

## **Stottesdon & Sidbury Parish Council**

**Parish Council meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm in Chorley Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs D Young (Chairman), M Pearce, Z Griffin, A Sierakowski, R Kennett, S Crawford, R Abbiss, R Gutteridge.

Parishioners: Two

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

Shropshire Cllr S Harris

PCSO Declan Miller

Chairman welcomed PCSO Declan Miller to the meeting and invited him to address the meeting.

Declan on joined in June 2024 and lives in Clee Hill and Telford.

He reported that car key burglary, stealing from homes, hare coursing are current problems.

He confirmed that this month they had patrolled the parish and on 23<sup>rd</sup> October did a Hi-Viz patrol outside the school speaking to some people regarding traffic and parking.

The report regarding the dangerous dogs in the village had been investigated by PC Nolan.

22/11 – 2 suspicious vehicles had been seen around unoccupied properties – no make/models available.

Report that fuel had been stolen from a property in Sidbury, but PSCO Miller was unaware of this and encouraged all crimes, etc to be reported otherwise these go unreported.

He hoped to attend as many meetings as shift patterns allow.

Chairman thanked PCSO Miller for attending and he left the meeting.

### **0) Public participation:**

Parishioners present came to listen to the applications being dealt with and raised their concerns.

### **1) Apologies for absence:**

Apologies received and noted from Cllrs Adams and Allen and Shropshire Cllr Butler.

### **2) Declaration of Interests**

*The Localism Act 2011, Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether the interest is entered in the register of member's interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.*

None declared.

### **3) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024:**

These had been circulated with the agenda and with the correction of the spelling of 'Griffin', these were proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that these were signed as a true record.**

### **4) Matters arising from minutes:**

a) Clerk's report:

Clerk confirmed that she had been trying to find out who our new highways technician was, but this is a reply from SC:

In the absence of a full-time allocated Technician in your area, enquiries are being monitored, assessed and will be dealt with on a priority basis, any issues considered as an emergency should be reported to Shropshire Council using this link <https://shropshire.gov.uk/roads-and-highways/report-a-highways-fault-or-concern/>

Or Fix My Street

Clerk considered this not helpful as she cannot get replies from other officers.

It was suggested that Clerk writes to Dan Morris, Cabinet Member for SC regarding this and copy both S. Cllrs Butler and Harris into email.

b) Response to Rural Housing Enabler Question:

Referring back to a question that was asked on Monday regarding who sets the amount affordable housing is sold or rented for, please see the response I received from a contact at Shropshire council:

"None of the community groups get to set the affordable rents as they are set in policy at either 80% of the open market value or the local housing allowance for Shropshire – whichever is the lowest.

The open market value rent is obtained from letting agents for the correct size of property in that area and then 80% is worked out. Local Housing Allowance amounts you can find on the gov web site."

..So this is in reference to "Affordable Rent" specifically, which is always set at that 80% figure. Alternatively, "Social Rent" is regulated and based on a formula provided by the government, so those properties are not based on a percentage of the open market value (although they generally work out to be around the 60% mark).

Sales options such as "Shared Ownership" and "First Time Buyer" schemes will have their own formulas but they too will start from the open market value. And the open market value is based on many factors; some property aspects, for example size and location, others like the current economy, supply and demand, future growth potential... It's never uncomplicated but hopefully that makes some sense.

Please pass onto those who would be interested in this answer and let me know if any further questions are asked.

Also from Craig Bethel:

I just wanted to touch base with you regarding the below...

I now have a survey template pretty much completed with only some minor edits needed in order to run it at the Telford & Wrekin parish I'm working with. Some experienced Rural Housing Enablers from other counties advised me never to run a housing needs survey in December due to lack of engagement (thanks to Christmas) so I've held off running a survey with 2 parishes until January. I am currently having strategy meetings with them in order to hit the ground running in the new year.

As such, would you like to arrange either a public meeting or a parish council meeting for some point in the new year?

**RESOLVED to leave this until February/March.**

c) Any others:

Clerk had copied Cllrs into an item on SC website regarding mud on the roads.

It was RESOLVED to bring the planning applications forward and the Parish Council commenced at 8.05pm.

