

Stottesdon & Sidbury Parsh Council

Parish Council meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025 at 7.30pm in Chorley Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs D Young (Chairman), R Abbiss (Vice-Chairman), M Pearce, C Adams, S Allen, R Gutteridge.

Parishioners: One

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

0) Public participation:

Parishioner attended regarding the proposed application for a Caravan Club site at Litley for 5 caravans and was concerned regarding the following:

1. Additional traffic on what are fairly narrow and busy lanes with very limited passing places. A car towing a large touring caravan meeting the milk tanker or feed lorry could cause quite a problem and we have enough issues with vehicles hitting the bridge at Litley.
2. Despite being near the top of the hill this field gets very wet and boggy in bad weather and without significant drainage could be quite hazardous for users.
3. What is proposed for provision of water, power and sewerage to users of the site? Are any permanent or semi-temporary facilities proposed?

Chairman thanked the resident for raising these concerns with the Parish Council and will be discussed later as an agenda item.

The meeting was opened at 7.50pm.

Chairman asked all Cllrs to be very mindful that there are several Cllrs who wear hearing aids, including the Clerk, and in order for the Clerk to record minutes accurately and for everyone to hear that Cllrs speak through the Chair and not talk amongst each other while the meeting is in progress.

Clerk reported that the 'hearing loop' facility is now switched on in the hall.

1) Co-option of Councillors/signing of declaration of acceptance of office:

No firm candidate as yet but the resident present did show some interest.

2) Apologies for absence: Apologies received and noted from Cllrs Z Griffin (attending SALC Area Committee), S Crawford, A Sierakowski. Shropshire Cllr Davies and Police.

3) 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 or not the interest is entered in the register of member's interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

None declared.

4) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2025 – these had been circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Gutteridge requested an amendment to agenda number 11d, but following a vote the minutes as circulated with the agenda were **approved and Chairman signed these accordingly.**

Cllr Gutteridge abstained from voting.

5) Matters arising from minutes:

a. Clerk's report:

I have asked other Clerks regarding the gov.uk email addresses and will report at the agenda item.

Stottesdon – from S.Cllr Davies:

I have had a meeting with Andy Keyland and Jason Davis regarding a new depth gauge at the ford crossing at Prescott. They have this in hand and, also the fence that has been broken.

Clerk had received a call from Jason Davis (who turns out to be the Inspector/technician for our area). Cllr Davies has mentioned this name a couple of times but despite asking who our new technician was, he has never confirmed it is Jason.

I asked Jason if it was a 'secret', but he said no he had been here about 2 months and had carried out lots of the recent work in the parish.

He rang to query with me that I had replied to FMS that the white lining in The Square had been completed. It turned out that I thought they were meaning the lines to the entrance to the Church Drive, but Jason had requested the white lines at the junction of the main road to be carried out.

Whilst chatting I asked him about the other issues which are long outstanding. He confirmed that if our Lengthsman could meet with him and show him the problems he will try to get these sorted. He said he went round the parish when the jetter was clearing the drains and looked down cameras into the drains to make sure they were working.

Lengthsman happy to meet with him so I will notify Jason.

Clerk had sent out the FMS report regarding Hardwickbridge and that SC will deal with it, this happened to be the same day as work was in hand for the Lengthsman to clear this, but Chairman asked Clerk to see if SC had a date and asked the Lengthsman to hang on.

It was **RESOLVED that the Lengthsman goes ahead with the work as no date can be given by SC and Clerk notifies SC that this will be done as the water is high and the road has already flooded again a few weeks ago.**

It is understood that landowners should keep the rivers free of debris, this had been done further down stream.

Insurance was queried but Lengthsman has liability cover but will check again.

FMS replies at the end of the minutes.

b. Any update on Fighting Cocks:

Clerk confirmed and read out the letter that SC had listed this as an Asset of Community Value (ACV), this would be valid for 5 years. Clerk was asked to notify Mr Cook of this decision. The owners will be notified by SC. No reply received from the family.

c. Issues raised by Cllrs – nothing further.

