

# ALL STRETTON, SMETHCOTE AND WOOLSTASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of All Stretton, Smethcott and Woolstaston Parish Council held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 at Picklescott Village Hall.

**1) Present :**

C'llr McVittie (Chairman)  
C'llr J Dale (Vice Chairman)  
C'llr J Burton  
C'llr M Morris  
C'llr T Phillips  
C'llr V Davies

Clerk Mrs J Griffiths (Clerk)

Shropshire Councillor D Morris had a previous meeting and arrived for Item 10

**Members of the public present:**

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

**2) Apologies**

Apologies were received from C'llr Beagle

**3) Declaration of Personal and Pecuniary Interest**

The Clerk reminded all Councillors to declare any interests in any items being discussed.

**4) Chairman's Introduction**

The Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**5) Public Comments**

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

**6) Approve Minutes of Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

It was proposed by C'llr Dale, seconded by C'llr Davies and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**7) Matters Arising from the Minutes (Clerk to report for information only)**

There were no matters arising which were not covered on the Agenda. .

**8) Correspondence**

The Clerk forwards all correspondence by e-mail as received.

The Clerk reported the following correspondence to the meeting:-

- Clerk and Councils Direct magazine – November 2017 – handed to C'llr Dale
- Consultation of future funding proposals for youth activities. E mailed to all Councillors on 6<sup>th</sup> November. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish

Council would respond to express their disappointment that funding for rural areas was being withdrawn when funding would still be available for the six main towns, thus disadvantaging rural areas.

- The future of rural bus services in Shropshire. E mailed to all Councillors on 17<sup>th</sup> November. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to say that there were no regular bus services to any of the Parish Council area, only Ring and Ride and the Longmynd Shuttle Bus in the summer months.
- Insurance for Parish Councils – presentation by Came and Co Insurers at the Shirehall 29<sup>th</sup> November. Councillors did not express an interest in attending.

## 9) Planning Applications

Applications discussed at earlier meetings:-

Hall Farm, Picklescott Ref 16/05366/FUL

Works to Grade II listed building to create 4 No. residential dwellings. This application was received and forwarded to all Councillors following which a site visit was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2016. The Parish Council had no objection to this application. The Clerk told the meeting that this application is still shown on the web site as “Awaiting a Decision”

Oak Hill Bungalow, Picklescott Ref 17/02475/FUL

Erection of detached new build garage and workshop building. This application was received and forwarded to all Councillors on 7<sup>th</sup> July. The Parish Council did not comment on this application. The Clerk told the meeting that this application was granted on 6<sup>th</sup> October and has been circulated to all Councillors by e-mail on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

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.

New application discussed at November meeting:-

Cedar Lodge, Highfields Farm, Leebotwood Ref 17/05474/FUL

Change of use from agricultural workers dwelling to an affordable dwelling. It was agreed that there was insufficient information contained in the application to explain the change of use. It was agreed that Councillors would carry out a site visit before making any comments.

The Clerk told the meeting that she had, today, heard from the Rural Housing Enabling Officer that Mr and Mrs Harber’s single plot affordable eligibility had been confirmed and they can now submit a planning application. It had been agreed at an earlier meeting that when the application is submitted a site visit would be arranged. .

## 10) Highway Matters

Highway Matters reported at the August meeting:-

- C'llr Dan Morris had received a report that the Portway was being used by large vehicles removing the trees which were being felled. The residents at Christmas Farm were very concerned about the damage being done to the Portway. In the past Mr Sneddon had indicated that Shropshire Council would be prepared to maintain this ancient highway in its present state but not carry out any improvements. The Clerk agreed to contact Mr Sneddon with these concerns. A site visit had been arranged and C'llr McVittie thanked C'llr Morris for attending the meeting and visiting residents affected. This was further discussed at the October meeting under Shropshire Council Report (Item 13). On 15<sup>th</sup> November the residents of Christmas Tree Farm had made further complaints about the state of the Portway. The e-mail was forwarded to C'llr Dan Morris who had contacted C'llr Steven Brown, Shropshire Council. C'llr Morris had now been informed that work to the Portway would be complete by 6<sup>th</sup> December. However, C'llr Morris had visited the site and told the meeting that the main problem was beyond the County Council maintained highway and farming operations had seriously affected the bridleway and the entrance to Christmas Tree Farm. C'llr McVittie agreed to visit the site and forward photographs to Dan Morris. Dan Morris agreed to establish if this part of the roadway was classed as a bridleway and if so what responsibility the County Council had for this part of the roadway leading to Christmas Tree Farm.

