

**Minutes of the Cheverell Magna Annual Parish Meeting held on  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
at 7:30pm**

Present: Cllrs Burgess, Hayward, Stevens (Chairman).

Cllr Muns (Wiltshire Council)

14 members of the public

Officers: Jacqui Abbott

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received from Alex Morgan, Chris Hall.

### **2. Minutes**

The minutes of the last Annual Parish meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 were approved.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

The Annual Report from the Parish Council 2024-25 including the finance report was presented to the meeting.

The Chairman, Cllr Paul Stevens said that the Parish Council had undertaken many projects of benefit to the community. He thanked his fellow parish councillors for all their hard work on the Parish Council and their support in the community.

### **4. Report from Victoria Park Residents Association**

The Chairman of Victoria Park Residents Association (VPRA), Des Read, presented a report to the meeting:

- During last year works outside of the Environment Agency requirements took place on the entrance to Victoria Park. These Early Works were completed to the standard matching pre-adoption work criteria, temporary remedial work also carried out.
- ISG the contractor at this time collapsed with all further work suspended until a new contractor was appointed. To date a replacement has yet to be finalised. According to the MoJ designs from ISG have been queried by Wiltshire Council.
- During this period of several months we have pursued the MoJ on the delays with no success in a timeline for the works themselves
- We have raised concerns from residents on issues outside of the pre-adoption work budget arrangements. These include trees near resident's properties which present a risk to life and limb/absence of street lights (three functioning)/ light pollution from prison temporary carpark. These issues have yet to be resolved at this time although we are told that permissions to carry out the tree works are moving ahead.
- We have continued working alongside Cllr Muns and our Parish Council and I thank them for their ongoing support to the VPRA and the residents of Victoria Park.
- Additionally, we now have the support of our new MP Brian Mathew.

- Since collapse of ISG, it has been extremely difficult to get any information from MOJ.
- Thank you to the community, Pip Read, PC and Cllr Muns.

## **5. Report from the New Pavilion Trust**

The meeting heard from the New Pavilion Trust Committee. Pete Cadwgan presented the report.

The pavilion is the main for-hire space in the village, along with the village hall. There is a good levels of bookings and at least once a day. In terms of maintenance, there is a new heating system with a remote control and this can be controlled around bookings. The hand driers will be replaced and a there will shortly be a deep clean. There has been a large increase in energy costs. Hire costs have been increased since 1st January to £20 per hour. Pete will look at the new SSE grant scheme considering solar panels and battery storage. The village panto is always very popular and a generous donation was received along with proceeds from the bar. There remains a need to raise more money and more volunteers are required. Thank you to the pavilion film club, the trustees and Stephanie.

## **6. Report from Wiltshire Council**

Now that elections had been completed, Cllr Muns was very keen to continue his work for the people and organisations in Wiltshire. He would maintain pressure on the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) for Victoria Park. It was good to have the support of the MP, Brian Mathew. Cllr Muns thanked the Parish Council for their supportive, particularly on the issue of Victoria Park. He intended to include the press again as this can be a powerful tool. He would continue to work on improving road safety throughout the village. He stated that everyone is interested in this; it is a broad topic which needs bringing all the stakeholders together. Cllr Muns hoped that more projects would be brought forward for the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG). He would continue to work with the school on their issues which were primarily the safety of the pupils due to the road and traffic. He also intended to support the Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Plan and it was very good news that this project had started. Planning is always such a big issue from residents and a Neighbourhood Plan would support their aspirations.

## **7 Report from the Neighbourhood Planning Group**

The group had met regularly and Alex Morgan had been elected as the Chairman. Judith Aldersey-Williams would be the group's Treasurer. The group would apply for funding for the project when the funding stream was announced. This was expected shortly. There were numerous skilled and experienced people on the group which would be extremely helpful as the project developed. Wide consultation and involvement of stakeholders would be a key element of creating the plan. Market Lavington were also in the process of developing a plan and the group would be able to liaise with them. Meetings were held monthly. The group would report back to each Parish Council meeting and would be constituted as a sub-group of the Parish Council.

## **8 Report from Groups and Organisations**

A community forum was held at the meeting to hear from residents.

### **Community Speedwatch**

Helen Hall reported back from Community Speedwatch. This was in its 12<sup>th</sup> year of operation. The equipment was rotated with other teams. The primary purpose is to act as a deterrent and therefore to be highly visible. All data goes to the police who send out letters. This can lead to identification of hot spots for enforcement action.

There had been 72 sessions from April 2024 to March 2025 and there were eight active volunteers. The group was looking for volunteers and the time commitment could be as little as one hour every three weeks.

### **Gardening Club**

Helen also reported back from the gardening club. This group continues to thrive with 31 members. The club had many events including visitors, active sessions, visits to gardens, local and further afield and these were often subsidised. Talks had been provided and these included presentations on bees, climate change, water conservation, carnivorous plants and fuchsias. There would be a plant sale on Saturday at the village hall. Each year a Barbeque was held. The club also donated the planter outside the village shop. The club welcomed new members and members do not need a garden.

## **9 Forum**

A forum followed for public discussion.

The main theme of the discussion was the need for more volunteers to come forward. A real recruitment drive was required. There were lots of new people moving into the village and they could be targeted with publicity regarding volunteer roles.

It was noted that the number of church fetes have decreased but that the shop had a good range of volunteers. People would be prepared to volunteer if they had more information about what it entailed.

It was suggested that there should be a volunteering event or to have stalls at events that were planned. Pet Cadwgan mentioned that there was an event planned for August and a volunteer information stall could be part of this event. In addition, information regarding the Neighbourhood Plan could be available and there could be consultation conducted. Victoria Park residents should be involved and also the school; parents and pupils. Pete would discuss further at their next meeting.

**The meeting closed at 20.08**