

Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council

Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 7.30pm in Chorley Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs D Young (Chairman), D Powell (Vice Chairman), S Allen, M Pearce, Z Griffin, R Abbiss.
Shropshire Cllr S Harris

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

Parishioners: 0

0) Public participation: None present.

1) Apologies for absence: Cllrs J Rogers (illness), L Grey (unavailable, due to change of date), S Crawford (illness, email received by Clerk after leaving home for meeting), G Butler (meeting).

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.

None present.

3) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2022: These had been circulated with the agenda and **RESOLVED to accept these as a true record. Chairman signed accordingly.**

4) Matters arising from minutes:

a. Clerk's report:

- Burnt Pitt Bank – postponed – awaiting new date.
- Riddings Lane – potholes filled. It was pointed out by a Cllr that the men travelled from Kingswinford to carry out these repairs – 3 vehicles. The length of time remaining on the Kier contract was questioned. S Cllr Harris will make enquiries.
- Bagginswood road – parts filled, but worst areas left. Clerk has asked for new date for the other work.
- Clerk had spoken to Mrs Barrett at Chorley Hall and the work is scheduled for the poplar trees on Litley Bank.
- Grit bin at Almshouse Bank all installed but the PC green bin has not been returned. Clerk will ask again.
- Triangle at Loughton junction has had the potholes repaired and at the bottom of Almshouse Bank by 2 men from Wrexham.

b. Community Assets:

Clerk had made enquires raised at the last meeting and SC confirmed that the school field was registered as a Community Asset in 2019. Permission must be sought from property/landowners to register other 'Community Assets'. Cllrs agreed to keep aware of further situations.

c. Report from Chair/Vice Chair re: Zoom meeting (SALC): Vice Chair had attended this which had proved helpful. Next meeting in March.

d. Any others:

Can SC be asked that as soon as roadworks have been completed that the signs are removed straight away.

5) Planning applications/permissions/refusals:

a) Reference: 20/04714/FUL (validated: 16/11/2020)

Address: Ginny Hole, Prescott, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8US

Proposal: Erection of a rural workers dwelling

Decision: **Grant Permission**

b) Agricultural Building at Hawkeswood approved – no comments mentioned by the PC on website.

6) Finance:

Accounts for payment:

a. to approve Clerk's salary/HMRC payments,

b. Viking payment – ink cartridges - £70.75 (now Office Depot International)

c. Scribe renewal - £345.60 – due 1st May. Will leave payment until next financial year.

d. SALC training account: - no account received.

e. Any others received after issue of agenda – no further accounts received.

7) Parish matters/problems:

a) Stotty Strolls Noticeboard – transfer to PC: Clerk read the email out from NALC, Solicitors and Chris Tibbitts. It was **RESOLVED that the PC take ownership of the three notice boards (Stottesdon, Sidbury and Chorley) and that once the accounts for the Stottesdon and Sidbury boards are paid Clerk will give PC bank details to Mr Tibbitts to transfer the money.**

b) Waste bins: Clerk received a complaint from the school saying that the bin through the school gate had not been emptied for a while. Clerk reported this to SC and asked for the bin to be reinstated on the bus shelter.

SC are saying that there has never been a bin on there and that the bin next to the lay by could be used. After several emails pointing out that that is a 'dog mess' bin they are going to investigate the matter.

c) Any others:

Items raised by Cllrs sent to SC:

1. Northwood Lane has numerous potholes, particularly towards the Chorley end.
2. Sidbury – between Lower and Upper House some bad potholes
3. Sidbury - between Rectory Farm and Lower House Farm the road is sinking.
4. Pickthorn Lane breaking up again.
5. Hardwickforge bridge – potholes and up towards Day House Farm – getting worse!
6. Honeysuckle Lane – very deep potholes – reported numerous times.
7. Flooding on Chorley-Stottesdon Road at the top of Litley Bank – drain in need of jetting and on a regular basis.
8. Potholes on the bank between Loughton junction back up towards Stottesdon (Almshouse Bank)
9. Duddlewick road and the lane up to Duddlewick Farm – very poor road surface and deep potholes to farm. There also appears to be a blocked drain by a field entrance up this lane.
10. Stottesdon – Loughton Road – potholes towards the Hinton bridge and over this bridge numerous potholes. This had previous flood damage where a huge piece of tarmac lifted,

this needs further repair. We also understand that the road is eroding away exposing the bridge structure, which we think needs checking. This is a very well used road.

