

Stottesdon & Sidbury Parish Council

Parish Council meeting held on Monday 23rd February 2026 at 7.30pm in Chorley Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs D Young (Chairman), R Abbiss (Vice-Chairman), M Pearce, K Ranson, A Sierakowski, C. Adams, S Crawford, R Gutteridge, Z Griffin, S Allen.

Public: None

Clerk: Mrs F Morris

0) Public participation: None present.

1) Apologies for absence: Received and accepted from Police and S Cllr Davies. It was disappointing to receive apologies again from the Police, due to shift patterns. As it has been well over 12 months since the Police attended, this will be monitored as Cllrs understood that Officers should attend a meeting at least quarterly, but this is not happening – Police report attached.

Cllrs pointed out that there had been an incident when the Police were called but did not attend. They visited afterwards and apologised as the incorrect information had been conveyed to them. This was a very worrying situation for those involved.

2) Declaration of Interests

The Localism Act 2011, Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

Members are reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the register of member's interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

None declared.

3) To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2026: these had been circulated with the agenda, and it was proposed, seconded **and RESOLVED that the minutes were signed as a true record.**

4) Matters arising from minutes:

a. Clerk's report:

Query raised by Cllr Gutteridge following publication from NHS regarding nonsterile wipes, which the Clerk queried, and this was the reply from MedUK:

Hi Freda

Thanks for your email.

The bleed kits we have supplied do not contain wipes.

The AED Starter Kits don't have these products in them, they have a drying cloth inside for drying a patients chest

These items are primarily found in first aid boxes or kits

kindest Regards, Chris Phillips, Director.

b. Any update on Fighting Cocks – nothing further had been received, As the large advertising sign is still in situ at the top of Walton Bank advertising the pub it is confusing when people arrive. It was suggested that Clerk writes to the family regarding this being removed until a decision has been made regarding the pub.

Pothole bottom of Burnt Pitt Bank/Road closures:

The week before last I put in so much work/time/effort trying to get information regarding the road closures at Chorley and the one at Stottesdon. The school were involved also as the school were having computer software updates as well as nursery. Information was very difficult to obtain as to where the closures were actually going to be. Pothole – this is on their schedule to be repaired but like all the others they are waiting for the weather to dry up, as the filling would soon be out again.

Email request for DEER sign at Bardley, Bagginswood:

Request from Bardley resident for DEER warning signs as several deer have been knocked over through the wooded area recently. I have requested SC for this. We regularly see muntjacs running across the road.

Annual Parish meeting

Do you want newsletters putting together for this meeting. Any ideas for a guest speaker? I know we have discussed small community projects and to ascertain any interest.

If newsletters are produced, they will need distributing as I cannot do it. Contents will need to be sent to me in word format asap.

It was discussed regarding putting a leaflet out with a questionnaire in regarding any interest in setting up small biodiversity projects, explanation to parishioners regarding the precept and what this is used for, housing needs survey. Cllrs Griffin and Gutteridge will put something together.

Cllr Abbiss pointed out that the Clerk had always managed the newsletter, and this would be required quarterly if the PC wanted to obtain the Local Council Award Scheme. It was suggested perhaps to ask SALC regarding a speaker for the Annual Parish meeting in April regarding devolution of services from Shropshire Council to the parish council.

Policies:

Several policies need to be updated to comply with Assertion 10 BEFORE audit. Clerk is working through what is needed. Cllr Griffin suggested a spreadsheet of policies to be put together then deal with the ones needed to comply with Assertion 10, then work through the others month by month.

Road closure – Duddlewick road – 9th-13th March: Following information requests I have raised the following:

1. Is it definitely 7am-5pm closure? Farmers going about their duties, Drs and Surgery Staff and patients going to Stottesdon surgery and parents going to Stottesdon School etc use this road. Will they have to use the diversion route from 7am onwards?
2. Could you please provide me with details of all work to be carried out?
3. As this road floods is the drainage problem being fixed prior to resurfacing taking place?

4. Is access still possible towards Loughton - the closure I understand is from this junction.

This pothole at the bottom of Burnt Pitt Bank has been filled today but is very uneven and probably is only a temporary fix as it will not last long!

c. Issues raised by Cllrs: nothing further.

5) Planning applications/approvals/refusals:

a) Reference: 25/04697/VAR (validated: 17/12/2025)

Address: Stottesdon C E Primary School, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8UE

Proposal: Variation of Condition No.1 attached to planning permission 15/04713/VAR to allow for retention of the demountable classroom for a further period of 10 years.

Decision: **Grant Permission**

b) Reference: 25/04698/VAR (validated: 17/12/2025)

Address: Stottesdon C E Primary School, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8UE

Proposal: Variation of Condition No.1 attached to planning permission 15/04712/VAR to allow for retention of the demountable classroom for a further period of 10 years.

Decision: **Grant Permission**

c) Reference: 25/04831/VAR (validated: 12/01/2026)

Address: Coombe Farm Cottage, Bagginswood, Stottesdon, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8LS

Proposal: Variation of Condition No. 2 attached to permission 23/01387/FUL dated 29 March 2023

Decision: **Grant Permission**

d) Any others received after issue of agenda:

Reference: 26/00653/AG1 (validated: 19/02/2026)

Address: Brooklands Cottage, Farlow, Bridgnorth, Kidderminster, Shropshire, DY14 8TA

Proposal: Proposed Steel Portal Frame building 18m x 12m, 6m to eaves to replace temporary storage container for storage of machinery, in a safer more secure unit.

Applicant: Mr W Clulee (Brooklands Cottage , Farlow, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, DY14 8TA).

Cllrs supported this application.

6) Finance:

a) Accounts:

Accounts for payment/approval:

Clerks Salary - £xx

HMRC- £467.94

Information Solutions - £36.00 (Domain name registration) - receipt

SC – Election costs £250 – paid.

RESOLVED that Clerk pays all accounts.

b) 2nd quarter accounts for approval – these had all been approved with the paperwork last month.

c) Any others received after issue of agenda:

Mark Pearce – Lengthsman work clearing drains and digging ditches, and mini digger hire - 226hrs - £6650

Mark Pearce – 4 x hi-viz vests - £38.40, inc VAT £6.40 and insurance to use digger on the highways -£250 = £288.40.

Now that ditches, where problems occur are cleared out it will not cost so Much in future years. **RESOLVED to pay both these accounts.**

7) **SALC report:**

Cllr Abbiss reported on the following:

- At the recent Executive meeting a presentation was received from Good Food Partnership across The Marches. There are 123 food partnerships at present.
- SDC have been approved a loan of £130m to be paid back, but it will take 10 years before they are out of this crisis.
- Financial Officer has left.
- Minimum service provision at present.
- Blue Badges are taking 13 weeks to be issued due to staff shortages.
- Traffic lights are being installed around dangerous potholes as there is not enough men to fill them.
- There used to be 1000s in the working force but at present we have 14 highway technicians instead of 24.
- Devon has a road warden scheme using power LGA101 – Devolution to another authority. Training will be required.

Chairman thanked Cllr Abbiss for the report.

8) **Shropshire Cllr's report:** emailed out to Cllrs.

9) **Parish matters/problems**

a) Concerns raised by Cllrs:

- Question was raised if the PC could support the Church to help finance a toilet. Regulations have changed but it is understood that it is still only graveyard maintenance. Clerk will check this out.
- The matter of signs was discussed. The cost of the 2x NEW ROAD and 2x HIGH GREEN signs are £583.34, inc VAT and delivery.
- HORSE signs were requested for Chorley and the one by Ginny Hole which disappeared needs replacing.
- NOT SUITABLE FOR HGV signs required at Miners junction, Bagginswood and the top of Litley.
- DEER signs – already requested.

