

SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2024

PRESENT

Cllr J Hayward (Vice-Chair), Cllr N Deller, Cllr C Smith, Cllr I Smith, Cllr J Sparrow, Cllr I Waters, Cllr C Young and Cllr M Young. Clerk to the Council, Mr R Cowley, was also present.

Cllr Hayward opened the meeting at 7.00pm

1 – APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Barge, Cllr Gibbons and Cllr Turner, and from Cllr Evemy (CDC).

2 – MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 8TH OCTOBER 2024

The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were unanimously approved as being a true record.

3 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

4 – CHAIR’S REPORT

Cllr Turner had reported via email the poor condition of one of the benches in the churchyard. The Clerk would source a price for a replacement to match the one next to the church tower, and forward the specification to the Vicar and the Parish Council.

5 – POLICE REPORT

No report had been received.

Cllr Young reported that he had attended the postponed advocacy meeting. Siddington and a few other parishes were still on quarterly police reports, and many others were now on monthly reports, and also attendance at some parish council meetings by PCSOs. This was due mainly to lack of manpower in our area. Members wished to express their dismay at the situation and lack of visits to the Council by PCSOs.

Cllr Turner had drafted an email to the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) to express the Council’s dissatisfaction with the frequency of reports and the scant information provided.

With regard to speeding vehicles in the village it was agreed that it might be necessary to commission an independent traffic survey.

The Clerk reported on the apparent success of the PCC-funded ANPR speed camera in South Cerney, and the fact the South Cerney Parish Council had just purchased a second camera for the parish. The Clerk would investigate the possibility of Siddington Parish Council purchasing one for Ashton Road.

6 – BATHURST ESTATE

No update.

7 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Barge had circulated the analysis of the household survey, which would be used to formulate progression of the Plan. Cllr Hayward reported that the planned meeting with the consultant to tour the village had been postponed to a later date due to illness.

8– FLOODING MATTERS

- The Council noted that despite the wettest September and October in recent years, there continued to be no issues at The Common.

9 - OUTSTANDING & HIGHWAYS ISSUES LIST

<u>HIGHWAYS ISSUES</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faded weight limit sign at Park Way / Ashton Rd junction – (GCC-11244507) Clerk chased Jan 2019. RG (Highways) chasing. Clerk chased Jan 2020 and Sep 2022. 21.09.23. RG reported – “When this has been reported I have forwarded onto the contractor’s safety inspection team for inspection. My system tells me that the weight limit signs were replaced but at the time of inspection the “except for access” plate was legible and not in need of being replaced. I can arrange another inspection now and if required arrange for a new plate to be installed.” 14.11.23 - The Clerk would chase again. 22.12.23 – RG ordered new sign. 12.04.24 – GP advised she would chase up. 05.09.24 – Clerk chased again. 03.10.24 – Clerk chased again. 21.10.24 – GP will arrange to replace any faded signs. 	25.08.16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding by old railway bridge on Ashton Road. Done. HE checking every 6 months. Monitor situation. Glos Highways drainage works Dec 2022 had worked. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough parking area at Upper Siddington 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpath sign down on Coach Road opposite school. (GCC-11348847) 21.09.23 – RG chased with Gloucestershire PROW. The Clerk would chase again. The Clerk chased again. Jan 2024 - Gloucestershire PROW writing to landowner. 21.10.24 – Clerk chased with Gloucestershire PROW. 	05.01.22 Nov 2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30mph sign on Siddington Rd from north - and posts damaged on gateway sign. (GCC-11365464). Chased Sep 2022. Chased Mar 2023. Clerk to chase again (Jun 2023), and also hidden in hedge foliage. 21.09.23. RG reported – “there has been some confusion with respect as to where the maintenance liability lies for gateways and gateways which incorporate the speed limit termination/start points. I have now received clarification which is the community offer 50/50. I understand that Gill has now explained this and she is seeking a quote for you. Once in we can process an application for repairs etc. Also, I have had a look at this and it would appear that the foliage is growing from a third-party boundary hedge. This would be the responsibility of the adjoining landowner. We have already approach Bathurst whom we believe to be the owners, as a fall back and without prejudice when I next have the community gang, I will get some local trimming undertaken.” 14.11.23 – Sign now totally demolished. Clerk would chase again. Awaiting quote for repair (50/50 Community Offer). Feb 2024 – Clerk chased again. 12.04.24 – GP advised she would chase up. 02.07.24 – GP sorting replacement. 05.09.24 – Clerk chased again. 03.10.24 – Clerk chased again. 21.10.24 – GP arranging for new sign and gateway to be erected at no cost to Parish Council. 	17.05.22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing 30mph gateway sign on Ashton Road. (GCC-11365467) 26.05.22 – job raised for replacement. 29.07.22 – awaiting work. Chased Sep 2022. Chased Mar 2023. 21.09.23. RG reported – “there has been some confusion with respect as to where the maintenance liability lies for gateways and gateways which incorporate the speed limit termination/start points. I have now received clarification which is the community offer 50/50. I understand that Gill has now explained this and she is seeking a quote for you. Once in we can process an application for repairs etc.” 14.11.23 – Clerk would chase again. Awaiting quote for repair (50/50 Community Offer). Feb 2024 – Clerk chased again. 12.04.24 – GP advised she would chase up again. 02.07.24 – GP advised replacement ordered. 05.09.24 – Clerk chased again. 03.10.24 – Clerk chased again. 21.10.24 – GP arranging for new sign to be erected to gateway and 30mph sign to be changed to original at no cost to Parish Council. 	17.05.22