6) Planning applications/approvals/refusals:

a) Any others received after issue of the agenda. No planning applications received.

b) Reference: 25/04148/FUL (validated: 04/11/2025)

Address: Bardley Court Cottage, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8NE

Proposal: Conversion of a existing outbuilding to create a detached residential annexe to provide ancillary accommodation for an existing dwelling

Decision: **Grant Permission**

Not a planning application:

Caravan and Motorhome Club notification at Litley Paddocks, Harcourt for 5 pitch site for exclusive use of club members – comments invited.

Clerk confirmed that no notification of this had been received just the matter raised by 2 parishioners.

After discussions it was agreed to raise the following issues:

- Access – narrow, single track in many places.
- Services provision?
- Oversubscribed with these sites as there are several in the area included one in the parish already.
- Site on a slope with very wet/muddy gateway access.
- Circular route for horses from the Equestrian centres.
- Narrow bridge with risk if this getting damaged.
- HGV's, milk tankers use this road and there are very limited passing places if they meet caravans being towed.
- Road edges/verges already badly churned up.
- Very little, if any, mobile phone signal.
- Several Cllrs are members of this Club and have first hand knowledge/experience of negotiating narrow lanes and bridges and feel this access is not acceptable. It's on a crossroads on a very heavily used road.

For these reasons it was **RESOLVED to send these objections in to the Caravan and Motorhome Club.**

7) Finance:

a) Accounts:

Accounts for payment/approval:

Clerks Salary - £xx

HMRC- £tbc

Clerk had note received these as yet.

Clerk's expenses - ££639.51 – this included expenses from 1st April, working from home payments and donation towards broadband/phone etc and £30 for £1 coins for the heaters in the hall.

SLCC membership renewal - £200 (no donation from Chelmarsh PC this year)

c) Any others received after issue of agenda: Lengthsman - £2050 ditching/clearing drains - £2050. Lengthsman asked if he could purchase 4 Hi-Viz jackets with writing on the back saying 'Parish Works' or something like that, so that people can see they are working for the PC. Clerk asked that the account is made out the PC. All agreed that these are purchased.

It was **RESOLVED that the Clerk pays all these accounts, including salary and HMRC when received. Accounts were initialled, together with last months payments.**

Clerk handed out paperwork for Cllrs to read in readiness for setting the precept in January.

It was asked if anything had been received regarding potholes being filled by the Lengthsman.

Clerk had not received anything regarding this.

This had been discussed with S. Cllr Davies.

It was also queried if a 'parish meeting' could be held before the precept is set to seek their views regarding increasing the precept to take on any devolved work SC might like to off load.

It is understood that this would not happen until the following year so this could be dealt with at the Annual Parish meeting in April.

The nonattendance of the S Cllr and lack of information received regarding what is happening at Shrewsbury was discussed and it was **RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to the Leader of the Reform Party pointing out the lack of information being received etc from Cllr Davies.** The PC had always had good reports from the previous S Cllrs who also attended several meetings in one night.

8) SALC report:

Cllr Abbiss reported the following:

I didn't manage to join the meeting with the leader as Teams would not let me in but I have been sent the notes.

Main Points are they are looking at adopting a Parish Charter (I know we have had one before but it has not been kept to)

Heather Kidd, the Leader said issues are being held back because of staffing issues. (lack of)

The council need a policy on Solar Farms and Poultry units.

Discussions are taking place on retaining Leisure Facilities in South Shropshire.

Finally Sylvia Pledger (Albrighton PC) has take the Chairmans position of SALC. Plus they have brought me down from Vice President to Vice Chair for Shropshire. I have agreed with a one year limit to support Sylvia.

9) Shropshire Cllr's report: emailed out to Cllrs, but Clerk read this out again.

10) Parish matters/problems

a) Concerns raised by Cllrs:

- Potholes – same complaints.
- Cllr Gutteridge reported that she checks the defibrillators and blood kits monthly and sends report to the Clerk. She thinks the one defib in Stottesdon has had one use this year and the others in Sidbury and Chorley not used at all.
- Vehicles exiting the Compass Centre at the Old Vicarage are not stopping when entering the Church Lane, which is dangerous for people walking down the lane.
- Pickthorn Lane breaking up badly.
- Car blocking the pavement by the post box in The Square (fully parked on it). Police need notifying – Clerk asked if there was a particular time, vehicle could be a dark Corsa?
- Litley signs, New Road, High Green signs need to be considered – Clerk rad out Legislation and will try to obtain prices.
- Depth marker at Honeysuckle ford not yet fixed – on SC list to be done according to S Cllr Davies.
- Pothole bottom of Burnt Pitt bank – deep and filled with water.

b) Concerns raised by parishioners:

Email received from Stottesdon resident regarding potholes on Stottesdon/Six Ashes Road. As the resident could not use FMS Clerk reported these again – now repaired.

c) gov.uk emails (assertion 10) AGAR – reply from Information Solutions emailed to Cllrs. The .gov.uk domain is £30/year ex vat.

