

Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council

Parish Council held via Zoom video-conferencing on Monday 14th December 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs D Young (Chairman), D Powell (Vice-Chairman), R Abbiss, S Allen, S Crawford, C Smith.
Unitary Cllrs M Shineton
Clerk: Mrs F Morris
Parishioners: 1 – Mr Rogers
PC Steve Mellor

0)Public participation:

PC Steve Mellor introduced himself to Cllrs.

He is 'new' to the area (7 months) so is still trying to find his way around which is taking longer due to staffing issues and COVID-19.

His email address had recently been sent out but any problems these should be reported to 101 or 999.

PC Mellor was asked about Parish Watch Scheme as we do not get feedback anymore, but he was not sure about this but would make enquiries.

An incident of 2 men in a van by Pickthorn Lane (5.30am) which drove off towards the Highlands when worker went down the lane.

Chorley had also had a couple of problems with suspicious vehicles. PC Mellor asked if these could be reported if they had not already been reported.

Chairman thanked PC Mellor for attending.

1) Apologies for absence: Unitary Cllr Butler.

2) Co-option of Councillors: Mr John Rogers attended as he was interested in joining the Parish Council.

Chairman asked Mr Rogers to introduce himself to Cllrs – he confirmed that he has lived in the village for over 20 years and thought he could be more active in the parish as he now only works 3 days a week.

It was **RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Rogers onto the PC. Clerk will forward Members Interests form for completion and the Charman welcomed John onto the PC.**

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 received.

4) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2020:

These had been circulated to Cllrs and it was **RESOLVED that this be signed as a true record.**

5) Matters Arising

a) Clerk's update:

Reply from Graham Downes:

- Loughton Road – I have had a look at the outstanding works in Loughton Road – it appears that there are 4 or 5 outstanding jobs on this road. However, these were raised (18.11.20)

after the larger patches were completed (12.11.20). So that explains why Kier may have left some defects not repaired. However, that raises a few more questions in my mind, such as, were the defects there but not considered a risk or were not deep enough to be deemed safety defects? Only Highway Technician could answer that one. The other question is Kier do have autonomy to repair additional defects if they see them so if a gang drove over the defects to repair others why didn't they repair those? Happy to ask the questions

- Bagginswood Road – still a number of outstanding defects on this road – I can't answer why the gangs didn't complete all the tasks – I would need to raise this issue with their scheduler – again happy to do this as I have a meeting tomorrow.
- Honeysuckle Lane – no outstanding issues in our system – will ask the local Highway Technician to take a look and report back. This site may need to be put forward as a local site of concern and go forward as a potential capital location.
- Honeysuckle Lane – will ask local technician to investigate and order new sign if necessary.
- Sidbury – no outstanding defects on our system – I will ask the area technician to inspect.
- Harcourt Road – no outstanding defects on our system – again I will ask the area technician to inspect.

Stud on the Hill book – back on the website under 'Our history'. – If we want an 'indicator' put on the page so people know where to click to turn page this will cost - £130. This will be left at present.

Graham Downes has asked where the tarmac is being wasted? No information given but it was felt that tarmac being put into potholes full of water was a waste of tarmac.

Parish Watch:

We need to revive this and make sure that the following people are still willing to report to Police/PC:

Mandy and Roger Williams – West/North/East zone

Clair and Clive Gittens – South zone

Ralph Howes – Central Zone

Overall Parish Co-ordinator – David Young

An item will be put in the next newsletter regarding this.

b) Any others – none.

6) Financial matters

a) To confirm bank transfer payments from last month – **RESOLVED to accept.**

b) Outstanding payments: Clerk's salary (bank transfer) - £xx, HMRC PAYE (bank transfer) - £xx.

Audit fee - £240. **RESOLVED that Clerk makes these payments.**

SLCC Membership Renewal Notice - £185 – Chelmarsh PC normally contribute towards this.

RESOLVED to renew.

PWLB loan for car park £2426.43 paid direct debit.

