed to deal with and having to seek advice from WALC/NALC/SMBC. It was stated the PC had been advised not to replace it.

166.2.4 It was stated this could cost about half of the full annual precept, which was currently about £66k. It was stated the PC had been approached by SMBC, to look at youth provision for the parish. There were comments about budgets/costs, it was stated to do everything, would mean the precept would need to treble, the PC was trying to balance things.

166.2.5 It was stated dog walkers used the shelter when there was a rain shower; the PC had looked at suitable structures. It was pointed out dog walkers were currently sitting on plastic bags on benches.

166.2.6 It was stated the PC would decide in April, however the budget needed to be set now.

166.3 A local resident spoke about dog faeces round Cheswick Green, they said it was horrendous. It was stated it appeared to be more prevalent since the snow/ice, last week. There were comments about dog faeces in bags, these bags then being thrown into trees/bushes/hedges. Cllr. Coles referred to stickers on community bins, stating people could put their dog poo bags in these.

166.3.1 It was pointed out there were people who cleared up after their dogs, then there were those that did not and would not. It was agreed this was an issue, however there was not really anything the PC could do. It was pointed out there were no bins at Cheswick Place, it was stated until the site was adopted by SMBC, nothing could be done.

166.3.2 There were comments about bins being full, it was stated the PC bins were emptied once a week and twice a week, during school holidays. It was pointed out the bins by the shops had everything dumped in them, it was lucky SMBC arranged for these to be emptied and the stuff was taken away.

166.4 A local resident asked if there was any update on the car park. It was stated yes, it was going to be repaired, now the PC had managed to get the agreement from the other two owners, to contribute towards the cost.

166.5 It was stated a car on Cheswick Way had been given a parking ticket.

**167. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025** (*circulated to Parish Cllrs. with the agenda*).

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

**168. 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*).

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Total</b>
RoSPA	Playsafety annual safety inspection ( <i>payment made 15/10/2026</i> )	£206.40
Countrywide GM	Monthly grounds maintenance December 2025	£918.72
Marie Zizzi	Reimbursement for Instant ink	£13.49
Countrywide GM	Work on trees Saxon Wood Road by garages	£2217.60
DM Payroll Services	Administration of payroll October 2025 – March 2026	£120.00
NMK Planning	Work on planning application PL/2025/02358/PPOL	£300.00

It was noted there were a few quotes to be considered, these would be dealt with under the appropriate agenda item.

More in confidential section.

Transfer of funds from savings into UTB current account for January payments £6,000.

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

**Minutes of the Parish Council held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**169. To receive quarterly comparison (budget/expenditure) and bank reconciliation.**

169.1 These had been sent to Parish Councillors by email, there were no queries.

**170. To discuss 2026-27 budget.**

170.1 A proposed budget had been circulated. It was noted this did not include £10k for CCTV for BV, or costs for a new defibrillator for outside the VH, or for a new shelter and funds were needed for the car park repairs.

170.2 There were comments about the need to increase the precept to £80k; that a 20% increase would only mean an increase of about £4.30 per household. It was stated the budget was £76k, plus £10k for CCTV, plus £15k for a shelter, plus £1k for a defibrillator, brought the amount to £102k and this still did not include anything for youth provision.

170.3 It was stated if the precept was £80k, it would be £13,472 more than the current precept which was £66,528.

**171. To resolve 2026-27 Precept and delegate authority to the Clerk to submit the notice to Solihull MBC.**

171.1 It was agreed to discuss this later in the meeting. It was noted the form needed to be submitted to SMBC by 23<sup>rd</sup> January. Cllr. Swain said he would look at the figures and circulate something for members to consider, once an amount was agreed, the Clerk could submit the necessary form to SMBC. There were no objections, everyone agreed.

Note: final amount to be formally approved/resolved, retrospectively at the next meeting.

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

**PL/2026/00032/MINFHO** - 15 Illshaw Heath Road Hockley Heath Solihull B94 6RT; Single storey rear extension.

172.1 There were no comments to be submitted.

**PL/2025/02358/PPOL** - Land Off Tanworth Lane Shirley Solihull; Residential development for up to 150 dwellings (Use Class C3), including access, public open space, landscaping and associated infrastructure (Outline, All Matters Reserved other than the principle means of access to the Site from Tanworth Lane).

172.2 The PCs planning consultant had provided a quote for £1256, to review current policy issues affecting this site, review the site history and information submitted for this application, provide advice and the issues it raised, prepare a response to be submitted to SMBC, to be sent to the PC to be commented on before submitting it to SMBC.

172.2.1 All members agreed to accept this quote. Clerk to ask SMBC for an extension on the time to comment on this application. To inform the Planning Consultant of the PCs decision and pay the £300 required.

**PL/2025/02373/PPOL** - Land East of Joseph House Stratford Road Shirley Solihull; Outline development for residential development of up to 120 dwellings, open space, landscaping, required infrastructure, and associated works. With all matters reserved other than access.

172.3 It was stated this land was to the West and not the East.

172.3.1 The PC agreed this should also be sent to the Planning Consultant, for a quote to deal with this on the same basis as the above application. Clerk to contact Planning Consultant and ask SMBC for an extension on the time to comment.