Clerk was asked to write to SC regarding if permission is required to put the signs up, will SC erect these or can the PC do it and do we need permission of where these are to be sited.

- The new house in Chorley village (Cook's) still has a caravan sited there but appears that the house is lived in – report to SC again.
- Jack Mytton way at Billingsley very deep with mud and loads of trees have been cut down.
- Reports have been put on FMS regarding New Road breaking up and the potholes/rut across the road outside The Meers/Fieldhouse is now showing as FIXED when they are not.
- Lengthsman had picked up several plastic covers from the underside of cars, but he could not enter the tip as his van is too high. How could they be disposed of? A couple of Cllrs offered to take them to the tip.
It was also suggested carrying out a litter pick and it was queried what happened to the rubbish. Clerk said in the past SC had arranged collection from a specific place.
- Road breaking up by Rectory Farm, Sidbury.
- Grit bin had been put in Sidbury and moved a few yards away. Clerk had requested one for down the straight to Deuxhill, but this had not been supplied.
- Riddings Lane towards The Hamlet needs attention.
- Pickthorn Lane breaking up badly.
- Oldfield Road is very bad with potholes.
- Grit bins at Harcourt crossroads reported on 4/1/26 as required filling and was not filled until 29/1/26. Litley was reported on the 10/1/26 but not filled until 24/1/26. Time lapse between these being filled is not good in the winter, 2 journeys made when one would have sufficed.

b) gov.uk emails (assertion 10) AGAR – only 4 Cllrs yet to complete theirs.

c) IT Policy for adoption – this had been circulated to Cllrs after being checked by SALC who confirmed this was ok. Cllr Gutteridge suggested some amendments to be made, but other Cllrs had not seen these until being read out tonight.

It was felt that the policy should be kept as easy and simple as possible. Clerk had also sent out 2 other policies. After discussions it **was proposed, seconded and agreed that the IT Policy is adopted as it is**, to comply with Assertion 10, but Clerk will speak to SALC regarding the changes Cllr Gutteridge requested. The policy can be reviewed if necessary.

d) Any others received. None.

10) Correspondence: *including all emails forwarded to Cllrs: Taken as read less comments made.*

- Alterations to the Electoral Register
- Pothole – bottom of Almshouse Bank – car pulled out – damaged sump of car.
- Deer sign request for Bardley woods, Bagginswood
- National Garden Scheme - sent to Wade Muggleton, but they are not doing this this year.
- SC - Signature requested on "Memorandum of Understanding [FOR SIGNATURE]"

- Parkinson Partnership Upcoming & New Courses
- Buckingham Palace Garden Party - 12th May 2026 – allocated.
- FixMyStreet message: Fix My Street reports.
- Litter-pickers at the ready! Make your #GBSpringClean pledge today! 13-29th March. Cllrs thought this was a good idea. Clerk will make enquiries for equipment.
- SALC - Weekly Briefing w/c 9 February
- Cabinet supports first phase of devolution to town and parish councils
- Defibrillators etc: Nonsterile wipes – dealt with earlier.
- Burglary appeal: Can you help? [#610385467] – Chelmarsh
- Notification of works on LOWER WOODEND JUNCTION TO SIX ASHES JUNCTION WITH B4363, NEEN SAVAGE, CLEOBURY MORTIMER - BT323910
- Design Supplementary Planning Consultation Presentation
- Costs for Road Name signs – dealt with earlier.
- Any others received after issue of agenda.
- Scribe renewal 30/4 /26 - £532.80
- FMS reports – Clerk needs to speak to Cllr Davies regarding this.

11) Date of next meeting: **23rd March 2026**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Accounts paid:

Shropshire Council - £250 election fees
 Mrs F Morris - salary
 HMRC – PAYE – 467.94
 Lengthsman - £6650.00
 Hi-viz vests /digger insurance onto roads- £288.40

Signed: Chairman

Dated: