

MINUTES of a Chalford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6th August 2026 at 7pm.
at the Parish Centre in accordance with notice given.

In the Chair: Cllr Morris-Wyatt

Present: Cllrs Golding, Humberstone, Pearson, Roberts, L Taylor, Wilson,

In attendance: The Clerk, District Cllr Fenton,

1.08.26 APOLOGIES Cllrs Gardiner, Oakley, Samaroo, Shepherd, D Taylor and Woodfine

2.08.26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

3.08.26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

4.08.26 MINUTES OF APRIL MEETING - Cllr Pearson proposed “**acceptance of the 4th June 2026 minutes**” This was seconded by Cllr Golding and all in favour.

5.08.26 a) COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT –

A copy of the County Report was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Cowcombe Hill Closure – Members expressed concern regarding the plans for the diversion and whether school bus services are aware of the diversion. Cllr Pearson asked the Deputy Clerk to contact Cllr Turner to ensure to ask if this has been considered. **Action: Deputy Clerk.**

b) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT –

A copy of the District Report was circulated to members prior to the meeting. There were no further questions.

SDC emerging Local Plan - Cllr Morris-Wyatt mentioned that the first phase was asking for landowners to nominate land that could be used for building and that out of boundary contributions will be given at next phase.

6.08.26 CLERK’S REPORT – this was sent out in advance.

7.08.26 VALLEY PLAYING FIELD – Cllr Morris-Wyatt provided a verbal update on the Valley Playing Field. Given the need for swift decisions to keep the works on schedule ahead of opening, Cllr Morris-Wyatt proposed “**that the Valley Working Party be approved with delegated authority.**” This was seconded by Cllr Roberts and unanimously agreed. The Working Party is comprised of Cllrs Gardiner, Morris-Wyatt, Roberts, Samaroo and Woodfine, together with the Groundsman and Clerks.

8.08.26 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – Stroud District Council has commenced a Community Governance Review. Following a pre-engagement survey undertaken in June, Chalford Parish has been included within the review. Such reviews are ordinarily undertaken every ten years; however, this additional review is being carried out in advance of Local Government Reorganisation. Members noted that Chalford Parish is considering reducing the number of councillors from 15 to 13 and merging two wards, with the aim of achieving a more even distribution of residents per councillor. Members discussed the advantages of being paid which may entice residents to apply for the councillor vacancies. The poster from SDC will be posted on the parish

website and Facebook page for residents to complete the online survey. Cllr Morris-Wyatt will provide an explanation to go with the posters so that residents will understand.

9.08.26

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL'S PARISH AND TOWN CHARTER –

Chalford Parish Council adopted the Parish and Town Council Charter in 2023. In February the CPC was asked by SDC to review the Parish and Town Council Charter. Following extensive consultation by SDC with parish and town councils, council officers and elected members, SDC has completed its review of the Charter and is now asking parish and town councils to consider and adopt. Cllr Morris-Wyatt proposed “**that Stroud District Council's Parish and Town Council Charter be adopted.**” This was seconded by Cllr Humberstone and unanimously agreed. **Action: Clerk**

10.08.26

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) **Standing Orders**
- b) **Biodiversity Policy**
- c) **Nature and Climate Framework**

Cllr Morris-Wyatt stated that there had been no changes to the Standing Orders by the National Association of Local Council. There were no comments or questions. These will be uploaded to Parish Website.

- a) Cllr Humberstone proposed “**we accept the Standing Orders.**” This was seconded by Cllr Golding and unanimously agreed.
- b) Cllr Golding proposed “**we accept the Biodiversity Policy.**” This was seconded by Cllr Pearson and unanimously agreed.
- c) Cllr Humberstone proposed “**we accept the Nature and Climate Framework.**” This was seconded by Cllr Golding and unanimously agreed. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

11.08.26

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Cllr Morris-Wyatt stated that there was an amendment to **Finance & Management** TOR under Membership with the words ‘**of a maximum**’ being added to the sentence “the Finance & Management Committee will be made up of a maximum of eight member, to include at least one representative from the Works Committee.” There were no comments or questions.

Cllr Humberstone proposed “to accept the amendment on Finance & Management Terms of Reference.” This was seconded by Cllr Golding and unanimously agreed.

Plans Assessment Committee – there were no amendments. Cllr Pearson proposed “we accept the Plans Assessment Committee Terms of Reference.” This was seconded by Cllr Humberstone and unanimously agreed.

Works Committee – there were no amendments. Cllr Wilson proposed “we accept the Works Committee Terms of Reference.” This was seconded by Cllr Humberstone and unanimously agreed.

These will be uploaded to the Parish Website. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

12.08.26

NATURE AND CLIMATE UPDATE – Cllr Woodfine provided a Nature &

Climate Group update.

Following the Council's adoption of our updated Biodiversity Policy, and new Nature & Climate Framework, the group has followed up with an initial meeting with Andy Williams, Energy Coordinator for ChalCan to discuss community group's history, activities and objectives. This included an insightful discussion about a Parish carbon reduction goal, and how this might be clearly articulated and measured going forward. Similarly, while the benefits of ChalCan's aspirations for community renewable energy generation are clear, finding space for infrastructure is a constraint but could be a topic for consideration in the design of a new neighbourhood plan. Further engagement

was agreed to see how these matters, along with promotion of energy and cost saving initiatives for residents might be explored.

A group including Cllrs Morris-Wyatt and Woodfine and members of the ChalCan Biodiversity Group met to identify and map the most biodiverse areas of the Parish based on local knowledge and to discuss how we might contribute to the wider UK Government commitment to protect 30% of land for nature by 2030. This broadly divided into land owned and managed by the Parish Council, and land owned and managed by others within the Parish. The importance of ecosystem services such as pollination alongside conservation of valued wildlife were discussed, together with the importance of nature-based solutions such as flood and heat mitigation for climate resilience

13.08.26 COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Finance and Management Committee – No further update; covered by the minutes

Plans Assessment Committee – No further update; covered by the minutes

Works Committee – No further update; covered by the minutes

14.08.26 CORRESPONDENCE – these have been included in the Clerk's Report for agenda items.

15.08.26 ANY ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OR REFERRAL – Members formally recorded their thanks to Cllr Humberstone for her work in organising Chalford Parish Council's marquee at Chalfest, and to those councillors who gave their time to support the event on the day.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.28 pm.