6) Planning applications/approvals/refusals:

a) Reference: 24/04136/FUL (validated: 12/11/2024)

Address: 5 Station Road, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8TT

Proposal: Erection of 6No. external lights (retrospective)

Applicant: Ms S Ferguson

This application was fully discussed by Cllrs and Clerk confirmed that this was a retrospective application, which Cllrs have always disagreed with.

The main points raised:

- No site notice displayed, and Clerk had reported this to SC. Although an application cannot be determined until this had been complied with, the PC comments can still be sent in.
- Original planning permission is for 'private use', why is there a need for such long extended hours of lighting, when many horse owners do not have such lighting.
- Lighting on the adjacent buildings are not on the application and these together with menage lighting seriously affects the night sky in our rural community, together will affect neighbours.
- No justification has been given in the application for such extensive and bright lighting.
- Parish Council have never supported street lighting and would have objected to the ones at The Kinsleys had notification of these been received.
- The menage lighting as per the diagrams appear not to be able to be tilted downwards.
- Wildlife such as bats, owls may be severely affected by these lights.  
For these reasons Cllrs Objected to this planning application.

b) b) Reference: 24/03551/OHL (validated: 16/09/2024)

Address: Heath Farm, Bagginswood, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8NB

Proposal: Upgrade 2 spans (120m) of an existing 2 wire 11,000-volt wood pole overhead lines to 3 wires 11,000 volts, maximum pole height proposed is 11.5m with a tolerance of 60m

Decision: **No Objection OHL/Circular Notification**

c) Any others received after issue of the agenda

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**PLANNING REFERENCE: 24/04405/CPL**

**DEVELOPMENT**

**PROPOSED:**

Lawful Development Certificate to de-convert 5 No. dwelling units back into one dwellinghouse

**LOCATION:** Bardley Court House, Bardley Court, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire.

**OS REFERENCE:** 369511 - 280727

**APPLICANT:** Mr Jonathon Hill

Although this was for 'information only', Cllrs felt that they should comment on this application. This property has been divided into flats for many years and to change this back into one house will seriously deplete the housing stock for the area.

Cllrs are concerned that this is classed as a 'certificate of Lawfulness' and not a full planning application. Although, as per the planning statement the external of the property will not be

affected there will be to the internal of the property, we are concerned that considerable internal work in removing surplus kitchens/bathrooms etc. We query if planning permission is required and would ask SC look into this.

d) Reference: 24/03679/FUL (validated: 30/09/2024)

Address: Pickthorn Farm, Chorley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6PU

Proposal: Erection of cattle rearing building

Decision: **Grant Permission**

#### **5) Finance:**

b) Accounts for payment/approval:

Clerks Salary - £xx

Payroll administration - £52 (half year)

HMRC - £363.80

Lengthsman account – not available

Any others received after issue of agenda

PWLB – loan for car park - £2426.43 d/d

SLCC – subs £190

**RESOLVED to pay accounts.**

c) Income since last meeting - £28.46

d) To discuss VAS signs:

Clerk had re-sent the email, as requested last month and gave an update of the signs/prices etc, and that there were payment options from full payment to splitting the payment.

After discussions it was felt that the were expensive so **RESOLVED to leave this and discuss again in 6 months.**

e) National pay award:

This had been forwarded to Cllrs and as the figures used a few months ago were for last year, it was **RESOLVED that the new figures, including back pay, holiday pay, as provided by the Payroll Administrator should be approved and implemented from next month.**

c) Any others received after issue of the agenda

#### **7) SALC report:**

Cllr Abbiss gave a brief report.

Executive AGM next Friday.

Local Nature Recovery Strategy Conference - 6th December 2024 – Cllrs Young and Abbiss have booked on and Cllr Sierakowski will also try to attend and will book on, if possible.

Dianne Dorrell retires at the end of December but will continue until towards Easter to help with the change over.

#### **8) Shropshire Cllr's report:**

Cllr Harris said he had pursued the case of the potholes not being filled properly.

Patching – complaints as the holes are not cleared of the rubbish before tarmac being put in.

Report if not repaired properly.

Cllr Harris talked about the budget.

8% of children in Lacon Academy are SEN

Awaiting Government figures.

Children in Care doubled but now stabilised.

Local Plan – needs to get in Place.