11. Hinton Farm bend potholes
12. Loughton road on the bend before you approach the straight to the Monument at Wheathill – massive deep pothole on the bend which is very dangerous if you meet another vehicle.
13. Walton Bank – water continually runs down this bank like a river. We pointed out this problem prior to the excellent road works being carried but our concerns were obviously not dealt with. It is about halfway up the bank, right hand side from Stottesdon. The pipe was covered in tarmac prior to the roadworks to fill a passing point ditch.
14. Bagginswood road, as pointed out to you yesterday, still remains with bad sections of potholes i.e., outside Heath Farm Meats entrance, road sinking just passed old Crown Inn, Bardley Court bend, surface through the woods just passed Upper Bardley.
15. Pothole between Random Castle and Cox's Barn (notified you yesterday about this) – this is quite a large nasty hole and is filled with water.
16. Pothole between Cox's Barn and Hall Orchard. The one on the right-hand side was filled but the one on the left-hand side was not – it has had a bit of tarmac put in it, but cars drive on the wrong side of the road to avoid this.
17. Burnt Pitt Bank – do you know when these postponed works will go ahead, please?

The missing arm on the finger post in the village was once again mentioned – Clerk had already mentioned this to Andy Oliver a couple of weeks ago but will chase again.

Councillors asked earlier for road signs to be removed asap after work has finished.

Contact had been made with the Clerk regarding the Ginny Hole signs which keep being taken. SC suggest that they apply for the 'brown tourism signs' which SC will agree the location of these and anyone taking these can be prosecuted.

Cllrs were astounded that this keeps happening.

8) SALC report from Cllr Abbiss:

1. Lord Lieutenant is asking for two people to be nominated from each Parish and Town Council to attend a garden party on Wednesday 8th June. It is a thank you for what they have done during Covid to help the Community – 2 names have to be sent in.
2. At the Chairman's meeting Tracey Darke spoke on Enforcement. It's a side of the Council we know little about as it's due to the confidential nature of their sector.
3. Civility and Respect is still a focus of NALC. We hear some horror stories!
4. I am on a group looking at the Affiliation fees, but this is likely to take a while for all options to be looked at. Personally, I think there will be little change. Watch this space!
5. Two weeks ago I was on the panel interviewing for a part time member of staff for SALC. We interviewed 7 candidates and eventually offered Lisa Harris the position. She started yesterday and will be assisting Gail with the admin etc.
6. The next Chairman's meeting is 24th March at 6pm and the Police & Crime Commissioner will speak amongst other things. This time it will be Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Chairmen invited.
7. The 'Penny Rate' S137 rate for 2022/23 has been announced at £8.82 per elector.
8. I joined a Zoom session of Food Poverty. A few facts that came out of the meeting were: Food bank donations are dropping. People are not coming forward because of the stigma. Mental issues are compounded. Lack of people not checking what they are eligible for. There is a leaflet – 'worry about money', it may be worth putting on our website if we could get hold of an electronic one. There is a need to lobby Government to make forms simpler. Waste is increasing our carbon footprint.

9. Buy local, grow and cook more! Grow to share. Community buying groups. We have food banks in Bridgnorth and Cleobury Mortimer. A thought was to plant fruit trees in public spaces so that the community could pick and eat.

9) Shropshire Cllr's report - both Cllrs reports had been circulated to Cllrs by the Clerk (attached to minutes).

Cllr Harris reported the following:

- He will follow up any Highway issues with SC if the Clerk copies him into the email. He is also meeting with Graham Downes and Farlow & Oretton Cllrs in a couple of weeks' time. He was asked to make sure they went down Honeysuckle Lane through the ford.
- Money issues and debt are a concern, and it is often 3 years before people seek help.
- mentioned 'Christians against Poverty' and offered to help anyone confidentially. It was suggested that an item could be put in the next newsletter.
- Kinlet had organised a litter pick and pickers, bags etc are available through SC. Clerk pointed out that she had obtained some through SC and was told that bags of rubbish will be collected from SC owned land, not private. Cllr Harris will check this out.
- Simon suggested that perhaps Cleobury Mortimer could be contacted regarding their Jubilee Celebrations as buying goods in a bigger quantity could be cheaper and suggested Cllr Griffin contacts Paul French.

Chairman thanked Cllr Harris for his report and attending the meeting.

10) Queen's Platinum Jubilee (any update) – Cllr Griffin:

The item had been put in the newsletter asking for ideas/views.

A picnic on the Glebe and a beacon and a bonfire somewhere – suggested Cllr Griffin asks the Fighting Cocks.

11) Correspondence: *Please see emails circulated – taken 'as read' unless comments made:*

- SALC News in Brief
- SALC Bulletins
- Jubilee Flags/commemorative gifts – information on flags sent out to Cllrs and Clerk had a sample mug to show Cllrs. Clerk will look at other items.
- Community Governance Review update – Shropshire Cllr C Motley is looking for feedback.

12) Date of next meeting: 28th March 2022

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.43pm.

Accounts Paid:

Mrs F Morris – salary - £xx

HMRC - £199.80

Viking - £70.75

Scribe renewal - £345.60 – due 1st May. To be paid after precept received.

Signed: Chairman

Date: