MINUTES OF BITTERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 10th MAY 2023

Clerk; Sue Jones Email; Bitterleypc@gmail.com Tel; 01584 890375

Website; Bitterley.org.uk

PRESENT:, Mr. R. Osborne (Chair), Mr. J. Reardon-Smith, Mr P Martin, Mr. G. Dolphin, Mr. J Gatehouse and Mr R. Watkins, Mr D. Rogers, Mr T. Millard

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr R. Huffer (Shropshire Councillor) and Sue Jones (Clerk)

The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm

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	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>			
2023/17	Election of Chair Councillor Osborne proposed Councillor Holman, seconded by Councillor Gatehouse. All in favour Receive Signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting In the absence of Councillor Holman at this meeting Councillor Reardon-Smith proposed Councillor Osborne to Chair this meeting, seconded by Councillor Millard. All in favour Election of Vice Chair Councillor Gatehouse proposed Councillor Wheeler, Councillor Osborne seconded. All in favour. Receive Signed Declaration of Acceptance at the next meeting as				
	absent.				
2023/19	Apologies: Mrs. A. Holman (Away), Mrs. K. Wheeler (Away) and Mr. C. Chillingworth (III)				
2023/20	Public participation None				
2023/21	 Shropshire Councillor Report Shropshire Council Planning has had another Solar Farm in Shropshire that was rejected. The appeal for the Planning application 22/02151/FUL Proposed Solar Farm To The East Of, Squirrel Lane, Ledwyche. Is no longer being dealt with by written representation but will now be dealt with by a hearing. Councillors Reardon-Smith and Councillor Holman previously met with Councilor Huffer. Councillor Reardon-Smith has given a report outlining the concerns for the appeal. If Parish Council want additional information added Councillor Huffer will take it forward to committee. The Parish Council felt that Councilor Boddington has not picked up all of the points of concern. Bitterley Parish Council can lobby 2 members of the planning committee. Proposal for Councillor Reardon-Smith and Councillor Wheeler to speak to Councillor Boddington and Councillr Wilde about putting other points of view forward The Planning Enforcement process of reporting needs to be better, changes hopefully will enable Photos etc to added to reports. 	RH JRS and KW			
2023/22	Declarations of Interest None				

2023/23	Approval of Minutes	
2023/23	Approval of Minutes To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12 th April, 2023.	
2023/24	Policing Priorities	
2020/24	Review Priorities for May – Oct	
	After a discussion it was agreed to review the priorities to:	
	1. Rural Thefts 2. Community Engagement 3. Speeding	Clerk
	Other comments to be made: Provision of statistics and reports need	<u> </u>
	to be regular.	
2023/25	Clerks Report	
	1. Insurance Quote of £403.78 has been received the Parish Council	
	agreed for the cover to remain the same until the streetlight and notice	<u>Clerk</u>
	board projects have been agreed then policy would be reviewed.	
	Agreed to accept the quote.	
	2. The clerk comfirmed the remaining details with councillors on the	<u>Clerk</u>
	contact list, revised copy to be circulated.	
2023/26	Planning Applications	
	Planning Applications for Consideration	
	a) 23/01541/FUL: Storage Barn North Of The Meesons, Middleton	
	Proposal: Change of Use from Agricultural/Storage to Leisure for	
	the installation of a Padel Court including floodlights inside an	
	existing storage building.	
	Following the report from the planning committee the following recommendations were noted.	
	1. Ecological assessment required to ascertain whether there are	
	any bats or other protected species such as owls living in the	
	barn	
	A structural survey is required to confirm the building as safe.	
	Although the steel framed barn appears to be robust some of the	
	external concrete cladding is cracked and deteriorating. It needs	
	replacement similar to existing to maintain the minimal impact	
	to the AONB.	
	3. There is a safety issue with the current access to the barn itself.	
	A 3m x 2m steel roller electric key-operated door. If there were to	
	be a power cut for example people could be locked inside. To be	
	suitable for public access it requires a single pedestrian door or	
	similar.	
	4.Lighting strategy needs to be included. Outside lighting is	
	required for safety in the car park and needs to consider foraging	
	bat populations. Again the steel door could be an issue if a	
	suitable door is not included as it is likely to be left open during	
	the use of the court causing unnecessary light pollution in the	
	rural setting. 5. Restricted hours of use i.e. not after 9pm	
	It was Proposed by Councillor Readton-Smith and seconded by	
	Councillor Osborne that the application be SUPPORTED with the	Clerk
	recommendations made. Councillor Rogers Abstained. All agreed	OICIK
	1000	
	23/01796/PMBPA Proposed Barn Conversion NW Of Knowbury	
	Hall, Snitton Lane, Knowbury,	
	Application for prior approval under Part 3, Class Q of the Town &	
	Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order	
	2015 for the change of use from agricultural to form one residential unit	
	Noted for information only as in Knowbury parish.	
	23/0119/6AMP	
	Recommend to write to Land owner to tell them that the information is	
	incorrect. JRS proposed to find out who the owner and draft response	<u>JRS</u>
	to be sent. PM 2 nd and all agreed	