Cllrs Butler on behalf of both Cllrs forwarded to Cllrs.  
*Cllr Harris left the meeting.*

**9) Parish matters/problems:**

a) Raised by Cllrs:

- ✓ Trees in River Rea, between 2 bridges at Duddlewick, possibly causing flooding and bank erosion – Burwarton Estates.
- ✓ Duddlewick potholes.
- ✓ Almshouse Bank potholes
- ✓ Outside Dayhouse Cottages drive – deep rut in road to drive over to get out.
- ✓ Hardwicke corner potholes.
- ✓ Walton Bank – manhole blocked, water running down the road
- ✓ Prescott bends – mud off field blocking drains.
- ✓ Bagginswood road – potholes between Oakfield and Myres cottage.
- ✓ Litley Bridge – still not repaired – flood cleared by residents too.
- ✓ Blocked drain opposite Willowdene, Chorley.
- ✓ Hinton Bridge – surface/potholes breaking up.
- ✓ Hinton Farm corner -potholes.
- ✓ Blocked manhole in village opposite Showalene/white gates into Livesey’s field.
- ✓ Potholes, bottom of Burnt Pitt bank out again.
- ✓ Potholes Wrickton bridge up towards junction.
- ✓ Highlands Farm to Overton Farm – numerous potholes.
- ✓ Road sunk around manhole just below Village Hall, Chorley/Ducks car park entrance.
- ✓ Has the hedge been cut opposite Rays Farm -not sure?
- ✓ Hawkeswood road – lots of surface problems/potholes.
- ✓ Fly tipping reported at Chorley, reported and was removed within a week.

The recycling centre at Bridgnorth was VERY quiet when a Cllr visited. Concern is that due to this booking system, it may not be being used as much as it was! Is this perhaps so that SC can say in a few months that it’s not being used, so will close it? This will be brought up with Cllr Butler/Harris at next meeting.

A suggestion had come from parents to paint hatching or suitable warning marking on the road outside this metal gate. Parents recognised it is not feasible to remove part of the wall, and they also appreciate the efforts the school make to keep the greenery cut back, to improve visibility. It was confirmed that the PC had requested ‘H’ bar to be painted and had looked into road markings several years ago but SC did not come up with anything. To remove part of the wall was not considered a good idea as this has been there since the school was built. Clerk pointed out that the small gate opposite The Rectory was filled in several years ago as children used to run straight out. Clerk said she had witnessed children having to be pulled back from running out of this gate, where there is a barrier, a couple of days ago. Parents should be more aware of their children and the traffic.

This will be raised at the Governors meeting as a concern from the Parish Council.

b) Any others. none

**10) Correspondence:** including all emails forwarded to Cllrs: Taken as read unless comments made.

- Alterations to the Electoral Register
- SALC bulletins

- NALC Bulletins
- SALC - AGM 30th October 2024 report from Cllr Gutteridge (forwarded to Cllrs)
- ICO - Renewal confirmation ICO:00018312131
- King Charles portrait – Village Hall nor the school wanted to display this. Cllr Kennett took this and would ask again at the school or Church. Clerk also suggested Dr's Surgery.
- Shropshire Council - Review of Banners, Bunting and Festive lighting Policy and Process – Questionnaire for completion.
- Communications training delivered by Breakthrough Communications
- Notification of road closure at Hardwickforge Junction to Station Road End Of, Stottesdon - during the dates of Wednesday 27th to Friday 29th November and the hours of 8am to 4pm
- For sharing: myrecovery app (free app for people registered with a GP practice in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin – poster put on notice board.
- Lord-Lieutenant's Shropshire Garden Party 2025 – suggested Clerk should attend, but Clerk refused.
- Any others received after issue of agenda:
- Fire Service questionnaire sent to Cllrs today – will deal with at next meeting.
- NALC correspondence regarding remote meetings to be discussed next month.
- Mud on road at Harcourt Crossroads – Clerk dealt with this.
- Tools Stolen in Neen Savage. [#350836854]
- SLCC Educational Trust
- Crowdfund Shropshire Workshops

**11) Date of next meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Payments:

Mrs F Morris - £xxx  
 HMRC - £363.80  
 PWLB – loan for car park - £2426.43 d/d  
 DM Payroll Services - £52.00  
 M Pearce – Lengthsman – not received  
 SLCC – subs £190  
 Invoice for payroll services - £52

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.**

**Signed: Chairman**

**Date:**