**173. To discuss monthly site audits of Parish Council owned land.**

173.1 It was noted a Stone Mason was to visit the Boer War Memorial, to provide feedback on the RoSPA report, the Clerk had chased this, but not received any reply to date. It was noted there were some concerns about the safety of some of the stones. It was suggested a notice could be displayed.

173.2 Other comments on the site audits were noted.

**174. To discuss the Recreation Ground (shelter, goalposts, basketball net etc.)**

174.1 It was felt this had already been covered.

**175. To discuss the car park, EV Charging points, and PC credit card.**

175.1 Cllr. Coles said it needed to be confirmed, that each group was paying its own part of the bill. There was a query about defects liability.

175.1.1 It was stated the drain by the sleeping policeman was blocked.

175.2 In relation to the proposal for the EV Charging points, the VHMCs overall view was it would rather there were 3 spaces instead of 5, due to loss of parking spaces.

175.2.1 It was pointed out the package offered was based on 5 spaces, this was not going to be policed. It was stated about half of the members of the PC had electric vehicles

175.2.2 It was stated the quote was for 5 spaces, to go ahead with 5 spaces, however anyone could park in these spaces. It was pointed out there could be a charge.

175.2.3 It was queried whether a connection point would be put in first, it was stated, no, everything would be done at the same time. It was queried whether they would be rapid chargers, it was stated not necessarily, but they would be quick. It was stated if a car was left when it was fully charged, there would be a cost/penalty. It was thought if someone parked in one of the spaces there would not be a fine. It was agreed to see how it went.

175.3 It was noted the PC had received the corporate credit card, it was queried what the limit was, the Clerk did not have that information to hand. Clerk to email Parish Councillors with the details.

**176. To discuss CGPC website.**

176.1 Cllr. Gosling said she had been involved with the creation of the current website, which went live in January 2016. She said she had always found the company helpful. She said she did not find the Tanworth-in-Arden PC website, that user friendly.

176.2 It was stated the existing CGPC website did not look very professional. It was noted the PC had already paid for 2026 until December.

176.3 Cllr. Moloney said she thought they should change it, she liked the quote where updates were issued.

176.4 It was agreed to retain the existing website until December.

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

177.1 A meeting regarding youth provision had taken place. Representatives from Dickens Heath PC and Tidbury Green PC had attended.

177.1.1 It was stated the proposed bus was disappointing, as there were only 2 play-stations, more had been expected, what if 30 kids turned up, it didn't make sense.

177.1.2 There were comments about solar panels and power. It was felt the offer had been over described, lots of people were coming together to discuss this, funding had been discussed, there was a requirement to pay for a bus driver. It was queried how many kids could fit on the bus.

177.1.3 Cllr. Coles said the bus could be parked outside and used for the Boys Brigade, as the people who ran this group were DSB checked.

177.1.4 There were comments about having to pay for two full time leaders, CGPC, DHPC and TGPC having to contribute on a regular basis.

177.1.5 It was stated this was a pilot project, to be trialled here, volunteers/people were needed and this is what was lacked. There were comments about a new community forming and people being happy to be involved, whereas an ageing community was not so interested.

177.1.6 It was stated training/checks etc. put people off, there was too much involved, such as fire safety training, safeguarding etc. It was agreed to see what happened at the next meeting.

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

178.1 Cllr. Swain said there was no update. It was noted a new U3A group was starting on the first and fourth Wednesday of the month – Mahjong (a classic Chinese tile-based game).

**179. To discuss issues raised with SMBC/speed sign.**

179.1 It was noted Cllr. Heslington had issued some data. She said she would download more data soon. The speed sign was due to be moved next week. It was pointed out the BV residential areas were 20mph.

**180. To discuss CGPCs Action Plan.**

180.1 Noted.

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

181.1 It was noted that an email had been received informing the PC that the battery/pads for the existing defibrillator outside the VH, were being discontinued in February. The Clerk had received a quote for a new defibrillator for £749.99 plus VAT. It was agreed to accept this quote all in favour no objections.

181.2 The offer of a voucher for £525 from IM Properties, for Halfords had been accepted. Clerk to click on link to accept this.

181.3 Cllr. Swain referred to correspondence he had received about the Post Office.

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

182.1 It was noted it had been agreed, to look into providing a track outside for the kids. Cllr. Coles said there was a BMX track at BV. It was stated a bike track could be hired for a week.

182.1.1 Cllr. Coles suggested holding a cycle awareness day, to look at bike maintenance and provide demonstrations. It was suggested to do this during the two weeks school Easter holidays, or on Good Friday or Easter Sunday (4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April). Cllr. Heslington to check VH availability.

182.1.2 It was suggested to ask Dam Dirty Bikes, based on Tanworth Lane to get involved. It was pointed out the Halfords voucher could possibly be used to purchase items for this event.

**183. Agenda items for next meeting.**

183.1 It was thought the WALC nomination for the Kings Garden Party would be sent in February.

**184. 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.**

**Resolved;** at 20:45 Cllr. Swain asked the members of the public to leave the meeting.

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

**186. PAYE, payroll and Pension Scheme.**

186.1 In confidential section of the minutes.

**Meeting closed 8:45pm**

Signed .....

Dated .....