

# MINUTES OF BITTERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023

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**PRESENT:** Mrs. A. Holman, (Chair) Mr. R. Osborne, Mr. C. Chillingworth, Mr. J. Reardon-Smith, Mr P Martin, Mrs. K. Wheeler, Mr. J Gatehouse, Mr T. Millard and Mr D. Rogers

## **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

## **The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm**

	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
2023/52	<b>Apologies:</b> Mr. G. Dolphin (Illness) and Mr R. Watkins (Holiday)	
2023/53	<b>Public participation</b> None	
2023/54	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None	
2023/55	<b>Approval of Minutes</b> To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2023. Signed by the Chairman. Revision of Minutes 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2022: <b>2022/83 – Cleeton Vicarge b/ and d/</b> b/ Point out to Shropshire Council that the wall may not be safe. It is over 1m in height with no supports the Parish Councilor's could see. It is by a public footpath and might be considered a health and safety issue. d/ It is the opinion of the planning sub-committee on the evidence identified so far and the visual look of the situation that the wall appears to be on common land. Also to clarify that a non-material amendment was made on 13th September 2013 to change the construction material of the garage at the Old Vicarage, Cleeton St Mary from timber to stone. No planning infringement has occurred.	
2023/56	<b>West Mercia Police - Town and Parish Council Survey 2023</b> Cllr Holman proposed that by weekending 21/07/23 that Councillors send Cllr Holman their responses. These will be collated, and the consensus of the replies will be submitted before 14 <sup>th</sup> August. Clerk to invite a representative of the PCC to the September meeting.	<b><u>All Councillors</u></b>  <b><u>Clerk</u></b>
2023/57	<b>Clerks Report</b> 1. No further updates on the Bridge in Bitterley. Clerk to contact SC stating that the Parish Council are hoping that SC will (take responsibility if there is damage to Bridge Cottage caused by flooding due to the debris left in the stream from the damaged bridge.) Also, clerk to find out who the flood risk manager is at SC tell them the PC's concerns about the damage that could be caused to Bridge Cottage.	<b><u>Clerk</u></b>   <b><u>Clerk</u></b>
2023/58	<b>Roads</b> <b>a) Programme for Highway Maintenance works.</b>	

	<p>Each councillor to provide details of works for Andrew Clayton in their area. It would be positive if councillors could document the drains and scrapes for future reference.</p> <p>AC can report drains that need jetting when he is in the area, but it was emphasised that issues spotted by councillors should be reported straight away on fix my street. There was no need to delay until a Parish Council Meeting.</p>	<b><u>All Councillors</u></b>
<b>2023/59</b>	<p><b>Council Policies</b></p> <p>To discuss policies that the Parish Council may wish to consider to be adopted over forthcoming meetings.</p> <p>The draft Complaints Policy was discussed, and it was proposed to adopt the policy by Cllr Holman, seconded by Cllr Reardon-smith. All agreed. Policy was adopted.</p> <p>The following policies will be discussed over the next few months. Press and Media Policy, Social Media Policy, Co-option Policy, Employment Policies and Procedures and Public Participation Policy</p>	
<b>2023/60</b>	<p><b>a) Planning applications for consideration:</b> 23/02411/FUL: The Granary, Angel Bank, Bitterley, Ludlow. Proposal: Erection of a single storey garden room extension Cllr Wheeler proposed to Support with no comment, Cllr Holman seconded.</p> <p><b>b) Planning Conditions - Henley 1</b> Wise Energy are considering their response to the document that Cllr Reardon-smith as sent.</p> <p><b>c) Compliance to planning conditions</b> Planning Officers do not appear to ensure Planning Conditions specifically relating to environmental and bio-diversity issues on solar farms are met. Also how are these conditions monitored? Concerns were raised as to whether the necessary skills were currently in the planning department to undertake the role. Cllr Wheeler and Cllr Reardon-smith to draft a letter. Copy to councilors for reference. To be sent to Adian Cooper – Climate Action Taskforce. CC Lezley Picton – Leader of the Council. Regarding these points.</p> <p><b>d) How Parish Council can improve communication with Shropshire Council planning Department to ensure accuracy of planning information?</b> Following a discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Holman drafts a letter to Tabitha Lythe regarding the development of conditions from the Parish Council and community side.</p> <p><b>e) Rocks Green Solar Farm attendance at planning committee 25<sup>th</sup> July</b> Bitterley Parish Council will send a technical response letter to Shropshire Council Planning Department and to the planning portal. A copy will also go to every member of the Planning Committee. Cllr Reardon-Smith will draft the technical response and send to Councillors. This will be Bitterley Parish Councils contribution to the Planning Committee.</p> <p><b>f) The draft “Community Benefit” document will be discussed at the SSAC meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September.</b></p> <p><b>g) Letter to be sent to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the conditions for Ledwyche. Specifically, the inclusion of the wildflower meadow.</b></p>	<p><b><u>KW/JRS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>AH</u></b></p> <p><b><u>JRS</u></b></p> <p><b><u>JRS</u></b></p>

2023/61	<p><b>Financial Matters:</b></p> <p><b>a) Payments Made since last meeting.</b> None</p> <p><b>b) Approve Payments</b> Chq. No. 794      D Forster (July)      £40.00 Chq. No. 795      S Jones (Expenses)      £87.41</p> <p><b>c) To consider and review Quarterly Budget review and Bank Reconciliation</b> The Quarterly Budget was agreed subject to the cost of the defib pads increasing to £1,3753. Bank reconciliation agreed,</p> <p><b>d) Grant Application Form</b> Draft application form comments by 21<sup>st</sup> July and final version by 4<sup>th</sup> August</p> <p><b>e) Bitterley Church yard grant</b> The clerk to thank Mr Wheeler for his letter, and stating that the Parish Council is reviewing the process and a new application form is being drafted. This will be sent for completion and submission. This will then be considered at the next meeting.</p>	<u><b>RO</b></u>
2023/62	<p><b>Councillor Reports</b></p> <p><b>Smartwater</b> Dates have been published in the West of the Clee, and on notice boards, flyers also to be distributed. . Minute dates below: Bitterley Village Hall 22<sup>nd</sup> July      9am – 11am 5<sup>th</sup> August      9am – 11am Middleton - Outside 3, Ledwyche Close, Middleton 22<sup>nd</sup> July      9am – 11am 5<sup>th</sup> August      9am – 10am Bedlam – On the triangle 29<sup>th</sup> July      9am – 11am Bedlam – On the triangle 5<sup>th</sup> August      10.30am – to 11.30am</p> <p><b>Notice Boards</b> JRS to obtain further quotes for comparison.</p> <p>KW: SWS will be starting implementation of the broadband in Bitterely September.</p>	<p><u><b>TM and AH</b></u></p> <p><u><b>JRS</b></u></p>
2023/63	<p><b>Items for the next Agenda</b> The next meeting is 13<sup>th</sup> September meeting – sort end of Aug Invite PCC proposed by AH and JRS. AH and JRS to prepare some questions for the invited PCC member</p>	
2023/64	<p><b>Meeting Closed 9.10 pm</b></p>	