

ALL STRETTON, SMETHCOTE AND WOOLSTASTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Of Meeting held at Picklescote Village Hall on
Wednesday 25th July 2018
at 7.30pm

1. Present

C'llr McVittie (Chairman); C'llr Burton; C'llr Morris; C'llr Phillips; C'llr A Beagle

C'llr D Morris attended for part of the meeting having been at a previous Parish Council meeting.

One member of the public attended the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from C'llr V Davies and C'llr J Dale

3. Chairman's Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. Public Comments

The member of the public present told the meeting that potholes in the Parish had not been attended to and were getting worse. He had, personally filled some of the potholes with material he had been supplied from Shropshire Council some years ago.

6. Minutes of Meeting held on 23rd May 2018

It was proposed by C'llr Burton, seconded by C'llr Morris and unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes – Clerk to report for information only

C'llr Burton told the meeting that she had reported the broken footpath sign as reported by a member of the public at the May meeting but had not received any response from Shropshire Council.

8. Correspondence

The Clerk forwards all correspondence by e-mail as received. The Clerk reported the following correspondence to the meeting:-

Clerk and Council Direct Magazine – July – handed to C'llr Beagle.

9. Planning

(a) Applications previously discussed

Land Adjacent to Heath House, Leebotwood REF 17/04907/FUL
Erection of an affordable dwelling with detached double garage. The applicant had attended the August meeting and explained that she intended to apply for an affordable dwelling on a single plot exception site. Following the application being validated members of the Parish Council had attended a site visit. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objections and supported this application. The Clerk told the July meeting that this application had now been approved.

Land at 100 Acres, Smethcott Ref 18/00277/FUL
Erection of an affordable dwelling with detached double car port with storage above, creation of access drive and installation of sewage package treatment plant. The applications had visited the Parish Council meeting to explain the local connection and the Parish Council had confirmed the local connection. The application was received and forwarded to all councillors on 14th February. This was discussed at the March meeting and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would support this application. However, before making comments they wish to attend a site visit. Following the site visit the Parish Council made the following comment:-

“The Parish Council attended a site visit and fully support this application. However, the Parish Council understand that the Planners are insisting on an entrance closer to the cross roads which will entail the removal of a stretch on long established hedging. The parish Council are of the opinion that this is adding unnecessary cost to the construction of an affordable home. Whilst the Parish council fully understand the requirement to site the affordable dwelling closer to the other houses in the settlement but are finding it difficult to understand the rationale for creating a new entrance when there is already an entrance to the plot further down the lane which better vision both ways. The cross roads have been the subject of a number of accidents over the years. Therefore the Parish Council feel it would be safer for road users and the family to have a less steeply inclined access further down the lane. The Parish Council strongly support this application but would ask the Planning Officer to reconsider the requirement to create a new entrance closer to the dangerous junction. The new entrance will be more steeply inclined and make entry and exit more difficult and risky in snow and icy conditions. If necessary members of the Parish Council would be happy to meet the Planning Officer on site to discuss their concerns”.

The Clerk told the July meeting that this application is shown on the web site as “awaiting a decision”.

The Oaks, All Stretton Ref 18/002124/FUL
Erection of a “Tree House” Holiday Lodge with associated parking. This application was validated and forwarded to all Councillors on 16th May and was discussed at the meeting held on 23rd May. A site visit was held Monday 4th June. The Parish Council had no objection to the application and made the following comments

“Members of the Parish Council carried out a site visit and saw no reason to object to this application. The Treehouse will enhance an existing let property

which is in great demand by tourists to this area. The visitors' book was filled with positive comments. The Parish Council support this application" The Clerk told the July meeting that this application is shown on the web site as "awaiting a decision".

(b) Clerk to report any further Planning Applications received after 13th July

Underhill hall, Pulverbatch

Ref 18/03116/FUL

Construction of a ménage to include change of use and erection of post and rail boundary fencing. It was proposed by C'llr McVittie, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objection to this application.

10. Highway Matters

The Clerk had previously prepared a spreadsheet showing all the outstanding highway matters and this had proved helpful when visiting the problem areas with Shropshire Council. Other highway matters were added to the spreadsheet at the May meeting.

It was agreed at the May meeting that the Clerk would write to Clive Wright, Shropshire Council Chief Executive to express the Parish Council's concern at lack of response to problem areas in the Parish and a further site visit with senior officers be requested in an attempt to address the highway issues in the Parish. This letter was sent on 11th June and no response had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk would write again and include all the highway matters reported at the July meeting.

The Clerk had also written to Ian Walshaw with a copy of the spreadsheet and requesting a further site visit.

Since the May meeting the Chairman had contacted Tim Sneddon, Shropshire Council to report that an HGV had driven down Church Lane causing damage to the corner and part of the hedge. The Chairman told Mr Sneddon that there was a sign unsuitable for HGV's at the Smethcott end of the lane and the chairman requested a sign at the Picklescott end of the road.

