

Little Cheverell Annual Village Meeting, 25th April 6.30pm in the Village Hall and General Forum with Russell Holland and John Derryman

1. Informal welcome, including meet and greet with the parish councillors and village hall trustees.
2. Formal welcome from Sue Ivey, Chair of the Parish Council
3. Apologies from the Parish Council, nil
4. Approval of the minutes from the Annual Village Meeting on 19th May 2021 and the 2021-2022 report from Sue Ivey. Please see the full report loaded onto the village website.
5. 2021-2022 report from the Village Hall Trustees delivered by Nicola Bollen, please see the full report on the village website.
6. A welcome from the Chair on behalf of the PC and the public to:
 - a. Russell Holland – the deputy police crime commissioner for Wiltshire
 - b. John Derryman – Representing the community speedwatch council

Sue also reminded the public that anyone is welcome at the PC meetings to present worries/ideas/feedback etc, and this can be presented at the public forum portion of the meeting.

Russell – a quick summery of my job role, summed up to holding the chief constable to account and providing a future plan. Major concerns are people reporting the crimes they see as statistically Wiltshire is the safest county; do people actually feel safe? All criticism is welcome and appreciated and taken on board to bring improvement to the county. Some highlighted some recent coups by the Rural Crime team are: a crack down on hare coursing, county lines operations, Operation Scorpion (a focus on drug dealing) and policing local monuments like Stonehenge. There is also a current recruitment drive for new officers. This portion was ended with a reminder to call **111 to report cyber crime** and **999 to report a crime in progress**. Re speeding there are 3 new ANPR cameras for the county.

John- introduction including business life and currently working as a volunteer for the Community Speedwatch Council, there are currently 1000 volunteers working with community speed watch which has led to 45000 speeders identified and written to, some have been escalated to the police.

The main point is that communities like ours know the speeding issues the best, currently pushing for the data from local cameras to be used by the police and a survey of the database to be created to find more offenders.

7. Public forum (replies are noted in bold, points from the public and speakers are summarised not word for word)

Question from Sue Ivey – Are the community speed watches proven to be more successful than the speed indication cameras?

Reply from John – both are effective, but community speed watches are the best place to start

Member of Public – Why were the speed limits changed? We need speed humps.

Question from Dominic Munns (local councillor) – road issues and speed humps are for Wiltshire Council to install, my real question here is how can speed actually be reduced through the village? Making all the roads 20mph would slow traffic down but not everyone takes notice of these, what else can be done?

Reply from John – Community speedwatch is effective to slow traffic down however this needs volunteers, there will be training, equipment provided, all sites would need to be approved by the police for safety and there would also be a traffic assessment (road cables). The speed watch also goes hand in hand with a sweep of activities, white gates at the entrances to the village, speedbumps, chicanes etc.

Member of Public – When you drive through Worton, their community speed watch team have pavements to stand on safely, we don't have that here

Reply from John – The police would assess the safety of sites around the village, it needs to have an escape route for example the end of low road would probably be considered safe

Question from Sue – Other villages have speedbumps that slow the traffic right down, would a mix of speed watch and speedbumps be the most effective? The village would obviously pay for a speedbump alongside the council

Reply from John – I am not sure what the restrictions are, it needs to be discussed through Cat G (soon to be renamed) alongside the traffic survey

Member of Public – My worry is if we install speed bumps then emergency vehicles would be slowed right down?

General agreement from the room

Member of Public – Why should the village have to pay towards traffic calming? The school bus is free currently because of the safety issues of children crossing the busy road

Reply from Dominic Munns – Villages need to be self-supporting therefore joint funding.

Member of Public – Are there a set of guidelines stating the cost and effectiveness of safety measures for the village to consider?

Reply from Dominic Munns – I am not sure it exists, but it is a very good idea, I will ask Gareth Rogers, his highway engineer contact

Member of Public – People tend to “floor it” coming out of the village towards Dauntsey, a village speed watch camera would do well at the end of my drive by the 30mph sign however there is a worry about recriminations towards the person holding the camera?

Reply from John – Intimidation is not allowed, and the vehicle should be reported ASAP will the full weight of the police behind you

Member of Public – Agree that people put their foot down coming out the village towards Dauntsey, where have the very clear 30mph signs gone?

Reply from Sue – This issue has been rereported to My Wilts and been phoned through to Wiltshire Council for them to be repainted

Member of Public – I support the full range of speed measures, and I hope it can be recognised the change from 30pmph to 40mph on Westbury Road was very dangerous

Member of Public – I agree, and it needs something to clearly say “you are in a village”, signs, flowers etc?

Reply from Sue – I can talk to Cat G about these gates (offer from member of public to make them also)

Member of Public – We need empirical evidence as to what is the best option?

Reply from John – It all needs objective costing and assessment; speed watch is the best way for this, and it needs to be seriously considered by the village. It would be a good idea to send a PC representative to the Cat G meeting to ask these questions

Member of Public - A toolbox is needed for how to deal with these issues

Member of Public – A priority list is needed

Member of Public – I live on Westbury Road with young children, it is very scary crossing the road and I have been nearly run over several times and had abuse thrown at me. Why is it a 40mph?

Reply from John – I agree that is a worrying speed, a road safety strategy is needed, perhaps a 3-year plan.

Sue Ivey – I am a volunteer for this village and the council, I need help with this

Reply from Dominic Munns – I can provide help and support in the Cat G meeting and there is a meeting this week where I will try and get the highway engineers to put together a ballpark cost of the various measures to bring to the next PC meeting

Sue Ivey – We need someone face to face to come and look at the road

General agreement

Mike Philips – Dauntsey was the reason for the speed change from 40mph to 30 mph by West Lavington which has had a positive impact.

Sue Ivey – We need volunteers (John then asked for people to put their hands up if they would volunteer for community speed watch, 8 people did)

Member of Public – Volunteers are needed for this speed watch because pedestrians may not have a concept of how fast a car is going.

Member of Public – There is an ANPR camera by Dauntsey school, can we have one?

Dominic Munns – Yes, this records speed and number plates, does this information get used by the police?

Reply from Russell and John – the ANPR data runs constantly, the data base historically has not been used because there is just enough staff and resources to do this, page 14 of the latest PCC plan states that they are aiming for better use of data.

The general questions end

Sue Ivey – A huge thank you to Dominic, Russell, and John for coming this evening and a big thank you to all the public here.

The meeting ended at 20.06