<u>OTHER ISSUES</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropped kerb on Siddington Road opposite Church Avenue. RC meeting RG 14.10.22. Possible 2023-24 under 50/50 Community Offer. Clerk to chase again (Jun 2023). Progress paused to await Bathurst plans for Talland. 	Sep 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven surface of path from Pound Close to School. RC emailed Glos PROW – looking at 10.10.22 Worked to be carried out over October 2023 half-term. 14.11.23 – Work done, but not to the expected standard as still uneven around tree roots. Cllr Spivey to investigate. 10.01.24 – Cllr Spivey reported via email that the path had been improved, but not to high standard, which would not be possible without major expensive work. The Clerk would take photos and email Cllr Spivey and Gloucestershire PROW. It was noted that the path serves the school, Spire View, and Severells Field. 	Sep 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive foliage along east side of road between Preston Toll Bar and junction with South Cerney Road (close to Siddington Mill). 21.09.23. RG reported – “This was added to our flailing list for when resources are available.” 14.11.23 – Clerk to chase again. 22.12.23 – RG reported that resources had run out – re-added to list. 12.04.24 – GP advised she would chase up again. 02.07.24 – GP advised would look to get flailed. 05.09.24 – Clerk chased again. 03.10.24 – Clerk chased again. 21.10.24 – GP advised on list for cutting back and programmed for December 2024. 	Oct 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding on Parkway corner. 22.12.23 – RG arranging CCTV and exploratory investigations. 12.04.24 – GP advised she would chase up again. 02.07.24 – GP advised that landowner refused to deal with. GCC drainage team will look into. 05.09.24 – Clerk chased again. 03.10.24 – Clerk chased again. 21.10.24 – GP advised CCTV booked for November. 	Nov 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding on Parkway at old railway bridge by entrance to The Twenties. 22.12.23 – RG added to CCTV list for next financial year. 12.04.24 – GP advised she would chase up again. 02.07.24 – GP advised would chase up CCTV. 05.09.24 – Clerk chased again. 03.10.24 – Clerk chased again. 21.10.24 – GP advised CCTV booked for November. 	Nov 2022

10 – HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS

- Defibrillator provision for Upper Siddington – correspondence had been forwarded to the Parish Council by Cllr I Smith regarding scheme in Fairford and Lechlade. This involved installing defibrillators on specially made lamp post “stumps”. It was agreed to investigate this alternative solution.

11 – PLANNING

Planning applications received by Cotswold District Council to 7th November 2024

- **24/02854/OUT**

Applicant: Robert Hitchins Ltd, The Manor, Boddington, Cheltenham, GL51 0TJ
 Proposal: Residential development for up to 280 dwellings, associated works including infrastructure, ancillary facilities, open space, landscaping and pumping station.
 Construction of a new vehicular access off Kingshill Lane (Outline application) at land west of Kingshill Lane, Preston, Cirencester
 Consultation expiry date: 27th November 2024

The Parish Council agreed to fully support other objectors' comments, and felt that the traffic assessment was unconvincing and the assessment of the flooding impact was implausible. It was also agreed that the existing social services infrastructure (schools, doctors' surgeries, dentists, etc) was already overstretched.

