

**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 9th August 2017 at Picklescott Village Hall.

1) Present :

C'Ilr J Dale (Vice Chairman)
C'Ilr A Beagle
C'Ilr J Burton
C'Ilr M Morris
C'Ilr T Phillips
C'Ilr V Davies

Members of the public present:

Mr W Kerswell, Mrs Elvins and Miss Rebecca Elvins

Clerk Mrs J Griffiths (Clerk)

2) Apologies

C'Ilr McVittie (Chairman). The Meeting was chaired by C'Ilr Dale (Vice Chairman); C'Ilr D Morris

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 Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

5) Public Comments

Miss Elvins told the meeting that she was considering applying for an affordable house on a Single Plot Exception site in the Parish and asked the Parish Council to confirm her local connection to the Housing Enabling Officer.

Mr Kerswell expressed concern that the Parish did not have a Parish Plan. C'Ilr Dale explained that the Parish Council had written to every household in the Parish inviting them to a public meeting to take part in producing a Parish Plan. A Parish Plan must be led by the local community and not by the Parish Council. Insufficient members of the public were willing to join a Steering Group to formulate a Parish Plan.

Mr Kerswell again expressed concern about the lack of affordable housing for young people in the area.

6) Co-option of Parish Councillor to serve All Stretton Parish Council

It was proposed by C'lr Beagle, seconded by C'lr Dale and unanimously agreed that Mrs Vivienne Davies would be co-opted to serve as a Parish Councillor for All Stretton. C'lr Davies then signed the declaration of office.

7) Approve Minutes of Meeting held on 24th May 2017

It was proposed by C'lr Burton, seconded by C'lr Dale and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th May provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

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

The Clerk told the meeting that she had confirmed Mr and Mrs Harber's local connection to the Housing Enabling Officer and had forwarded the comments to Mr and Mrs Harber. .

9) Planning Applications

Applications discussed at earlier meetings:-

Yew Tree Villa, Lower Wood Ref 16/03580/FUL

Erection of part single part two storey side and rear extension following demolition of existing; conversion of barn to holiday let, This application had been received and e-mailed to all Councillors on 5th September and was discussed at the September meeting when it was proposed by C'lr Beagle, seconded by C'lr Phillips and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council had no objection to this application. The Clerk told the November meeting that this application was shown on the web site as "awaiting a decision". The Clerk told the January meeting that this application is still shown on the web site as awaiting a decision The Clerk told the March meeting that this was still shown on the web site as "Awaiting a Decision" The Clerk told the May meeting that this was still shown on the web site as "Awaiting a Decision"

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 19th December. The Parish Council had no objection to this application. The Clerk told the January meeting that this application is still shown on the web site as awaiting a decision. The Clerk told the March meeting that this was still shown on the web site as "Awaiting a Decision" The Clerk told the May meeting that this was still shown on the web site as "Awaiting a Decision"

Brook House Farm, Highfields Ref 17/01926/OUT

Outline application all matters reserved for the erection of two story dwelling (partly built into the hillside) to replace residential static caravan. This application had been circulated to all Councillors by e-mail on 5th May. It was agreed at the May meeting that the Parish Council would delegate power to Councillors to attend a site visit before formulating any comments on this application. The Clerk reminded the meeting that three Councillors had to be present at the site visit to be quorate and agree any comments.

Councillors had attended a site visit on 4th June and following this meeting the clerk had made the following objection to this application "Having attended a site visit with the applicant and agent the Parish Council cannot support this

application. The application is for an open market dwelling in open countryside and if this application is supported this would set a precedent for further applications in the areas designed as open countryside in the Samdev process. The Parish Council do not consider this application to be based on housing need as the applicant owns and lives in a property in Leebotwood and there is already a house and caravan on the application site.

The Clerk told the August meeting that this application had been refused on 25th June. The reasons for refusal were shown as “The site lies in an unsustainable countryside location where new open market residential development is contrary to the relevant provisions of the NPPF, CS1, CS4, CS5, and CS11. The development also conflicts with the requirements of MD1, MD3 and MD7a. There are no other material consideration that would outweigh the conflict with the development plan.