Other highway matters reported at the October meeting:-

- The Clerk was asked to remind Shropshire Council that the white lines on the crossroads at High Park and the crossroads leading to Smethcott on the road leading from Picklescott to Dorrington were faded. They had been previously reported but not yet re-painted although the Technician, Jonathon Ingolby, when he visited the Parish with C'llr Morris, had agreed that the lines needed repainted. It was agreed at the November meeting that this work had still not been done. The Clerk will write again to Shropshire Council and copy to C'llr Dan Morris.
- C'llr M Morris reported that grass is growing up the centre of the road in Stank Lane. The Clerk agreed to report this to Shropshire Council. It was agreed at the November meeting that this work had still not been done. The Clerk will write again to Shropshire Council and copy to C'llr Dan Morris.
- The hedges in Church Lane are becoming very overgrown. It was agreed that this would be reviewed at the next meeting and a report would be made to Shropshire Council. It was agreed at the November meeting that the hedges on land belonging to Karuna had not been cut. The Clerk to report to Shropshire Council and copy to C'llr Dan Morris.

Further highway matters reported at the November meeting:-

- A tree is overhanging the roadway and thought to be in a dangerous condition. This is situated on land in the ownership of C'llr Martin Morris and he agreed to investigate.
- The railings over the brook on the right hand side of the road from

Picklescott to Sallins have been damaged by large agricultural vehicles.  
The Clerk to report to Shropshire Council and copy to C'llr Dan Morris.

## 11) Finance

### (a) Accounts due for payment

The following accounts were due for payment:-

HMRC – tax due on clerk's salary for Oct/Nov £108.20. It was proposed by C'llr Dale, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00322 was prepared in the sum of £108.20.

Web site updates Oct/Nov totalling £30. It was proposed by C'llr Dale seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00323 was prepared in the sum of £30.

Village Hall fee for hire of Village Hall for the November meeting totalling £20. It was proposed by C'llr Dale, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00324 was prepared in the sum of £20.

Clerk's Salary Oct/Nov plus out of pocket expenses totalling £457.83. It was proposed by C'llr Dale, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00321 was prepared in the sum of £457.83.

### (b) Total cash held at Bank

The balance held at bank after payment of the accounts approved tonight is £3,322.92. This includes £379.07 CIL money held in the account and £394.38 balance held in the Transparency Fund for funding the web site.

The Clerk told the meeting that the projected balance at the end of March 2018 was £2,109 compared to the carry forward of £1289 at the end of March 2017. The extra £820 projected carry forward at the end of March 2018 can be attributed to £250 underspend against 2017/18 precept; £322 CIL money paid in April 2018 and £255 Transparency Fund Grant received in 2017.

The Clerk told the meeting that Parish Council's could not reclaim VAT in the year in was paid unless it exceeded £100. The Clerk has now made a claim for repayment of VAT for the period May 2012 – March 2017 totalling £72.07 and when received would be added to the bank balance.

### (c) Notification of Uncontested Election Charges

The Clerk told the meeting that she had received notification of the total due for the May 2017 Uncontested Election. The uncontested total is £300 and this will be invoiced in April 2018 and the cost should be added to the precept unless the Parish Council decide to fund from the carry forward.

## 12) Local Joint Committee

C’Ilr Dan Morris reported on the main topics from Peter Nutting’s presentation to the Local Joint Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> October:-

- The main topic of which was budgets. C’Ilr Nutting gave his vision for the next four years and emphasised that savings would be made wherever possible.
- A review of Youth Funding Budgets will be carried out which may result in the Youth Budget available to Local Joint Committees would be cut.
- There is increased spending on adult social care year on year and as a result savings have to be made in non-essential services
- At this time capital budgets are having to be used for revenue expenditure.
- The County Council are looking at investments to help generate more income.
- The police gave a presentation at the meeting and explained a WhatsApp service to notify farmers in south Shropshire of crimes in the area.
- Peter Nutting had been questioned on rural housing and the ability of Parish Council’s to spend CIL money.

The date of the next Local Joint Committee meeting has yet to be agreed.

**13) Police Matters**

Police Newsletters are forwarded to all Councillors by e-mail.

**14) Shropshire Council Matters**

C’Ilr Dan Morris reported more road closures on the A49. He agreed to obtain details of the closures and forward to the Clerk for circulation to Councillors.

**15) Draft Risk Assessment and Draft Standing Orders**

The Clerk circulated the draft Risk Assessment and draft Standing Orders for Councillors to read ahead of the January meeting when any amendments could be made and the Risk Assessment and Standing Orders agreed and adopted. .

**16) Date of next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January commencing at 7.30pm

Dates for the remaining 2018 meetings were agreed as follows:-

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Annual Meeting followed by Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....(Chairman) Date.....