

## **Stottesdon & Sidbury Parish Council**

**Parish Council meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30pm in Chorley Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs D Young (Chairman), R Abbiss, Z Griffin, M Pearce, L Grey, S. Allen, D Powell.  
PCSO S Hyde and PCSO J Fletcher.

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

Parishioners: 0

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

PCSO Jacqui Fletcher introduced herself as the new CSO for our area to work alongside PCSO Shelley Hyde and PC Strangwood.

Jacqui confirmed that there had been 2 farm break ins in March and the stolen quad was retrieved and another break in in July where nothing was taken.

She urged everyone to report things to the Police and not to put things on Facebook before reporting as the Police do not look at Facebook.

A Community Messenger Scheme is now in operation where you can join and get alerts about crimes in the area – Police need name, telephone number and email address and can set this up – Clerk happy to pass on details to Police.

A poster was given to Clerk with all contact details on it.

Chairman thanks both Jacqui and Shelley for attending.

**1) Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Rogers (illness), S Crawford (reluctant to join face to face meeting due to rise in Covid numbers), C Smith (dispensation), Shropshire Cllrs G Butler (meeting) and S Harris (just completed isolation, so asked not to attend). **RESOLVED to accept these apologies.**

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

Cllr Griffin – letter from Mr Backhouse re: driveway/school car park as this also involves her as neighbour.

**3) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021:**

These had been circulated with the agenda and it was **RESOLVED that these be signed as a true record.**

**4) Matters arising from minutes:**

a. Clerk's report:

- No further response regarding Bagginswood plans.
- Confirmation of receipt of Audit papers
- No further information about Bardley Lodges planning applications.
- As per emails sent to Cllrs it appears that the speed counters were put in Glebe Drive by mistake, but they have assured Clerk that this does not make any difference to data received.

b. RSVP – Chairman to report:

Clerk had talked to Graham Downes, and he says to let him have a list of proposed sites (already sent in) for the RSVP scheme and these will be looked at, but SAFETY comes above anything else. I have also told him about the Hogweed, which is a notifiable weed, and he will arrange to get this inspected and sprayed. Please if anyone else knows where anymore is growing let me know asap. Clerk emailed Graham again and he confirmed that he had not had chance to look at the sites. Chairman felt that it was too late for this scheme to go ahead this year so will continue next year.

c. Any others:

Clerk had circulated a letter from Mr Backhouse, Showalene, Stottesdon once again raising issues with the school car park/parking outside his property.

Clerk pointed out that these problems go bac as far as 2018 and 2019 when Andy Oliver from SC met with some Cllrs and Headteacher at the problems and he was going to come back with a plan to mark the car park out and to re-instate the KEEP CLEAR signs but despite this being chase numerous time nothing has been done.

Alice Dilly also came to look at road safety markings etc, but nothing has been implemented.

Clerk has been chasing the 'H' bar marking in front of the dropped kerb since this was installed, again with no success.

There are once again large potholes in the car park which could be dangerous for children walking over it.

After much discussion it was **RESOLVED to write to Graham Downes (Clerk already sent him Mr Backhouse's email) asking for something permanent to be done to prevent further damage to resident's driveways. Clerk will speak to Mr Backhouse suggesting drop down bollards at the entrance to his driveway. Cllrs also offered to contribute to work involved.**

**5) Planning applications/permissions/refusals:**

a) Reference: 21/03363/TCA (validated: 13/07/2021)

Address: Hornbeam Lodge , The Square, Stottesdon, DY14 8UB

Proposal: To fell 1no Willow (T1), 1no Lilac (T3), 1no Silver Birch (T4), 3no Conifers (T7, T8, T9), 1no Buddleia (T10) and 1no Laurel (T11), reduce height to 6ft 1no hedge (T2), prune lower branches 1no Sorbus (T5) and 1no Wayfarer Tree (T6) within Stottesdon Conservation Area.

Applicant: Mr Paul Elliott (Hornbeam Lodge, The Square, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, DY14 8UB)

Cllrs raised no objections to this application. Tree Warden, Wade Muggleton, had looked at this work and raised no objections.

b) Reference: 21/03463/TCA (validated: 13/07/2021)

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

Proposal: To fell 1no Apple tree within Stottesdon Conservation Area.

Applicant: Mrs Diane Rogers

Cllrs raised no objections to this application. Tree Warden, Wade Muggleton, had looked at this work and raised no objections.

c) Any others received after issue of agenda – no further plans received.

**6) Finance:**

Accounts for payment:

a. to approve Clerk's salary - £xx, HMRC payments - £199.40 **RESOLVED to pay via BACS**

b. Web Orchard - website hosting/support contract - £228 **RESOLVED to pay via BACS**

c. Any others received after issue of agenda – nothing further received.

d. Income since last meeting: £1500 Environmental Maintenance Grant with a further £1500 expected.

## 7) SALC report:

Cllr Abbiss reported the following:

- Allan Wilson V Chairman for Telford & Wrekin has started a charity Save our Shropshire. He is aiming it at the public. Early days yet but he will arrange training.
- Temporary Office Admin Support – leaving at present.
- Government saying remote and hybrid meetings cannot be held must hold face to face meetings.
- Shortfall of electricity in Shropshire – MP urged SALC to make comments.
- Boundary change – possible Bridgnorth and Ludlow will be called South Shropshire and Telford – Wrekin
- Executive members urged that their PCs should have good websites – ours is considered GOOD!
- Local Council Award Scheme – not applied for this again as newsletter production halted due to Covid.
- SC Leader, Lezley Picton, to meet Clerks at a Zoom meeting.
- Great Dawley Council shortlisted for NALC Star Council Award – support requested.
- Lezley Picton thinks that Lengthsman Scheme is disconnected with highways.
- Town/Village Wardens being looked into.
- Fix my Street to be used soon for reporting problems.
- What 3 words – App being promoted
- SALC staff will be back in the office 2 days a week.