Mr Sneddon has agreed by e-mail to erect a sign at Picklescott end of Church Lane.

Further highway matters reported at the July meeting:-

Hedge in church Road, in the ownership of the occupants of Karuna had not been cut back and was making the road almost impassable.

The hedge on the right hand side of the highway from Leebotwood to Woolstaston passed Hillside has been cut at the bottom however the top of the hedge is overhanging and forcing vehicles on to the other side of the highway.

A large groove in the highway as you leave Picklescott to travel towards

Dorrington is getting deeper and has been marked with chalk.

A caravan appears to have been abandoned in the layby just passed Leebotwood Church as you travel towards Woolstaston.

C'llr Beagle reported a water leak in the highway under the bridge just off the A49 travelling towards Lower Wood.

The Clerk agreed to update the spreadsheet of highway issues and write again to the Chief Executive, Ian Walshaw, Steve Brown and Tim Sneddon.

11. Finance

11.1 Payment of Accounts due

Clerk's salary June/July plus out of pocket expenses totalling £439.12. It was proposed by C'llr McVittie, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that this account be paid. Cheque No. 343 was prepared in the sum of £437.55

HMRC tax due on Clerk's salary £108.20. It was proposed by C'llr McVittie, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that this account be paid. Cheque No.344 was prepared in the sum of £108.20.

Web site updates June and July £30. It was proposed by C'llr McVittie, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that this account be paid. Cheque No 345 was prepared in the sum of £30

Picklescott Village Hall, hire of the hall for tonight's meeting £20. It was proposed by C'llr McVittie, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that this account be paid. Cheque No.346 was prepared in the sum of £20.

Shropshire Council. Election Recharge May 2017 uncontested election £300. It was proposed by C'llr McVittie, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that this account be paid. Cheque No.347 was prepared in the sum of £300.

Unlimited Web Hosting. Hosting of web site for the period 3rd June 2018 – 2nd June 2019 £39.47. This had been collected by direct debit from the Clerk's bank account. It was proposed by C'llr McVittie, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that the Clerk be reimbursed. Cheque No. 348 was prepared in the sum of £39.47.

11.2 Clerk to report Bank Balance

The Clerk told the meeting that after payment of the accounts agreed tonight the balance at bank is £4530.93. However, this includes £379.07 CIL, and £247.32 balance in the transparency fund, leaving a Parish Council balance of £3904.54.

11.3 External Audit

The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Return had been sent to the External Auditor on 29th May. To date no feedback had been received.

12. Local Joint Committee

The Clerk told the meeting that C'Ilr Dale had informed her that he had nothing to report and the date for the next LJC Meeting had not been announced.

13. Shropshire Council Report

C'Ilr Morris reported the following:-

- He was disappointed with the service provided by the Highways Team. However, they were making their way around the Parishes to repair potholes.
- There would be no change in the business rate relief for village halls in rural parishes.
- There is a Full Council Meeting at Shropshire Council on 26th July. C'Ilr Morris is putting forward a proposal that sky lanterns are banned from all County Council owned land, in the hope that this will be agreed. The MP will then be asked for this to be adopted nationally.
- Car parking charges in Shrewsbury had been reviewed again and some concessions have been agreed. No overnight parking charges will apply in Shrewsbury. Although parking charges would be increased in Shropshire they were not out of line with other Counties.
- C'Ilr Morris confirmed that the work on the A49 in Dorrington and the recent traffic flow under traffic lights was due to the need to widen the footpath leading from Dorrington to Stapleton.
- Shropshire Council are looking at appointing Road Wardens and Snow Wardens in parishes. These would be volunteer members of the public who would be trained by Shropshire Council contractors, given appropriate Insurance and materials to carry out works in the parish.

19. Data Protection

It was agreed at the May meeting that the Clerk would purchase a backup drive. However, the Clerk told the July meeting that she was investigating back up to I Cloud.

The Clerk told the May meeting that all Councillors should have a dedicated e-mail address used only for Parish Council Business. After speaking to SALC and taking further advice it was acceptable for all councillors to set up another dedicated e-mail address for Parish Council use with their current e-mail provider. To be compliant the Clerk urged all Councillors to do this and inform her as soon as possible.

Further advice received from SALC stated that if smaller Parish Councils were registered with the ICO as "other" as opposed to "public body" this removes the necessity to appoint a Data Protection Officer. The Clerk had spoken to the ICO and had changed the Parish Council status to "other".

19. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 26th September

Dates for the remaining 2018 meeting is as follows:-

Wednesday 28th November

C'Ilr McVittie told the meeting that booking for the village hall should be made through Mrs Holbourne-Williams. C'Ilr McVittie agreed to send an e-mail, copy to the Clerk, to advise Mrs. Holbourne-Williams of the two remaining 2018 meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm