

Stottesdon & Sidbury Parish Council

Parish Council meeting held via Zoom tele-conferencing Monday 23rd November 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs D Young (Chairman), D Powell (Vice-Chairman), S Allen, R Abbiss, C Smith.
Shropshire Cllrs: G Butler and M Shineton
Clerk: Mrs F Morris
Parishioners: 0

0) Public participation – none present.

1) Apologies for absence:

Cllr S Crawford.

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.

2) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2020:

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

3) Matters Arising

a) Clerk's update:

- Hinton Road repaired – some potholes in the same area had not been filled.
- Fly tipping – Cllrs were sure this had been removed.

b) Reply from SC re; roads

- Acknowledgement that the problems raised had been logged.
- Some potholes filled in on the Bagginswood/Punches corner road.

c) Reply re: CFR's:

Prof A Marsh: Thanks for the email Freda.

I completely agree our local CFRs do a great job for which I am very grateful, I have presented many of them with Chief Officer Commendations.

CFRs respond to cat 1 and Cat 2 patients within their scope of practice following a review of training and accreditation of training. The emergency control Room will also deploy CFRs to cat 3 cases as well if they are within the scope of practice for CFRs. Cat 3 patients should be responded to within 2 hours and on average within an hour.

We respond with an emergency ambulance to them within 58 minutes and on average within 27 minutes. CFR arrival times do not count in performance reporting.

Hope this helps. Thanks again,

MP Philip Dunne:

From my reading of the response from Dr Anthony Marsh, CFRs are despatched to Cat 3 calls, provided it is within the scope of practice of CFR's training.

I well appreciate the importance of Community First Responders in rural Shropshire. This could well be a problem of seeking a region-wide policy for an area that covers both major metropolitan cities and remote rural areas. I can see the need for consistency when it comes to despatching resources from a control centre taking incoming 999 calls, so that the wrong resource is not sent to a particular case. But equally in rural areas where it may take longer for the higher category of responder to arrive, there may be nonetheless practical help that could be offered by a CFR responder in the first instance, while waiting for the ambulance.

I shall be sure to raise this with Anthony when we hold our next health briefing with Shropshire MPs.

d) Any others

3) Financial matters

- a) To confirm bank transfer payments from last month- **all agreed.**
- b) Outstanding payments: Clerk's salary (bank transfer) - £xx, HMRC PAYE (bank transfer) - £xx. Any other accounts received after issue of the agenda. Just salary and HMRC to pay, **RESOLVED to pay.**
- c) Income since last meeting – 10p interest!

4) Planning applications/permissions/refusals:

a) Reference: 20/04573/TCA (validated: 05/11/2020)

Address: 4 High Street, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8TZ

Proposal: Removal of 1No. Silver Birch tree within Stottesdon Conservation Area

Applicant: Mr David King

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QJBONXTD07V00>

Councillors had looked at this and also our tree warden Wade Muggleton who commented as follows:

I had a look this morning and I can see why they might want to remove it, but in my view it would be a shame as it is a prominent feature of the street view and in my professional view a skilled tree surgeon could reduce it's height by third or a half and still retain it as an attractive viable tree. If we see a net loss of larger trees in the centre of the village with no next generation of them we will suffer a diminished tree scape. Which as a tree person I think would be detrimental. Stottesdon is a high up exposed place and trees add to the view, provide a wind break and habitat for birds and insects. So to summarise I would support some surgery to reduce it's size but not its total removal.

Clerk had circulated this to Cllrs and both Shropshire Cllrs joined in the debate.

After discussions it was **RESOLVED Councillors had looked at this tree and agreed for the removal of this as it appears to be an inappropriate tree in an inappropriate place!**

Councillors suggested that maybe the applicant could replace this tree with a more appropriate tree in their garden or in another place in the parish after consultation with the PC.

b) Reference: 19/00084/FUL (validated: 14/01/2019)

Address: Proposed Residential Development Land, Stottesdon, Shropshire

Proposal: Erection of an affordable dwelling, associated garage and installation of a package sewage treatment plant

Decision: **Grant Permission**

c) Any applications received after issue of agenda

5) SALC report:

Cllr Abbiss confirmed that the AGM held via Zoom was well attended – slides will be sent out to Clerks.