	b) Planning Committee Report	
	Community Benefit funding	
	SALC Draft Document response	JRS/Clerk
	JRS proposed and DR 2 nd all agreed	3113/3131
2023/27	Annual Review of Council Procedures and Committees	
	a) To review Councillor roles and make appointments to committees	
	Planning Committee – AH, KW, JRS, JG, TM	
	Personnel Committee – AH, TM, RO	
	Tree Warden – DR, AH	
	Highways – GD, JG, RW b) To appoint councillor representatives to outside bodies:	
	SALC, AH South Shropshire Area Meeting, AH	
	Village Hall Committee RO	
	c) To set dates for Parish Council meetings for the forthcoming year.	
	14 th June, 12 th July, 13 th Sept, 11 th Oct, 8 th Nov, 10 th Jan, 14 th Feb,	
	13 th March, 10 th April, 8 th May	
	d) Reviewed standing orders, Financial Regulations, and risk	
	assessments, agreed subject to the removal of genger specific	<u>Clerk</u>
2023/28	references. Roads	
2020120	Bitterley Bridge – Update	
	The clerk has spoken with the Bridges and Structures Officer who	
	says that unfortunately they do not have a timescale for this work to be	
	done. It takes 3 months for a highway closure to be scheduled. I have	
	asked if I can be copied into any emails so I can keep you updated.	
	Please let know if the barriers do not look like they are doing their job	
	as contractors are supposed to be doing weekly checks and I will	Clark
	report to the Officer. Clerk to find out when are they going to recover the masonry as it will blocked the stream if there is downfall of rain.	<u>Clerk</u>
	Ford Potholes. This needs to be risk assessed as there is going to	Clerk to
	be an accident or very bad damage to vehicles, cars are no longer	report
	using the road as it's so unsafe.	
	Cleeton St Mary - Gritting schedule - Councillor Dolphin as given	
	the clerk a report in the number of incidents there have been due to	Clerk to
0000/00	poor weather condition and lack of gritting.	<u>report</u>
2023/29	PC1- 23 Infrastructure Levy Consultation - 19 th May deadline	
	The response to the consulation had previously be circulated to Councillors for comment. After a discussion it was proposed by	
	Councillor Martin to change the wording for:	
	Question 31: To what extent do you agree that local authorities should	
	charge a highly discounted/zero-rated Infrastructure Levy rate on high	
	percentage/100% affordable housing schemes? [Strongly	
	Agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly Disagree/Unsure]	
	Local authorities should be able to discount fully individual single build	
	affordable housing built in local/rural areas. Seconded by Councillor Watkins, after a vote 5 to 3 agreed the	Clerk to
	proposal. Councillor Reardon-Smith to amend the response.	submit
2023/30	Shropshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan –	34811110
	Ludlow	
	There are Information events to discuss the consultation which closes	Councillors
	16 th June.	
	Thursday 11 May - 9.30am to 12noon: Ludlow roadshow,	
	Entertainment Square	
	Thursday 18 May and Thursday 25 May	
	Online webinars on Facebook (6pm) Councillors to attend sessions and make individual comments.	
2023/31	Financial Matters	
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	a) Payments since last meeting	
	None	
	b) Accounts for payment:	
	Chq 785 D Foster May 23 £40.00	
	Chq 786 Zurich Municipal £403.78	
	Chq 787 Shropshire Council – electricity £217.36	
2023/32	Expenditure Projects	
	To discuss and agree which projects are going to be	
	investigated further. It was Proposed by Councillors Osborne to get	
	quotes for:	
	Bedlam – Refurbishment of the Phone Box	
	Notice Boards - Get costs for replacing/refurbing notice boards	JRS IRS
	Streetlighting – RO report for next meeting	JRS DRS
	Seconded by Councillor Reardon-Smith – All agreed	RO
2023/33	Councillor Reports	
	Smartwater – TM	
	The Smartwater distribution plan had previously been sent to	OlI-
	Councillors, was discussed and agreed.	Clerk
	Clerk to order the address labels. Dates for distribution to be confirmed.	<u>TM</u>
	Street Lighting – RO	
	Councillor Osborne has received information from Shrophire Council	
	about the current costings and will produce a report for the next	RO
	meeting with proposals. It was noted that residents in Bedlam were	<u></u>
	happy for the streetlight by the phone box to remain, but felt the light	
	outside the village old reading room/chapel is not needed.	
2023/34	Items for the next Agenda 14 th June 2023	
	Biodiversity duties AH	
	Grant Application and Application Form RO	
	Street Lighting – RO	
	AGAR 22-23 -Clerk	
2023/35	Meeting Closed 9.35 pm	