## 8) Parish matters/problems:

- Dead pigeon on driveway at Applecake – not a PC problem but owners.
- Mattress dumped at Brooksmeeing – Clerk reported this to SC.
- Footpath overgrown in Bakehouse Lane (opposite The Granary). Cllrs felt that this was landowners' responsibility.
- Walton Bank hedges need cutting back – Clerk confirmed she had already reported this to SC. As a cyclist had now suffered very bad injuries on this road Clerk was asked to write to SDC again pointing this out.
- Hawkswood road hedge has been cut.
- Loughton Road – verges not cut.
- Potholes in the woods at Bardley near to Labrador still not repaired.
- Litley bridge and Sidbury Banks both need clearing of debris.
- Duddlewick road still not repaired.
- Low Farm to Down road in terrible state.
- Hinton bridge repaired.
- 2 attempted break in at new house behind Roseacre, Bagginswood.

## 9) Shropshire Cllr's report:

Cllr Butler sent in the following report:

1. The Local plan went through Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> July. This will now be submitted to the National Inspector for planning for review and if approved should be adopted by the Council next summer. During this time Town and Parish Councils and everyone else can make further representation should they wish to. Some parts of the plan were seen as controversial and with pressure being put on Shropshire to take housing allocation from The Black Country and Birmingham it may well lead to a Judicial review if so challenged. To date we have flatly refused any further allocation.

The government constantly expects us to have a 5 year land supply for housing ,at present we have around 6 years , if the plan is not approved and adopted by next summer and we fall below a 5 year supply as land allocations has not been agreed ,it then opens up the door for development anywhere around most Market towns , Hubs and Clusters and we just hope this does not happen as it did around 2012 which saw the overdevelopment of Shifnal as one example of no adopted plan .

2.Council also improved the first trans of extra funding for Highways, £8 million in this financial year with a detailed business plan for future funding being drawn up. Locally I am led to believe the A4117 is going to be repaired around Doddington and Hopton bank and the stretch from Mawley to Far Forest in August under a convoy situation.

I am also pleased to advise that the B4363 Kinlet bank is due to be repaired in September with daytime closures.

3. New wheelie bins for recycling have been approved by council and should be rolled out over the next 12 months across the county. They are not compulsory and if you prefer the box that is fine also.

4. We are undertaking a review of our Capital Programme with the emphasis being on Highways. This is along with The New Shropshire plan which should be out for consultation in the late Autumn, this will incorporate the Rural and Community strategy, Economic Development strategy and the Leisure Culture and Arts strategy and how they become the delivery tool for the Shropshire Plan.

5.I have now been made a director of WME (West Midlands Employers) which is a body which oversees all staffing arrangements for those in Local Government across the region. This is about being an organisation that can assist Local Government in difficult times, appraisals, Tribunals and sharing best practice and enabling Local Government to have access to the right staff at the right time. For example, creating pools of Social workers to drive down expensive Agency fees. We have noted there is a sever lack in the market of specialist Child Protection Solicitors and at present they can name their price to Local authorities, and this is an example of how working across the region could drive down costs to Councils for work they have to deliver.

6.I am booked in for many training courses taking up my role with Finance and Resources and have secured a course at Warwick University funded by the Local Government Association and no cost to Shropshire to which I am pleased, will report back in due course.

7. The Council has to undertake a Quarterly Treasury report which looks at its financial holdings. Currently our officer are performing above average in our returns against a bank interest rate of 0.1%. We have approximately £148million in the general fund for paying invoices, staff, Social care, receiving income from Council tax, Central Government, Business rates etc it is noted in the report that it expects interest rates to stay low until at least 2024 and there maybe charges issued on customers keeping substantial holdings in the Banks.

8. It is sad news that the new nursing home in Cleobury will have to be demolished and rebuilt due to building defect. It is unfortunate, and I have contacted the owner to see if a small working group can be set up whilst the work continues so we all know what is going on and what disruption is going to be caused if any. I will keep you updated in due course.

#### **10) Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Cllr Griffin:**

After a brief discussion and the event being advertised in the newsletter Cllr Griffin will contact Chorley Village Hall to see if they would like to work jointly with the PC. Clerk will send contact details.

**11) Correspondence: All noted as received unless comments made:**

- Alterations to Electoral Roll
- SALC News in Brief
- Letter from Steve Charmley re: roads
- Climate letter
- SC – Road Closures – see separate sheet
- Closure of Highways Depot at Bridgnorth – Clerk had sent emails to Cllrs regarding this matter as PC's had not been made aware of the closures, but it appears 'done and dusted'. Clerk has invited Steve Charmley down to look at the area but is awaiting a reply.

Any others received after issue of agenda – none.

**12) Review of Policies:** It was suggested that these policies are divided up to different Cllrs to look at then hold a Zoom meeting to update.

**13) Date of next meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021**

Clerk wondered that due to Covid concerns and on the suggestion by SALC that perhaps the August meeting could be postponed with delegated powers given to Clerk to deal with anything which comes in.

It was **RESOLVED** that if no plans are received then the meeting is postponed until 27<sup>th</sup> September and Clerk be given delegated powers, as previously agreed, to deal with necessary items during meetings.

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40pm.**

**Payments approved:**

Clerk's salary - £xx,

HMRC payments - £199.40

Web Orchard - website hosting/support contract - £228

**Signed: Chairman**

**Date:**