

MINUTES OF BITTERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 2023

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PRESENT: Mrs. A. Holman, (Chair) Mr. R. Osborne, Mr. C. Chillingworth, Mr. J. Reardon-Smith, Mr P Martin, Mr. G. Dolphin, Mrs. K. Wheeler, Mr. J Gatehouse and Mr R. Watkins

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

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

The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm

	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
2023/01	Apologies: Mr T. Millard (ill) and Mr D. Rogers	
2023/02	Public participation None	
2023/03	Shropshire Councillor Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clr Huffer has been working with Clr Gwilym Butler regarding the road Closure on the A4117 from Cleobury Mortimer to Lem for the resurfacing works in October, which will cause disruption for commuters to the West Midlands.• The Appeal has been submitted for the Ledwyche Solar Farm application and will be by written representations.• There is no update from Shropshire Council on the timescales for the work to be done to Bitterley Bridge to rectify the damage done when a vehicle went through the wall after leaving the point to point, there is stonework that has ended up halfway in the brook. Clr Huffer asked if the PC wanted to write a letter to the Point to Point Committee as a number of residents want to bring to the attention of the Parish Council the parking on the verges, the soil has made it difficult to drive down the road, the under age drinking, and the mess it has genrly caused in the village.• It was Proposed by Clr Osborne and 2nd by Clr Holman that a letter be written to the Point to Point Committee, all agreed. Clr Osborne and Clr Wheeler to draft a letter.• Clr Holman asked Clr Huffer what Shropshire Councils plan is for enforcing "20" MPH in villages, as many other Councils are taking this on board. Clr Huffer to report back.	<u>RO and KW</u> <u>RH</u>
2023/04	Declarations of Interest None	
2023/05	Approval of Minutes To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 8 th February, 2023. Signed by the Chairman, A discussion was had regarding reducing the detail of the minutes and only recording the decision but it was agreed to stay the same, but it was suggested by Clr Holman that Councillors attended the Councillor training to be more informed regarding the suggested format of minutes.	<u>All the councillors who haven't done new councillor training</u>
2023/06	Clerks Report	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regarding a question at a previous meeting the clerk confirmed that the way for jobs to be prioritised is for them to be reported on "Fixmystreet". This is used by Shropshire Council to report on the frequency that repairs are made in specific areas. If there are repeat offending areas Technicians will go to inspect to see if it is more cost effective to raise a capital scheme, to stop repeated works. Encourage residents to report issues on "Fixmystreet" 2. The Defib at Farden should be back in situ soon; There has been a problem replacing the lock rather than replacing the difib. 3. The Clerk reminded Councillors about the South Shropshire Area Committee meeting on 17th April at 7.00pm where there is a presentation about Place Plans 4. A Structural Engineer from Shropshire Council has been to assess the damage done to Bitterley Bridge, hopefully his report will be available soon. 5. Mr Clayton has covered everything on the Highways list of work to be done. Mr Clayton was asked about clearing the Gully at Ledwyche but there is not one there and the Parish Council would need to ask Shropshire Highways for one to be installed unless Bitterley Parish want to fund this but would need the permission first. It was agreed by Councillors not to persue that at this time. 6. SALC has confirmed that the draft of the Community Benefit Fund document was agreed and is just being finalised, before being sent out for consultation. As mentioned in the latest SALC news email. 	
2023/07	<p>Planning Applications Planning Applications for Consideration</p> <p>a) Non-Material Amendment to planning consent 21/05556/VAR - 23/01196/AMP Solar Farm To The West Of Squirrel Lane Ledwyche, Shropshire</p> <p>The Parish Council objected to the original increase in the life of the solar farm as planting for screen and biodiversity (conditions of planning) had not been met. The objections made by the PC had been dismissed and no improvements made. This current amendments has addressed many of the Parish Council concerns though not all.</p> <p>Clr Holman proposed that Clr Reardon-Smith draft an email to the planning officer addressing the following issues; Suggestions to change the planting scheme put forward from a local perspective. Suggestions around monitoring the planting scheme All agreed</p> <p>b) Appeal on Planning Application 22/02151/FUL Proposed Solar Farm To The East Of, Squirrel Lane, Ledwyche, Written appeal.</p> <p>Clr Reardon-smith and Clr Wheeler will formulate a response and circulate to councillors. Clr Wheeler written as summary to include the Cumulative effect is important especially now Rock Farm has been submitted. Clr Reardon-smith: The Parish Council objected, then met with the developer and agreed some conditions. As Shropshire Council have still no policies in place, this application may get granted. Important to get conditions in place. Proposal: Remain neural not to object, areas of concern: AONB, Cumulative effect, impact and attach conditions that were agreed When the Parish Council consulted with developers.</p>	<p><u>JRS and Clerk</u></p> <p><u>JRS and KW</u></p>

2023/08	<p>Roads</p> <p>1. B4364 has been tarmaced, the road now isn't wide enough for two lorries to pass, so the edges of the road are being broken-up. When you turn off the A4117 a lorry has sliced off the tarmac. CC Report to fixmystreet.</p> <p>2. Cllr Osborne has made a formal complaint as an individual that no response has been given to the reporting of the lack of signage at Roundthorn junction.</p> <p>3. Cllr Dolphin reported that the Hopton to Bridgnorth road, through Cleeton needs be gritted in the bad weather. The new railings have been erected but there is a gap so a car would fit through. What is the policy for gritting, what category of roads are gritted, there are no warning signs and there have been number of accidents of the year. Cllr Dolohin to provide the Clerk with details. Cllr Holman proposed to get this added to the gritting schedule, all agreed,</p> <p>4. Ditch right by the notice board in Cleeton. To be reported on "Fixmystreet".</p> <p>5. Potholes by Asbatch Farm, have been reported, there were a number of vehicles that damaged tyres after the Point to Point.</p> <p>6. Cockshut Cottage, down to the Point to Pooint field there is a culvert, that may need inspecting. Cllr Watkins will investigate and take photos.</p>	<p><u>CC</u></p> <p><u>GD</u></p> <p><u>GD</u></p> <p><u>RW</u></p>
2023/09	<p>Website – Proposals for improvement</p> <p>Adjourned to next meeting</p>	
2023/10	<p>Climate & Ecology Bill Motion</p> <p>A discussion was held on the bill. AH proposed that no response from the Parish Council be sent PM 2nd all agreed.</p>	
2023/11	<p>Brown Clee Medical practice</p> <p>1. The medium to long term provision of GP services within the Brown Clee Medical Practice area is currently uncertain. Dr Railton has announced her intention to retire from the partnership at the end of 2023 and Dr. Bassett by the end of 2027. There is a known shortage of GP's wishing to locate to rural communities therefore recruitment to our area to replace them is expected to be difficult. It was proposed by the Partners that a community led buy-out of the premises, removing the need for new partners to buy into the equity, might assist in attracting GP's to the Practice. To advance this idea, an unincorporated community group has been formed comprising patients of the Practice. A Committee has been established from members of this group and a constitution adopted.</p> <p>The purpose of the Group is as follows:</p> <p>1. To support the ongoing provision of the Brown Clee Medical Practice</p> <p>2. To assess the feasibility, and support the acquisition of, the surgery buildings currently owned by the Brown Clee Medical Practice in Stottesden and Ditton Priors by the community and individuals served by the Practice.</p> <p>3. To work with the BCMP Partners and Medical Practice, Patient Participation Group (PPG), the NHS and associated bodies and other community groups in support of this purpose.</p> <p>Anyone wishing to become a Member should email: bcmpcommunitygroup@btinternet.com</p>	
2023/12	<p>Councillor Reports</p> <p>Smartwater – TM</p>	<p><u>TM and AH</u></p>

	Distribution of the kits to be decided. We can have a list of address labels but a plan needs to be agreed on how they are going to be distributed and registered Street Lighting – RO Next agenda Projects for Expenditure – JRS Street Lighting Notice boards Bedlam Phone box Grant Application and Application Form – TM Adjourned to next agenda, Clr Osborne will revise the application. Speeding at Middleton – CC Clr Chillingworth has not been able to find 6 volunteers to form a “Speed Watch”.	<u>RO</u> <u>RO</u>
2023/13	PC1- 23 Infrastructure Levy Consultation 1. Clr Reardon-smith has produced a response to the document, but will send a revised version will be circulated for agreement for the next meeting.	<u>JRS</u>
2023/14	Financial Matters a) Payments since last meeting: Chq 773 S Jones – Salary Jan – March £608.85 Chq 774 S Jones – HMRC Jan – March £152.40 Chq 775 S Jones – Microsoft, Norton, Ink £169.96 Chq 776 Bishop Mascall – Room Hire £40.40 Chq 777 Shropshire Council – Electricity £225.12 Chq 778 Bitterley Village Hall – Hire £271.50 Chq 779 Salc – Training £60.00 Chq 780 D Forster Nov(Reissued)&March £80.00 Chq 781 DeterTech UK-Smartwater £2,874.24 b) Accounts for payment: Chq 782 D Foster April 23 £40.00 Chq 783 SALC £30.00 Chq 784 A Clayton Contracting £1200.00 c) Bank Reconciliation Account Balance @ 31.03.23 £22,290.09	
2023/15	Items for the next Agenda 10th May 2023 - Annual Parish Council Meeting Invite LSNT to next meeting – Policing Priorities PC1- 23 Infrastructure Levy Consultation Response Smartwater AH Biodiversity duties AH Grant Application and Application Form RO Street Lighting – RO	
2023/16	Meeting Closed 9.35 pm	