

Stottesdon & Sidbury Parish Council

Parish Council meeting held on Monday 24th March 2025 at 7.30pm in Chorley Village Hall.

Present: D Young (Chairman), Z Griffin (Vice-chairman), A Sierakowski, R Kennett, S Allen, R Gutteridge, R Abbiss, C Adams

Parishioners: One

Cler: Mrs F Morris

0) Public participation:

Parishioner came to complain about the state of the road from Almshouse Bank t Duddlewick and up the SC road to the properties at Duddlewick. Having lived there for 36 years the road is in a shocking state. Any pothole filling does not last, and the main road is also in a dreadful state. Discussions took place regarding this section of road, and it was pointed out that this road is reported monthly to highways, but the Clerk pointed out that all she knew was that a drainage scheme had to be approved along the main road but could not get any further answers. The problem is that we do not have a highways technician to contact.

1) Apologies for absence: Cllrs S Crawford, M Pearce, Police, County Cllrs Butler, and Harris (both in purdah).

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.

None declared.

3) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2025

These had been circulated with agenda, and it was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED that these minutes were signed as a true record.**

4) Matters arising from minutes:

a. Clerk's report:

FMS:

All Parish problems raised last month, reported on FMS.

Elections:

Last day to take papers to Bridgnorth is Wednesday 26th March 9.45pm-4.45pm.

Police:

Carried out a speed check in Station Road and the average speed was 23.3mph.
(Thursday 20th)

Text from parishioner Friday asking for Police to attend as vehicles are speeding, but I could confirm that they had been the day before.

A ticket has been put on the motorbike as the resident was not in.

Shred-It:

I have another collection booked for Friday, booked for 15 bags to be collected and shredded off site - £196.54 + VAT.

Blood kits:

the kits are a squeeze in the cabinets, but they do fit on to of the actual defib or the bottom of the pouch pushed into the shelf at the top. £338.40.

b. Any others – none.

5) Planning applications/approvals/refusals:

a) Reference: 25/00671/FUL (validated: 20/02/2025)

Address: The Firs, Billingsley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6PF

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension to form activities room.

Decision: Withdrawn

b) Any others received after issue of the agenda – no others received.

6) Finance:

a) Accounts for payment/approval:

Mrs F Morris – salary - £xx

HMRC - £383.77

MedUk - £338.40

Shred-It - Depends on how many bags I send. I have booked 15 (?) at a cost of £196.59 + VAT

Info Solutions - £14.99 website domain name renewal

Lengthsman - £600

Any others received after issue of agenda.

Clerk's expenses - £448.41 from July/March, including working from home payment.

RESOLVED to make all payments.

b) Income since last meeting - interest £24.23

c) Website domain name renewal - £14.99 – see above

d) Internal audit – **RESOLVED to appoint Miss V Turner again.**

7) SALC report:

Cllrs Abbiss and Griffin were unable to join the last meeting.

Cllr Abbiss talked about the garden recycling.

As tarmac appears to be wasted this matter will be taken to the Executive and ask about Lengthsman being trained to fill potholes.

8) Shropshire Cllr's report: report emailed out for March

These had been circulated by Clerk. S Cllrs are now in purdah so not in attendance.

9) Parish matters/problems

a) Raised by Cllrs – road markings outside School – 'H' bar – Clerk was told that this would not be carried out until they were white lining in the parish but will chase again.

- Potholes, Sidbury Bank – getting worse!

- Bull Ring white lines required on edge of Church Lane as cars are still driving straight out or across! Requested this but had the same response as for the 'H' bar at the school.
- Inappropriate driving when driving passes horse – too close, pipping horns etc.
- Hardwickbridge – 4 days but photo only show one post, and a large tree stump removed, all other debris left which will still causing flooding. Clerk read out the following reply:
The works at Hardwick Forge Bridge were completed on Friday.
The Vegetation on the upstream side was removed, as part of the last days work.
The road was closed for 4 days for the safety of my team, as we were working on and under the bridge, so although you can only see the new post, there were other structural works taking place underneath.
Chairman asked Clerk to forward this email to him and he would respond as the issues raised had not been dealt with.
- Depth marker at Honeysuckle ford can not be seen coming from Hardwickforge. Clerk had reported this previously but will report again.

b) Bridge in Chorley Woods to Pitt Cottage and beyond – Informative report and photographs forwarded to Clerk and Cllrs by Cllr Gutteridge who had been and talked to Mr Edge at Pitt Cottage. As the bridge is getting into a poor state, he needed help in tracing other landowners and responsibilities with this work. He has maintained it for numerous years but feels that he is unable to continue. Report attached.
Clerk was asked to contact SC, Land Registry to try to find out this information.

C) Email received from parishioner querying on the Bagginswood/Six Ashes why only 3 potholes were filled in on this road when there is 39 potholes of varying sizes. I do not have the answer. Agreed to ask SC for response.

c) To consider PC Policies/review existing: New Financial Regs just received and needs looking into.

10) Correspondence: including all emails forwarded to Cllrs: All noted as received unless comments made:

- Alterations to the Electoral Register/New Register/Election papers
- Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Out of Hours Contract Request for Assurance
- Chairs' Network Meeting - Thursday 19th June 2025 via zoom
- Stolen Vehicle in Cleobury Mortimer [#405801937]
- BT consultation on their proposals to remove sixty-one operational payphones (none in our parish)
- Garden waste collections - a reminder – pay by 31.3.25
- 25/10596/HRR RE: Hedge removal
- Highley Police Station [#403737142]
- Fw: Planned resurfacing work - C4226 - The Old Miners to Mires Cottage, Bagginswood
- Fw: Planned resurfacing work - C4226 - Oakfield to Baveneywood, Stottesdon
- Planned resurfacing work - C4226 - Baveneywood to junction, Stottesdon.
- Planned resurfacing work - C4246 - Mill Farm to Norton Covert

- Notification of road closure at Hardwickforge Junction to Station Road End Of, Stottesdon (Hardwicke Forge No.2 Bridge) - during the dates of Monday 17th March to Thursday 20th March and the hours of 8am to 4pm
- Any others received after issue of agenda:
- Email received from resident at 5 Station Road:

Can I please ask why the council has felt the need to write the phrase "we will carefully monitor this" by where our planning has been approved on the minutes?

This was discussed and Clerk was instructed to reply saying:

Due to there being breaches in planning conditions at your property and retrospective planning being sought, Cllrs felt that the site should be 'carefully monitored' in case of any further breaches in the permitted planning.

Can we please assure you that Cllrs represent all parishioners, impartially, neutrally and independently.

With regards to your comments about the hay delivery, Cllrs cannot enter into neighbourly disputes.

We hope that this clarifies the comment in the minutes.

Cllr Sierakowski confirmed that there is to be roadshows regarding the Dr's surgery in May. Leaflets should have been delivered to households regarding purchasing shares, but not everyone has received these.

11) Date of next meeting: 7th April – Annual Parish meeting:
Chairman suggested inviting the Police as speakers.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Payments authorised:

Mrs F Morris – salary - £xx

HMRC - £383.77

MedUk - £338.40

Shred-It – invoice cost.

Info Solutions - £14.99 website domain name renewal

Lengthsman - £600

Clerk's expenses - £448.41 from July/March, including working from home payment.

Signed: Chairman

Dated: