



**Minutes of the PARISH & COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY of Cheriton Bishop Parish Council held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 11th May, 2026 at the Spalding Hall**

Present: Chair Cllr P. O'Neill, Vice Chair Cllr R. Marshall, Cllrs, A. Fry and C. Royle and Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) Cllr M. Binks. Four members of the public were present.

Attending. Parish Clerk – J Clark

**1. To receive and accept apologies. None**

**2. Chair and Councillor's reports on projects. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The council agreed the following priorities for the financial year 2026-2027 as follows:-

- To seek to have the village gateway signs replaced by Highways.
- To organise the implementation of the new 20 mph speed restrictions.
- Focus of provision of allotments by identifying suitable and available land for the purpose within the parish boundary.
- To work with parties involved to scope the possibility of putting a pathway from the village to the proposed new farm shop close to Woodleigh Junction.
- To seek to raise the profile of parish council and the work it does and to encourage new members as the current council comprises only 4 out of a possible 7 members.
- To engage with the community to identify suitable projects for the community funding that will be available as a result of the Church Lane housing development.

\* The extension of the 20mph limit through Yeoford Road and Glebelands is (hopefully) due to take place this summer. Once completed, we also hope to restart SpeedWatch monitoring to encourage drivers to keep to the new limit.

\* We finally have Highways permission to replace the fallen finger post to the church. However, we are still waiting for Highways action to replace the missing 30mph sign on the western entrance to the village.

\* As mentioned above, we need to start making plans for the use of over £40,000 in Bunny Homes 'Open Space' funding, levied by Mid Devon on Cheriton Bishop's behalf. This is limited to new open space projects and we have already had suggestions from last year's Class 6 pupils for some possible projects.

Finally, if you do have an interest in helping your Parish Council, you can email our clerk on [clerk@cheritonbishop-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@cheritonbishop-pc.org.uk), or for an informal chat call our Chair, Peter O'Neill, on 07932 660550. Councillors can currently be co-opted without elections and simply need to have an interest in helping our local community. There's also a requirement to live or work in, or near, Cheriton Bishop and to try to attend a reasonable number of our meetings on the 2nd Monday of the month.



The Chair thanked Vice Chair Cllr Marshal for his continuing work with the speed cameras as they are moved around the village to different sites and for monitoring the data and informing Police when appropriate.

### **3. Parishioners' open forum – any elector from the parish may raise any issues and put questions to councillors.**

A member of the public raised the issue of speeding vehicles in the village and about the mess and traffic associated with the new housing development on Church Lane. She cited an example of a digger that was collected from the site at 11 pm. She said she was hopeful that there would be measures to slow traffic, such as traffic calming schemes but, as yet, had heard nothing. They feel that there is danger when walking along the roads in the village. In response, Cllr Marshall responded there are three ways to tackle speeding vehicles. There are the speed cameras installed by the parish council; the 20 mph zone, which is to be expanded and the Police. He added that he is still trying to arrange a meeting with Devon County Council (DCC) Highways to discuss issues such as a missing 30mph sign and the village gateway signs. The parish has approached Highways on several occasions to try to organise a meeting but so far unsuccessfully.

Chair Cllr O'Neill explained the speed cameras in the village record the speed of vehicles and when there is a problem identified the parish council informs the police; from records to date, 46% of vehicles driving through the village drive over the speed limit and this data has already been shared with the Police.

He also reported that, despite efforts to recruit new volunteers, the Speedwatch team run by the parish council is no longer active because no one came forward, to join the team and eventually the team ceased. He also reported that the pressure upon the Police and the number of villages experiencing similar issues means that there is more need than resource. Unfortunately, there is a limit to what the parish council can do. It will try to encourage more volunteers to join and try to

restart the Speedwatch Group. The council were asked why Neighbourhood Police teams could not have a role in this but the Chair explain that there are over 1,500 requests for Neighbourhood Police to take on this but there is no similar level of resource.

Cllr Royle pointed out that the school area could be signed with 20 mph signs in. Cllr Royle to contact DCC and the School to see what can be done to place notices in this area. **CLLR ROYLE TO ACTION**

Another member of the public was keen for the council to consider similar speed signs to those placed at Whiddon Down. Cllr Marshall responded that different styles of speed signs will be investigated. As part of further research, Cllr Marshall is going to contact Whiddon Down Parish Council to see if their statistics are an improvement on those recorded by the Cheriton Bishop signs. **CLLR MARSHALL TO ACTION**

A member of the public said the gate at the play area needs attention as it is noisy and causing a disturbance to those living close by. The Chair responded that the parish council will look into this. **CLLR O'NEILL TO ACTION**



It was also reported that flowers planted in Church Lane by the developers are dying and becoming unsightly. Chair said he would report this to Bunny Homes. **CLLR O'NEILL TO ACTION**

Another issue raised was the problem of caravans and bonfires in the vicinity of Higher Shippon. The Chair asked residents to make a note of the time and date and to let the Chair know so that he can report this to Mid Devon District Council.

Another member of the public cited the Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) as having an involvement with this issue and the Chair noted this and agreed that this authority should also be informed of these issues. **CLLR O'NEILL TO ACTION**

Roundabout at Woodleigh junction has a sponsorship sign and yet no work seems to be done. The clerk pointed out that the sponsorship scheme is run by DCC.

A member of the public felt strongly that parish councillors ought to be more visible in the parish, attending functions, etc.