Information Commissioner's Office - £40 – **RESOLVED to pay.**

Any other accounts received after issue of the agenda – none received.

c) SH0160 2019/20 AGAR Section 3 External Auditor Report. It was **RESOLVED to accept this report.**

d) To consider purchase of new printer – The printer has broken and to replace it is approximately £290. It was **RESOLVED that Clerk purchases a new one.**

e) Income since last meeting – 10p November and 9p December interest on deposit account.

7) Planning applications/permissions/refusals:

a) Reference: 20/03782/FUL (validated: 21/10/2020)

Address: 4 Crown Cottages, Bagginswood, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8NA

Proposal: Application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of shed and fencing with double gates

Decision: Grant Permission

b) 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

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Anthony Eddies-Davies

This was discussed again, and it was agreed to re-iterate our previous comments which Cllrs fully supported.

c) Reference: 20/03866/FUL (validated: 01/10/2020)

Address: The Owl House, 3 Hawkswood Barns, Billingsley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6PL

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension, glass link extension and pavilion

Decision: Grant Permission

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

8) SALC report:

Cllrs Abbiss reported the following:

- Talked about Ambulances and postcodes – letter being sent from SALC.
- COVID-19 help – questions being asked regarding help/what went on so we can learn from this.
- Parish Plan – needs updating as quite a lot has changed and other items need looking into:
 - ✓ Mobile and Broadband improved.
 - ✓ Bus shelter
 - ✓ Defibs
 - ✓ Play area
 - ✓ Roads
 - ✓ Footpaths and Bridleways
 - ✓ Road signage
 - ✓ Tourism
 - ✓ Housing
 - ✓ Improve public transport
 - ✓ Pavement from Dr's Surgery to School

Chairman thanked Cllr Abbiss for her report.

9) Shropshire Councillor's report:

PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2020 – Cllr Shineton:

1. Wonderful news we have the first of the Vaccines which the Government has secured for the UK. As far as I can tell the early availability will go to key frontline workers then the elderly governed by the conditions which the vaccine needs to be kept under. As the other makes with their more straightforward means of distribution and methods of application all of us will have the opportunity to receive one.

2. The whole of Shropshire is now in Tier 2, information is available online and in the media. Reviews due on December 16th.

3. The rest of Health matters in the County are continuing to work hard and co operating with each other including monitoring those who live alone.

4. The Voluntary groups continue to offer many sorts of help from the Food Bank and the WI's clothing Co Op. for Emergency food/ or other please ring Lucy Simpson 0345 678 9078.

5. Please continue to report Highways, drainage, and high overhanging trees and hedge problems, and include us in the complaint.
 6. Short term road closures will continue as the other public services require them to replace and repair poles, pipes and wires.
 7. Parish and Town Councils continue to work across the County and Telford and Wrekin regarding Health/ access movement, and Transport.
 8. Grants continue to be available for businesses click marchesgrowthhub@shropshire.gov.uk.
 9. Grants for the enhancement of Broad Band are still available please contact Chris Taylor or Ben Walker on Shropshire.gov.uk to explore.
 10. We have been fortunate that our Schools have managed to keep open with the hard work from our teaching staff and a degree of flexibility with the children.
 11. We are informed that the Census will be on March 21st 2021 and you will hear more in methodology during the next few months.
 12. Our Library is open again.
 13. There are a number of consultation documents regarding, Planning, Culture&Leisure Strategy, and Draft housing Strategy, closure dates are close check on web site.
- It's too early BUT please shop local and have a peaceful Christmas and New Year.
attached - sent out via email

December Briefing from Cllr Butler:

1. A good measure of the local economy in Shropshire is the level of land searches being requested usually for when properties change hand. As part of my Cabinet portfolio I have to review the budgets on a regular basis. On reviewing the budget at the end of November we are at 85% of target year to date and this takes into account the fact that no business was being transacted from April until mid June. This represents a very strong come back by the local economy in this sector which in itself leads to other economic growth.
2. The Lengthsman scheme has been confirmed for the 2021/2 financial year and is available for all councils to apply for to enhance their own council areas. Councils can include it therefore in their next precepts.
3. The Mens shed project which a lot of local parish councils have supported is getting back on track with the Shed being fitted out with insulation and electrics. Further grants have been awarded including the Postcode Lottery. I look forward to it opening Post Covid when I think it will be of great need following the pandemic.
4. We are currently expecting local elections next May. As Councils will need to set their precept in the coming months please keep election costs in mind just in case. Shropshire Council will provide a repayment programme where needed but it is always best to plan.
5. I am currently talking with officers on how we could support Town and Parish Councils with I.T. post COVID following on from the success of Zoom, Teams meetings etc. If Councils could put infrastructure in place to be able to continue remote meetings or a hybrid of face to face and remote meetings it will open up opportunities for more people to become councillors who cannot currently commit to evening meetings for whatever reason. It would also provide the ability and availability for officers from the Council and other organisations to attend meetings remotely and reduce time and costs involved and hopefully speed up outcomes.
6. If you know of any areas that have broadband issues "not spots" please let us know as we have the opportunity through the council to provide vouchers to obtain alternative solutions. This will only happen where there is a cluster of users who would benefit. The vouchers can then be merged together to provide suppliers funding to provide the alternative solution.
7. The spending review has been announced which is only for one year where previously they were for three years to enable us to plan. Prior to Covid we were awaiting the fairer funding review to come out with a fairer distribution to the rural areas as promised. This would then help with our

budget pressures and council tax costs. To date this has been delayed because of Covid but we are maintaining the pressure with my Membership of RSN (Rural Services Network) which lobbies MPs and Westminster on behalf of Shropshire Council. I am hopeful it will be included in the levelling up agenda.

8. Following the second lockdown our Covid infection figures have dropped but we need to keep a strong regime in place until the vaccinations are well underway and the figures have dropped again. There is light at the end of the tunnel and Shropshire council Public health team will be coordinating vaccinations hopefully starting in December. Another round of grants are available to effected businesses and there is a new discretionary fund for any businesses that have fallen through the gaps on previous grants. Stay safe and follow national guidance.

I understand it is not easy at the moment with restrictions etc but would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and prosperous New Year. Remember to telephone or face time your friends, neighbours and anyone who maybe alone, check in for a chat with them when you can and we will all get through this and look forward to a brighter 2021 .

10) Parish matters/problems:

- ✓ Cllr queried if a replacement tree could perhaps be put in the school hedge when the tree is removed in the village. The PC have suggested a replacement tree in their garden or somewhere else in the parish, but no response received.
- ✓ Cllr Abbiss thanked SC for the pothole filling but not all were filled.
- ✓ Hinton road running with water.
- ✓ Water all running down Walton Bank.
- ✓ Appears to be hedge clearing by the old Crown Inn, Bagginswood – SC dealing with this.
- ✓ Gentleman in Dodge 3.5ton pick up truck around trying to buy scrap.
- ✓ Cllr Young commented on the project to convert wide areas on roadsides for wildflowers. Cllrs thought this was a good idea and Clerk will investigate.

11) Correspondence: Emails forwarded to all Councillors – noted 'as received unless comments made'.

Vicky Turner - Neighbourhood Fund Monitoring Reminder – this money was used for upkeep of the car park.

- Alterations to the Electoral Register
- Chorley Village road, near Stottesdon – road closure 14/1/2021 – electric pole replacement
- SaTH - Public Participation Strategy Survey – Cllr Shineton
- Road Safety Trust announced funding for road safety projects – Cllr Shineton
- 2021 Census
- 'Drive It Down for Christmas' campaign
- SALC:
- BT Payphone Removal Consultation concluded in Shropshire
- NALC - Chief Executive's Bulletin
- News in Brief
- NHS 111 Stakeholder Briefing from STW STP
- Community Reassurance Update from Shropshire Council

Any other received after issue of agenda – none.

12) Date of next meeting: 25th January 2020 via Zoom

There being no other business the Chairman wished everyone seasons greetings and closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

Payments to make:

Mrs F Morris – salary - £xx

HMRC - £xx need to ring HMRC due to tax code change.

Information Commissioner’s Office - £40

PKF Littlejohn – Audit fee - £240.00

SLCC Membership renewal - £185

Signed: Chairman

Date:

DRAFT