

**ALL STRETTON, SMETHCOTE AND WOOLSTASTON PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd March 2017  
at Picklescote Village Hall.

**Present :**

C'llr A McVittie (Chairman)  
C'llr J Dale (Vice Chairman)  
C'llr A Beagle  
C'llr J Burton  
C'llr M Morris  
C'llr T Phillips

C'llr T Barker

**Members of the public present:**

Mr J Brunt; Mr N Fulwood; Mr W Kerswell; Mr C McKenzie; Mr M Sillence;

Clerk Mrs J Griffiths (Clerk)

**Apologies**

C'llr V Davies.

**1) Introduction**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2) Declaration of Interest**

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

No declarations of interest were offered at this time.

**3) Approve Minutes of the Annual Meeting held .on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016**

It was proposed by C'llr Dale, seconded by C'llr Burton and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd March 2016 provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**4) Report from the Chairman**

C'llr McVittie gave the following report:-

Over the last year we have continued to meet bi-monthly and have considered carefully all planning applications which come before us for comment.

The Parish Council continue to complain about the state of the roads in the Parish. During the year Mr Tim Sneddon from Shropshire Council attended a site visit with the Chairman, on probably one of the wettest day

of the year, and travelled in roads in the Parish with Parish Councillors to see the problems, some of which have been address and others are on the list of future programmes. The Parish Council recognise that the broken barrier in Deadmans' Hollow and the flooding outside Foxtrot Villas must be high priority in 2017 and will urge the County Council to carry out these works.

Under the Transparency Code the Parish Council received a grant from to enable us to build and upkeep the Parish Council web site. All agendas, minutes of meetings and other relevant information is loaded onto this site.

In 2016 the Parish Council received £56.86 as the Parish Council percentage of the Community Infrastructure Levy and in 2017 will receive a further £322.21. To spend this money the Parish Council is expected to work closely with the local community to agree how best to use this fund. The National CIL regulations state that the use of funds must be used to support development by funding (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or (b) anything else concerned with addressing the demands that development place on the area.

As you are aware on 4<sup>th</sup> May we have the local and Parish Council elections. I hope all existing Parish Councillors will stand for election as we work as a good team serving the parishes to the best of our ability.

We will continue to serve the Parish and welcome members of the public to all our meetings where they are free to make public comments at the start of every meeting.

Thank you all for your support throughout the year.

**5) Report from Longnor School**

No report has been received.

**6) Police Report**

Police reports and newsletters are circulated by the Clerk as they are received. PCV David Walton, who has replaced PC David Harte, will attend at future Parish Council meeting.

**7) Report from C'Ilr Burton – Public Footpaths**

C'Ilr Burton, the Parish Council Footpath Warden gave the following report:-

“Footpaths in the Woolstaston & All Stretton Parish continue to be regularly walked throughout the year and are mostly in good accessible order.

Over the last few months there has been evidence of mountain bikes and horse riders using some of the footpaths as well as the bridleways, making the footpath tracks muddy and very difficult to use. There has also been

off road vehicles and scramble bikes illegally using some of the bigger tracks on Plush Hill, causing extensive damage to the tracks. The National Trust Rangers have been informed!

Over the winter months there have been several cases of the ponies using the cars parked on Plush Hill as salt licks and scratching posts. A few cars have been quite badly damaged. National Trust Rangers have been informed and may put up signage to inform people of the risks to their cars.

On our website we asked for local volunteers to come forward during the year to help improve the public rights of way and repair stiles etc within our parish. To date no volunteers have come forward, so at the present time I am unable pursue this with Shropshire Council's Countryside Access Team to make our paths much more accessible for all and a greater asset to our community".

**8) Report from C'Ilr Morris - Rev Fletcher's, Munslow's and Poor Land Charity**

C'Ilr Morris told the meeting that the Charity continue to give grants for local needs and had provided money towards children's village Christmas parties in the Parish. A grant had recently been made to the village hall and money remaining at the end of the financial year had been given towards the church roof restoration.

**9) Appoint a Tree Warden**

It was proposed by C'Ilr Burton, seconded by C'Ilr McVittie and unanimously agreed that C'Ilr Phillips would continue to serve as the Parish Council Tree Warden

**10) Shropshire Council Report – C'Ilr T Barker**

C'Ilr Barker gave the following report:-

"This will be my last report to you in my capacity as Councillor, a duty I have had the pleasure to carry out for some 10 years now, the last 8 as Shropshire Councillor and before that for the old Borough.

I have reached the stage in my life when I need to get on and do other things which council duties have legislated against.

So, you will have been aware of the on-going works on our highways to keep them in a usual example state. I hope that in the round we can say that in this area things on that front are acceptable! There will always be issues but the team should be contactable and responsive to real concerns and issues.

Social Care remains the dominating issue for Shropshire as well as for the rest of this sainted isle. It is especially pressing here because of our demographics as is pretty clear when we look around the place. Our Council Tax has increased by some 3.9% again and National Government

has scraped about its coffers for some cash too. I will speak further at the meeting if I may on some other national issues with a highly local flavour concerning this matter in respect of NHS and community healthcare and the interface with social care.

Generally though Shropshire continues to be a well-run authority and, despite things that inevitably either go wrong or are not to some people's liking, has a pretty good approval rating locally and, perhaps equally importantly is well regarded nationally.

So then, I shall cease to represent you in the hallowed halls of power (wherever they may be) after the May elections. Until then I am, as ever, available for anyone who wants my help. Thereafter I am looking forward to being a normal member of the public (if there is such a person) as well as a Parish Councillor for my own community.

Thank you for all your help and forbearance over the years, it's been fun."

**11) Date of Next Annual Parish Meeting**

Wednesday 21st March 2018.

There being no other business the meeting closed at to be followed by the Parish Council meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

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