You have two options for email:

1. Included in the Community Hub system for no extra charge

2. Office 365 at £12/user/month

It's up to you if you want to add Sidbury too but it would make the domain a lot longer.

I would use the IT Policy NALC have sent – it will likely cover everything you need.

After discussions it was **RESOLVED to accept the £30 per year for the .gov.uk domain name and option one for emails.**

clerk@stottesdonpc.gov.uk and cllrxxx@stottesdonpc.gov.uk and website

www.stottesdonpc.gov.uk

d) Any others received – there were many Companies offering new websites with free gov.uk email addresses but purchasing a new website.

11) Correspondence: including all emails forwarded to Cllrs: Taken as read unless comments made:

- Alterations to the Electoral Register
- A New Way of Working Together – email sent 29/8/25 – response required. Not ready to sign this yet.
- SALC - Local Council Award Scheme – email dated 25/9/25. Look into next year.
- Parish Online - Free GOV.UK email for clerks - INSIGHTS session recording now available
- SC - Signature requested on "Memorandum of Understanding [FOR SIGNATURE]"
- Parkinson Partnership Upcoming & New Courses - From September 2025
- Breakthrough Communications - training events
- SALC – School Library Service – no interest.
- D Malley – staffing change – noted.
- Craig Bethel – Housing survey – will investigate next year.
- Parish-online – email re: websites
- Any others received after issue of agenda:

Email received regarding the incident at Winterdyne Farm – Chairman explained situation; Police have visited and talked to those involved.

Free 'Do not Knock' door stickers for older people – Clerk will request a supply of these for Homelands.

Devolution Pilot - Update and Briefing Pack [Unsigned MoU's] Not ready to sign this. [ACTION BY 31st January 2026] Council Tax Precept Requirement 2026/27 - Stottesdon, Sidbury Parish Council.

12) Schedule of dates for next year – schedule handed to each Cllr. Any problems Cllrs were asked to contact Clerk.

13) Date of next meeting: 26th January 2026

Payments:

Clerk's fees - tbc

HMRC - tbc

Clerk's expenses - £639.51- from 1/4/25, including working from home for year, expenses (broadband, telephone contributions)

SLCC renewal - £200 (no contribution from Chelmarsh this year)

Lengthsman - £2050.00

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40pm with the Chairman wishing everyone a Happy Christmas.

Signed:

Chairman

Date:

Fix My Street replies

Drain by Moonhouse – no further action

Surplus tarmac

Pothole bottom of Burnt Pitt bank – action scheduled

Almshouse bank – action scheduled

Outside New House Farm, Bagginwood – action scheduled

Hawkeswood Lane – Closed – work required will be completed in our programme of upcoming routine maintenance

Highlands/Overton - as above

Walkerslow/Overyton – as above

Leftover tar – not our responsibility, will take it up.

Winterdyne/Smallbrook – action scheduled

New House Farm to Weir at Prescott – action scheduled

Glebe Drive footpaths – STAR Housing in schedule of works – no timescale

White linings, The Square – action scheduled

Pothole – Scott's at Norton – completed

Ford junction wall – action scheduled

PLEASE NOTE: THIS ROAD CLOSURE WILL NOW TAKE PLACE FROM 16TH FEBRUARY TO 20TH FEBRUARY 2026 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 08:00-17:00.

Please find enclosed details of a temporary road closure:

Road Closure: Unnamed road, Oldbury, Bridgnorth

Start Date: 23rd February 2026

End Date: 27th February 2026

Purpose: Carriageway resurfacing

Works Promoter: Shropshire Council

Works Promoter Ref: UJ214RS-1920002

Enforcement pattern for Unnamed road, Oldbury, Bridgnorth:

Monday to Friday 08:00-17:00

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=GB146294338>