OBJECTION

- **24/03108/NONMAT**

Applicant: Stonewood Homes Ltd, The Stonewood House, West Yatton Lane, Castle Combe, Chippenham, SN14 7EY

Proposal: Non Material Amendment (revision to school drop-off provision) to permission 22/01215/FUL - Variation of conditions 1 (Approved drawings) and 5 (Parking) pursuant to permission 20/01852/REM (Reserved matters pursuant to Outline permission granted at Appeal under LPA ref. 15/05165/OUT (Erection of up to 88 dwellings, to include vehicular access off Park Way; new pedestrian and cycle links to the wider area; improvements to Siddington School; including improved access facilities and the erection of a new purpose built school hall; a solar park; ecological enhancements; strategic landscaping; and associated infrastructure) for the provision of internal layout, internal road layout and parking, appearance and scale of house type designs, landscaping strategy, drainage strategy, ecology strategy and renewable energy strategy) for amendments to house designs, parking layout, footpath alignment and cycle route at land parcel at Severells Field, Parkway, Siddington

Consultation expiry date: 1st November 2024

Whilst the Parish Council welcomed the application in principle, members felt that the number of proposed parking spaces should be increased to twelve. However, this application had been permitted before the Parish Council meeting.

- **24/03148/NOTDEM**

Applicant: Bromford, Shannon Way, Ashchurch, Tewkesbury, GL20 8ND

Proposal: Demolition of a block of 10no prefabricated concrete garages with corrugated asbestos roofs and steel up-and-over doors at 1-10 Pound Close, Siddington GL7 6JH

Consultation expiry date: 5th November 2024

NO OBJECTION

Planning decisions at Cotswold District Council to 7th November 2024

- **24/02435/TPO**

G1 - Yew x2 - fell to ground level due to light issues and proximity to the property plus being overshadowed by adjacent trees. Remove the two trees at east end of the group at 14 Fraziers Folly, Siddington, GL7 6HR – Application permitted

- **24/02608/FUL**

Erection of rear extension at 17 The Twenties, Siddington, GL7 6ES – Application permitted

Update on the solar farm development

Cllr Hayward reported that the solar farm had now been connected to the national grid, and the Clerk reported that the £80,000 community contribution from the owners would shortly be transferred to the Parish Council. The Council wished to express its gratitude to Cllr Hayward for all his hard work in this matter.

Update on the school development

Cllr Young reported that work was still on track to be completed by 29th November.

12 - PLAYING FIELD MATTERS**Trim Trail**

Cllr M Young reported that he was still gathering supporters' signatures.

13 – GRAVEYARD EXTENSION

No further update from Bathurst Estate. Cllr Hayward was still investigating options.

14 – FINANCE

The monthly schedules of payments for November had been circulated with the agenda, along with the monthly accounts statement and finance spreadsheet.

The Parish Council approved the payment of the room hire for the Village Show at the Village Hall.

The amounts noted for November were:

£50.00 – Siddington Village News – donation (October)

£71.94 – M Young – defibrillator parts

£1,129.80 – Brodie Planning Associates – Neighbourhood Plan survey analysis

£218.25 – Siddington Village Hall – room hire (Village Show, and for meetings of the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan)

£45.18 – R Cowley – expenses (printing, parking, mileage & phone)

R Cowley – salary (November)

The Council noted the receipt of £1,956.78 Community Infrastructure Levy from Cotswold District Council.

The Council also noted the NALC staff pay award, which was to be backdated to 1st April 2024.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's current account with Lloyds Bank was to be changed to a Community Account from 1st January 2025, and that this would incur a small monthly charge.

15 – POTENTIAL CLOSURE TO TRAFFIC OF GREEN LANE – UPDATE

Cllr Hayward reported that he had sent instructions to the Clerk to Counsel and was awaiting quote for the work.

16 – CORRESPONDENCE

- 1 Email from Stonewood Ltd regarding the defibrillator and the school drop-off point at Severells Field.
- 2 CDC Business Matters newsletter.
- 3 Update from Local Highways manager on various outstanding issues (see Outstanding Issues List).

- 4 GCC Councils Connected newsletter.
- 5 GAPTC newsletter (including NALC pay award).
- 6 SLCC newsletter (including government consultation on remote/hybrid meetings for parish councils).
- 7 GPFA annual membership renewal.
- 8 Correspondence regarding installation of defibrillators installed next to lamp posts in Fairford and Lechlade.
- 9 GCC Highways notification of upcoming resurfacing work on Ewen Road to Spratsgate Lane.

17 – COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

Cllr Sparrow reported that she was decorating the Parish Council’s tree for the Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter’s Church from 6th to 8th December.

18 - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

19 – NEXT MEETING

The Chair thanked members for attending, and the meeting closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7.00pm in the Committee Room at the Village Hall.

Chair