

**MINUTES OF BITTERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2022**

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PRESENT: Mrs. K. Wheeler (Vice Chairman), Mr. C. Chillingworth, Mr. J. Reardon-Smith, Mr. G. Dolphin, Mr. D. Rogers, Mr R, Watkins, Mr P Martin and Mr J. Gatehouse

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr R. Huffer (Shropshire Councillor)

The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm

	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
2022/56	Apologies: Mrs. A. Holman, Mr. R. Osborne and Mr T. Millard	
2022/57	Declarations of Interest None	
2022/58	A moment of reflection The Chair invited those in attendance to hold a minute's silence at the start of the meeting as a mark of respect for the death of Queen Elizabeth II. After observing the Minute's silence, we will only discuss item: a) Planning 22/02151/FUL. As a mark of respect as Chair, I request the remainder of the meeting is adjourned. This will ensure statutory requirements and legislation are met whilst observing the period of National mourning. Thank you	
2022/59	Planning Applications Planning i)Finalise statement for Southern Planning Committee- Proposed Solar Farm, Ledwyche - 22/02151/FUL Locogen have offered £500 per MWatt as this figure has been quote by someone in Shropshire Council. JRS has contacted Lezley Picton to find out who gave the deveoplrs this figures as it has made it very difficult for the Parish Council to negotiatie any payments. It was proposed by KW and seconded by JRS that the PC should ask for the application to be deffered. Also that a further statement be sent to the Planning Commiittee. All Agreed. Actions: 1. Wait for Locogen to reply to JRS email – hopefully with a revised offer 2. RH to arrange a meeting with Lezley Picton – Leader of the Council 3. The revised Southern Planning meeting date is the 27/09/22 4. Key Issues to be noted: a) The AONB. Govt policy to protect against large scale industrial development within a short distance of the Shropshire Hills AONB is currently inadequate.	

	<p>b) The cumulative development. 10.5ha of existing solar farm at Henley, 21ha with this application at Ledwych and an application in process at Rock Green of 49ha totals 80ha of solar farms just outside Ludlow with little space between them.</p> <p>c) We believe there is emerging govt policy to prevent the building of solar farms on best most versatile land. The land at Ledwych is 95% BMV land being grade 3a</p> <p>d) Want the Members to include the Parish Councils suggested conditions into account.</p> <p>e) The PC would like the Planning committee to defer this application until such policies are set which allow responsible decisions encouraging the building of solar panels on rooftops, brownfield sites and less valuable farming land wherever possible. Ledwych solar farm, as one of the first, should not set a precedent which will allow large scale industrial solar developments to be built on good quality, productive farming land in outstanding naturally beautiful parts of Shropshire county</p>	
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