

# MINUTES OF BITTERLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr R. Huffer (Shropshire Councillor) and Mr Seb Phillips

**The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm**

	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
2022/89	<b>Apologies:</b> Mr. G. Dolphin	
2022/90	<b>Public participation</b> Seb Phillips – Rocks Green Solar Farm Application Residents had a meeting on 06/04/21 with the developers. No consideration has been given to anything raised. Listed buildings comments were ignored. The residents wrote to Director of Anglo renewables. Points raised: 1. Lack of mitigation for the river. They can clean the panels with water but are not convinced they will, so will cause pollution. 2. Rock Culvert reaction of island site an issue, as it runs down through to Ledwyche. 3. Time of construction: alternative methods to piling, not considered. 4. No mention of a community benefit fund. Talked at length, no consideration given. SP is not against solar farms, but where and how, the process need to be followed.	
2022/91	<b>Shropshire Councillor Report</b> The areas that Shropshire Council deal with is broad, it is hard to relate it all to this Parish. Councillors are showing concerns about Health Care. JRS: What actions are SC taking to clear the beds in Shrewsbury. JRS to email questions to RH. Adult social care is holding up the process, can't get the patients out of the hospitals back into the community. KW asked if the old Maternity wing at Ludlow is being sold off. Surgeries and GPs have been given ideas for the use of the building. 52 beds not being used. 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan 5 – 6 o'clock lobbying Phillip Dunn, to get them around the table.  Elections – ID will be needed to vote.  AH asked if Councillors could email RH with any questions before the meeting, so RH can feedback.	<b><u>All Councillors</u></b>
2022/92	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None	
2022/93	<b>Approval of Minutes</b> To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2022. Signed by the Chairman.	
2022/94	<b>Clerks Report</b> <b>Smartwater</b>	

	<p>The “We don’t Buy Crime” team has taken advice from their legal department and they are unable to use the Electoral Register, it as it does not comply with GDPR. Pre-registering the kits is the best way of reaching the required level for free signage so they are currently looking at ways they can achieve this. In the meantime, there are various ways we can roll-out, from going door to door, having some kind of surgery where parishoners can attend and we can register and then give them kits. We would avoid just giving them out as invariably, they will not all get registered. It was agreed that 100% would be purchased. Clerk to make the application.</p> <p>AH asked if anyone would like to take the lead. TM to co-ordinate.</p>	<p><u>Clerk</u></p> <p><u>TM</u></p>
2022/95	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>CC has resigned as Chair of the Planning Committee. AH thanked CC for the time he has given to the Planning Committee. AH proposed KW, PM seconded, All agreed</p> <p><b>Planning Applications for Consideration</b></p> <p><b>a) 22/05424/EIA - Proposed Solar Farm SE Of Rock Farm</b></p> <p>Extension for the Parish Council to submit a response has been agreed by SC. AH Proposed small group of the planning committee RO seconded – All agreed</p> <p>RH said that it is not in his area, he will be substituting for Nigel Hartin, so will not be making any comments.</p> <p>RO thanked SP for coming to represent local residents affected, and thought it would be useful to have them involved in the discussions.</p> <p>AH, KW, JRS, RO will be the committee, there will be an Initial meeting to gather info and discuss who does what. RH happy to attend any site visits, to listen but not comment on.</p> <p><b>b) 22/05098/FUL - Proposed Commercial Barn Conversion SE Of Middleton Court Farm</b></p> <p>A further response will be sent to the application as clarification is necessary. The Planning Committee has formulated a response.</p> <p><b>Letter to Shropshire Councillors</b></p> <p>Letters were sent to leader of the Council – Leszley Picton and Councillor Clare Wild asking for progress on developing guidance for interested parties and the quality of land that can be used for Solar Farms, also on the progress for holding a meeting with Parish Councils who are negotiating or have negotiated a community benefit fund. It was agreed that the responses did not answer the questions that were asked.</p> <p>AH proposed and JRS 2<sup>nd</sup> that AH writes a letter in response.</p>	<p><u>AH to draft letters</u></p>
2022/96	<p><b>Roads</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pothole by bridge to be reported by KW and RO</li> <li>2. Surveyor has come out and looked at the drain by the Chapel and it is now sorted.</li> <li>3. Chase Andrew Clayton, regarding the highways work to be completed.</li> <li>4. Chase SC regarding the Snitton Lane and Stoney Lane road signs</li> <li>5. Ask for results of Henley Speed consultation.</li> <li>6. From Bitterley to the Bridgnorth road, at the Bridgnorth road end there are no priority signs, no road markings. This has been reported before. Clerk to chase.</li> <li>7. Potholes in ford need re-doing, to be reported</li> <li>8. On the map that AC gave us, with work that he couldn’t complete, whose ditches have still not been done. Clerk to report to SC.</li> </ol>	<p><u>KW &amp; RO</u></p> <p><u>Clerk</u> <u>Clerk</u></p> <p><u>Clerk</u></p>

<b>2022/97</b>	<b>Street Lights</b> AH and RO delivered a letter to residents in the Parish asking for their thoughts on Street Lighting in the Parish. There was a good response and a number of ideas given. RO is going to send a summary of the results around to Councillors. Actions 1. Research solar activated lights. 2. EV charger in Bedlam AH proposed that RO puts a proposal together, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by RW. All agreed.	<b><u>RO to send Summary to Councillors and put proposal together</u></b>
<b>2022/98</b>	<b>Footpaths</b> Report by K Wheeler Adjourn to a spring meeting	
<b>2022/99</b>	<b>Councillor Reports</b> None	
<b>2022/100</b>	<b>Precept Requirement 2023/24</b> <b>a) Discuss and Decide Budget for 2023/24</b> A budget brief and draft budget had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting, both were discussed: AH proposed the distributed budget of income of £9108 and expenditure of £7976, DR 2 <sup>nd</sup> , all agreed. <b>b) Agreement on Precept amount for 2023/24</b> £8,124 <b>c) Setup working Party to make proposals for the spending of reserves.</b> AH proposed. All agreed. The working party is RO, TM, AH, JRS	<b>Clerk to send to SC</b>
<b>2022/101</b>	<b>Financial Matters</b> <b>a) Payments since last meeting:</b> Chq 767 Med UK (Defibrillator Pads) £239.70 Chq 768 S Jones (Salary Sept – Dec inc backpay) £704.66 Chq 769 S Jones (HMRC Sept – Dec inc backpay) £176.20 <b>b)Accounts for payment:</b> Chq 770 D Forster – December and January £80.00 <b>C)Bank Reconciliation</b> <b>Account Balance: £22,687.00</b>	
<b>2022/102</b>	<b>Personnel Committee</b> Agree date for meeting to be confirmed.	<b><u>AH, RO, TM</u></b>
<b>2022/103</b>	<b>Items for the next Agenda 08/02/23</b> New Grant policy and Grant Application form Website – Proposals for improvement	
<b>2022/104</b>	<b>Date of the next Meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	
<b>2022/105</b>	<b>Meeting Closed 9.35pm</b>	