- Presidents and Vice Presidents were re-elected en-bloc.
- Annual Report and accounts – adopted.
- Increase in subs agreed with the admin fee to remain the same.

Chairman thanked Cllr Abbiss for her report.

6) Shropshire Councillor's report: Both reports sent out via email.

Cllr Shineton report:

1. As we enter full lockdown again initially upto December 2nd there is full criteria and guidance on Shropshire Council Web site including contact numbers to ring if needed.
2. All Health sectors continue to co operate across all sectors to inform, urge, offer support especially to those who are alone with no other support.
3. The perennial problem of road repairs, blocked drains etc. continue and the increased importance of the Parish Councils reporting faults needs to continue.
4. There is a section of the Shropshire Council web site which you can click on to and express your concerns regarding current highway maintenance.
5. The confusion over the "Lengthsman" funding has now been clarified and Parish Councils need to apply ASAP if you have not already done so.
6. A considerable number of short term road closures in the County which are due to Utility companies B.T, Severn Trent, Open Reach etc doing routine repairs and maintenance.
7. Concerns have been expressed regarding the availability of our local First Responders, contact with West Midlands Ambulance to clarify the current criteria is awaited.
8. The review of the Youth Mental Health services CAMH's is ongoing with further discussions in January 2021.
9. Cleobury Mortimer Dental Practice remains open.
10. Call is out for nominations for the Shropshire High Sheriff Outstanding Young Citizen Awards 2021 nomination forms are available on the HSYC web site.

Cllr Shineton pointed out that so much is changing at present.

- Future Fit moving on, RSH high level A & E and RH – A & E.
- Broadband/mobile phone connections are a problem still and any 'not spots' should be sent to Ben Walker/ Madge/Gwilym. The problem areas will be discussed with providers.
- Rays Farm has poor signal and certain parts in Chorley isn't very good.

Chairman pointed out that he was at the Surgery at Station Road, Ludlow when an ambulance was requested. 1hr 20mins was the earliest arrival time given.

Chairman thanked Cllr Shineton for her report.

Cllr Butler report:

Prior to the pandemic most of you will be aware that we were lobbying Government for a fairer funding review for the rural areas to which we were gaining great support. This was done through our membership of RSN (Rural Services Network) which I sit on for Shropshire Council which is an independent lobbying organisation with membership across rural bodies and councils to lobby Westminster and has support of over 100 cross party MPs and within the House of Lords. The fairer funding review was about to be launched changing its existing formula of funding being given to density of population and switching it to sparsity and ability of access to service. This would I believe have helped our cause immensely. I attended a Webinar recently to understand where we are at now. It as expected has had to be pulled with the government being unable to endorse any review, and as we believe, just maintaining a one year local government settlement in line with previous year both for next year and it is assumed the following year. This is understandable as no one can predict the state of affairs until we get the pandemic under control. However it does not solve SC problems in respect of funding.

In relation to the above we are now seeing an implosion in Safeguarding clients. This is both in Adult social care and Children services. With the schools been shut for some months normal safeguarding activities and signposting were not able to take place. This mirrored with schools re opening and the down turn in the economy and large rises in Universal credit applications in our area we are heading for a perfect storm. In Adult Social care delayed medical treatments, mental health and isolation, job losses etc are causing great concern. Irrespective of your politics we as a country need to fund Social care centrally like Education and the NHS and have to pay for it. We just need some politicians to

deliver a policy which whatever it is will be a hard pill to swallow but has to be done. We cannot keep relying on Council Tax for this issue it will not cover it and it is unfair against sparsely populated rural areas like Shropshire where 57% of our population due to age or medical history are vulnerable! How we will budget the books will be interesting, but we are not alone and this is a national problem which central government will have to address.

On a positive note All schools reopened as planned in Shropshire and attendance has averaged 93% above the national average.

SC has finally signed a new contract with Teme Leisure which will ensure the sports and health facilities at Cleobury and pool in Ludlow will continue for the foreseeable future.