New applications reported to the August meeting:-

Kuruna, Picklescott

Ref 17/02465/FUL

Erection of an educational building and six glamping pods for student/visitor accommodation. This application was received and circulated to all councillors. A site visit was arranged. Following the site visit the Parish Council made the following comments. “The Parish Council were very pleased to be invited to visit the site by Mr and Mrs Wheelhouse. Whilst they have no objection in principle to this application the Parish Council do strongly agree with the pre-application advice given by Mr Whitley, the Planning Officer, that the development must be justified in the context of their existing business and future business plans bearing in mind courses hosted and run at Karuna to date and those which they hope to run in the future. The Parish Council also agree that Karuna Insight Design’s business plan should demonstrate the health of their business at present and its longer term viability. If permission is granted the Parish Council would ask for the following conditions to be applied:-

That the educational building and glamping pods must only be used by persons attending educational courses run by Mr and Mrs Wheelhouse trading as Karuna Insight Design or hosted by them at Karuna and should not be used for any other purpose.

Noise from persons attending educational courses and staying overnight in the glamping pods is limited between the hours of 11pm and 7am to protect the peace of the countryside and neighbours.

The Clerk told the August meeting that this application is shown on the web site as awaiting a decision

Applications discussed at the August meeting:-

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 7th July. The

Parish Council did not comment on this application. The Clerk told the August meeting that this application was shown on the web site as awaiting a decision

Under Item 4 Miss Elvins had told the meeting that she was considering applying for an affordable house on a Single Plot Exception site in the Parish and asked the Parish Council to confirm her local connection to the Housing Enabling Officer. It was proposed by C'lr Dale, seconded by C'lr Beagle and unanimously agreed that the Clerk would write to the Housing Enabling Officer to confirm Miss Elvins local connection. The clerk agreed to forward a copy of the confirmation to Miss Elvins.

10) Highway Matters

The Clerk had reported the following feedback from Mr T Sneddon, Shropshire Council,

- The fading white lines at junctions, previously reported would be refreshed this summer.
- The road from Picklescott to Smethcott is to be surface dressed this summer.
- Work at Deadman's Hollow has been completed
- Mr Fullwood, a member of the public attending the May meeting, had reported his concern about the lack of signage warning of bends in the road leading from Picklescott to Dorrington. Cyclists use this road regularly and travel at speed towards Dorrington and in his opinion there should be adequate warning signs on the bends in the road. Mr Sneddon had replied stating that they did not have the resources to put up signs, and all road users need to be sensible and use these roads responsibly.
- Mr Kerswell, a member of the public attending the May meeting, expressed concern that as there is a 12 tonne weight limit on Hook a Gate bridge heavy lorries were using the local roads which were unsuitable for these heavy vehicles. At the August meeting the clerk read out the response received from Mr Sneddon who stated that the bridge does have an environmental weight limit and is structurally able to take normal weight traffic. Although Network Rail strengthened the bridge five years ago the decision had been made to keep the weight restriction as an environmental decision. Delivery and agricultural vehicles are however free to use the bridge.

Further Highway Matters reported at the August meeting:-

- C'lr Burton reported that vandals had sprayed grey paint over the Picklescott village sign on the road leading from Batchcott and all the signs at High Park. The Clerk agreed to report this to Tim Sneddon.
- C'lr Burton reported that the roadway outside Mynderley, which had tree roots growing in the road had been temporarily filled but was now in a poor state again. Tim Sneddon had indicated that this was in the programme for future overlay. The Clerk agreed to contact Mr Sneddon to enquire when this work would be carried out.
- C'lr 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 damaged 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.

11) Finance

(a) Accounts due for payment

The following accounts were due for payment:-

Village Hall fee for hire of Village Hall for the May meeting totalling £20. . It was proposed by C'llr Beagle, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00312 was prepared in the sum of £20.

HMRC – tax due on clerk's salary for June/July £108.40. It was proposed by C'llr Beagle, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00313 was prepared in the sum of £108.40.

Clerk's Salary June/July plus out of pocket expenses totalling £468.78. It was proposed by C'llr Beagle, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00314 was prepared in the sum of £468.78

Web Hosting for web site for the period 3rd June 2017 – 2nd June 2018 totalling £39.49. This had been paid by the Clerk. It was proposed by C'llr Beagle, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be refunded to the Clerk. Cheque no 00315 was prepared in the sum of £39.49

Web site updates June/July totalling £30. It was proposed by C'llr Beagle seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00316 was prepared in the sum of £30.

Mazars External Auditor fee £30. It was proposed by C'llr Beagle, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that this be paid. Cheque no 00317 was prepared in the sum of £30.

(b) Total cash held at Bank

The balance held at bank after payment of the accounts approved tonight is £4,280.50. This includes £379.07 CIL money held in the account and £259.02 balance held in the Transparency Fund for funding the web site

(c) Consider grant to Crane Quality Counselling

Crane Quality Counselling is a new charity recently set up and will extend the service to help the homeless in the county and to prisoners in local prisons. They had written on 11th July asking for support. The Clerk had forwarded the letter to all Councillors. C'llr Burton had asked for this to be included on the Agenda for the meeting. This was discussed and it was agreed that the clerk

would ask for confirmation that this was a registered charity and bring back to the next Parish Council meeting.

(d) External Audit Report 2016/17 Accounts

The Clerk told the meeting that the External audit was now complete. The Audit Report stated.

“ On the bases of our review of the annual return, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requires have not been met”

The Clerk told the meeting that she had displayed the Notice of the Completion of the Audit on village notice boards and on the web site.

(e) Transparency Funding

The Clerk told the meeting that she had applied for £255.... Funding from the Transparency Fund to fund the upkeep of the web site. She had applied for £180 staff costs and £75.... For the domain name and web hosting fees. The Clerk told the meeting that this was the last year funding would be available.

12) Local Joint Committee

C’lir Dale told the meeting that Craven Arms had now joined the LJC area and much of the meeting focused on the Craven Arms Area. The LJC had £3,000 Youth Money available and Dorrington Young Farmers and Longmynd Archers had benefitted.

The next Local Joint Committee meeting will be held on 19th October at Acton Scott.

13) Police Matters

PC David Walton had supplied the Newsletter which had been forwarded to all Councillors on 2nd August. This had also been displayed on the web site.

C’lir Burton told the meeting that, as the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, she had daily reports of thefts from outbuildings and other crimes and said everyone should be vigilant. C’lir Burton asked for a notice to be placed on village notice boards and in the Church Magazine to inform residents that she and C’lir McVittie were Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and should be contacted by residents who wished to have the updates forwarded to them by e-mail.

14) Correspondence

The Clerk reported the following correspondence:-

- Letter from Mr Kerswell – received on 20th July and forwarded to all Councillors on 20th July.
- Clerk and Councils Direct magazine – July 2017 – handed to C’lir Dale

All other correspondence had been forwarded to all Councillors as it was received. There were no comments on any of the correspondence received.

15) Shropshire Council Matters

Councillor Morris is unable to attend the meeting. He had forwarded the following report which the Clerk read out to the meeting:-

Shropshire Council is reviewing car parking charges, for more details or to have your say please click on this link <http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/parking/parking-strategy-consultation>

There is also a consultation by Shropshire Council on library services coming up.

The following went before cabinet in July. The strategy sets out the Council's vision to unlock the huge potential that library services have to impact positively on individuals lives. It also recognises that this is a challenging time for library services – traditional usage has been declining in recent years, the way that people use library services is shifting, and the financial situation remains difficult. The Strategy sets out a hierarchy of library services provision and describes how the Council can meet its statutory requirements to provide a "comprehensive and efficient library service for all persons" by providing:

Static library provision within six Tier 1 locations – Library Hubs – and seven Tier 2 locations – Community Libraries.

277 Mobile Library stops, principally responding to challenges of an ageing population and access to services in a rural context.

Digital library services including 24-hour access to a range of lending and information resources

The Strategy does not set out to close any existing library services, but it does recognise the need to provide a framework that allows future investment and revenue support to be prioritised"

There is also a consultation on how fire services are being run. The Police and Crime commissioner for West Mercia would like to take responsibility for the fire service as well. See link for his proposals - <https://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk/commissioner-consults-on-new-fire-governance-proposals/>. I'm not sure Shropshire Council would be supportive of this. The cost savings claims in particular are up for debate.

The latest developments on the roll out of high speed broadband was also recently announced, See the link <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/2017/07/connecting-shropshire-announces-11-2m-broadband-contract/>.

16) Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 27th September commencing at 7.30pm. However, C'llr Burton and C';r Phillips would be unable to attend as they were both on holiday. If other Councillors were unable to attend their was concern that the meeting may not be quorate. It was agreed to change the date of the next meeting, and subject to the Chairman being available the meeting would be held on Wednesday 4th October.

The remaining 2017 meetings are as follows:-
22nd November

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

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