The council is leading on a major project with STWA and the Environment agency around flooding and although this is mainly in relation to the River Severn it will look at all flooding across the county including Ludlow and the Rea locally. It is estimated the Severn will rise by around 80cm by 2050 and this will cause major issues when flooding. Defra have already got involved and funding of over £30 million has been secured as part of the initial project. With the building of the North West Relief road west of Shrewsbury which goes over the river opportunities are being investigated as to whether some kind of dam or river control can be put in place to control river flow further down in Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, Bewdley etc . It is early days but needs to be addressed. The Eden Project from Cornwall are involved because if we have to create new flood plains or a different environment up stream we also want to turn it into an opportunity for wildlife, tourists and address the Climate Change agenda.

Turning to Covid restrictions, SC now has an intelligence page where you can log any concerns regarding businesses or employers or organisations not adhering to Covid restrictions, officers can then address any issues in a constructive manner. It is also an opportunity to celebrate success and tell us where things are going well and how people or businesses are going the extra mile to keep us going.

SC has agreed to distribute food parcels over the Christmas holidays to all children who would have been in receipt of free school meals. This is more targeted than vouchers as our teams will also be able to take a safeguarding view at the same time as delivery and help signpost for other issues with partner organisations.

COVID . This is a worry. Winter pressures are bad at the best of times and we are heading I believe for the perfect storm. I know we are so lucky for where we live and our wonderful communities. I am sure it is already on your agendas but if not would urge you perhaps to put some thought into how we dealt with the first wave and how and what we may need to do this time with dark nights, cold weather etc. Perhaps we need to think about phone a friend or neighbour campaign or just something that will address the loneliness or isolation that winter can bring even more so if you are restricted on movement which I would not be surprised if it gets to that.

- Cllr Butler confirmed that an ambulance arrived at his property in Cleobury Mortimer in 18 minutes.
- Spending Review Wednesday at SC.
- Precept – remember elections and lengthsman scheme.
- Local Plan – Bridgnorth, 1 site 550 houses not built, allocated another 1000 either at Stanley or Stanmore but this will probably go to Judicial Review end 2021/Spring 2022.
- Need for 5 year land supply at least to 2038
- Survey to be carried out regarding CIL and 106 money.

Chairman thanked Cllr Butler for his report and he left the meeting.

7) Parish matters/problems:

In addition to problems raised last month:

1. Road from Stottesdon to Loughton work carried out close to the Hinton bridge but still numerous potholes not filled.
2. Bagginswood – again some potholes filled but numerous others on this road out to Punches corner.
3. Honeysuckle Brook road very bad.
4. No depth marker post by Honeysuckle brook coming from Hardwickforge road – there is one the other side.
5. Roads at Sidbury as previously reported still not dealt with
6. Harcourt crossroads back to Stottesdon is in a poor condition. |There is no tarmac left from the junction up the bank towards Stottesdon and several areas have broken up and also deep potholes by the 30mph sign before you get to Burnt Pitt corner.

Cllr Abbiss said that SALC were going to set up a committee with Highways but this does not appear to have happened – she will raise this again with SALC.

8) Correspondence: Emails forwarded to all Councillors – taken 'as read unless comments made':

- Alterations to the Electoral Register
- Chorley Village Hall temporary closure Covid Government Guidelines until 2nd December
- Chorley Village road, near Stottesdon – road closure 14/1/2021 – electric pole replacement
- WPD Coronavirus information for customers
- SC - Have you used our new website?
- Cllr G Butler - Help for vulnerable and people in crisis
- Shropshire Affordable Warmth Meeting Invite - 25th November.
- Cllr M Shineton - Connecting Shropshire broadband programme update
- NALC - CORONAVIRUS UPDATE
- Winter Support Service ****NOW LIVE****
- Shropshire Council decisions following Internal Infrastructure meeting 22 October - highways projects Cleobury Mortimer Place Plan Area
- SALC:
- Covid support groups - survey results and offer of support
- CONFERENCE: The Climate & Ecological Emergency: Taking Action Together
- Update from The Community Reassurance Team RE: Lockdown
- NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin
- Thousands of Residents in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin in Danger of Becoming Diabetic 9.11.2020
- Energise Flyer
- News in Brief

Any other received after issue of agenda:

- Hope House requesting donation – deal with at a later meeting.

9) Date of next meeting: 14th December 2020 – suggested wearing Christmas hats!!

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date: