

SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2025**

PRESENT

Cllr J Hayward, Cllr I Waters (from 7.25pm), Cllr M Barge, Cllr N Deller, Cllr C Smith, Cllr M Turner, Cllr C Young and Cllr M Young, and Cllr M Evemy (CDC).
Clerk to the Council, Mr R Cowley and two members of the public were also present.

Cllr Hayward opened the meeting at 7.00pm

1 – APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr A Gibbons and Cllr I Smith.

2 – MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 9TH SEPTEMBER 2025

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

Cllr Turner asked the Clerk to contact Bromford to request the removal of the automatic barrier at the car park in Parkway as it had failed yet again.

9 – PLANNING

Cotswold District Council Local Plan Review

Cllr Evemy (Leader of CDC) provided a resumé of the timescale and main points of the review:

- Following the central government’s doubling of the annual housing target for the district to 1036, CDC resolved in July 2025 to carry out a review of its Local Plan to attempt to meet that target and so that there would be some control over where development would take place.
- The Regulation 18 consultation documents detailing seven different scenarios had just been published and the consultation would run from 5th November to 18th December 2025. These contained indicative numbers of new dwellings for a number of settlements, increasing the numbers in the main part of Siddington by over 900 new dwellings. Siddington’s designation has been changed to “principal settlement”.
- Two public events had been planned in Cirencester and in Moreton-in-Marsh, with an event for councillors and clerks planned for 10th November.
- Following the Regulation 18 consultation, a more detailed and revised version would proceed to a Regulation 19 consultation in summer 2026, before being submitted to the Inspector for approval.
- The approved new Local Plan would come into force in 2027 in time to be inherited by the new unitary authority.
- Large development within Cotswold District was problematic as 80% of the district was within the AONB where development is restricted, leaving the remaining 20% of the area to take most of any new development.
- Areas selected for development would be dependent on landowners putting land forward for development.

- Cllr Evemy had written to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government, Angela Rayner MP, to request that the unachievable target for Cotswold District be reduced, but without success. He would also write to her successor, Steve Reed MP, and keep up the pressure.

Q – Why have Siddington and Preston been allocated additional housing which would more than triple the size of each village?

A – It is due to the availability of land put forward for development.

Cllr Hayward made the following points

- The protection of the AONB (80% of the district) meant that the area's settlements are not considered "sustainable".
- However, sustainability had been defined 1997, when the internet was in its infancy, and before the advent of working from home, supermarket food deliveries, and electric cars, all of which now make these AONB settlements sustainable in reality if not by outdated definition.
- Development outside the AONB without the parallel development of employment opportunities would only lead to commuting elsewhere for work.
- It was unsurprising that no AONB sites had come forward for development given that CDC have hitherto stated that they would not consider them. CDC should now specifically seek sites for development within the AONB as some landowners might welcome the opportunity to sell some land to allow for investment in their farms.

Q – What is the difference between the Regulation a18 consultation and the Regulation 19 consultation, and can the latter be edited before submission to the Inspector?

A – Cllr Evemy would endeavour to find out more detail.

A member of the public present, invited by the Chair to contribute to the discussion, suggested that CDC should take a wider, more collaborative approach with other councils to oppose the arbitrarily imposed government housing targets, and that the council and councillors should continue to fight the absurd doubling of CDC's housing target and not present an air of resigned acceptance of it.

Cllr Evemy advised that the Cirencester Local Plan event would also include proposals for the new unitary structure for the county, which would be submitted to the government on 28th November. A decision on the final structure of the unitary authority/authorities for the county was expected from the government in summer 2026.

4 – CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had nothing to report that was not covered elsewhere on the agenda

5 – FLOODING MATTERS

There was no update.

6 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Barge reported that the drafting of the plan had been completed. However, in view of Cotswold District Council's Local Plan Review Consultation, the working group would be meeting shortly to consider how to proceed.

7 – OUTSTANDING & HIGHWAYS ISSUES LIST

<u>HIGHWAYS ISSUES</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rough parking area at Upper Siddington – on hold. 	
<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. Jan 2025 – Clerk chased. Feb 2025 – Clerk chased. May 2025 – Clerk chased. May 2025 – FDW (PROW) advised landowner claimed sign had been removed during works at the school. Clerk provided proof this was not the case. FDW taking up with landowner. Sep 2025 – Clerk chased. 	<p>05.01.22</p> <p>Nov 2022</p>
<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. Jan 2025 – Clerk chased. Feb 2025 – Clerk chased. Feb 2025 – White gateway replaced. Siddington & 30mph not done – new sign awaited. May 2025 – Clerk chased. New sign still awaited. Sep 2025 – Clerk chased. Oct 2025 – Clerk chased. 13.10.25 – GP reported new sign had arrived. Arranging to get erected asap. 	<p>17.05.22</p>

<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. Jan 2025 – Clerk chased. Feb 2025 – Clerk chased. New sign awaited. May 2025 – Clerk chased. New sign still awaited. Sep 2025 – Clerk chased. Oct 2025 – Clerk chased. 13.10.25 – GP reported in discussions with contractor as to what has happened with this sign. If answer not forthcoming as to where it is, I will insist that they order a new one urgently. 	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"> 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. Jan 2025 – Clerk chased. Feb 2025 – Clerk chased. 27.02.25 – GP advises contractor will carry out work before end of financial year. May 2025 – Clerk chased. GP chasing. Aug/Sep 2025 – Clerk chased. Oct 2025 – Clerk chased. 13.10.25 – GP reported would request that this is added to the list for flailing. This work usually starts around November. 	Oct 2022

8 – HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS

- Defibrillator – the Clerk reported that he had received the cabinet, bracket and replacement pad for the defibrillator, and was arranging an unmetered power supply.

9 – PLANNING

Local Green Spaces – Cotswold District Plan Review

The Parish Council agreed that the two existing Local Green Spaces (the allotments and the playing field) should remain in the Cotswold Local Plan, and other suggestions would be agreed via email for the Clerk to submit as soon as possible.

Community Governance Review

The Parish Council ratified its proposal for the Community Governance Review as submitted to Cotswold District Council on 29th September 2025.

Planning applications received at Cotswold District Council to 9th October 2025

- **25/02100/REM**

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

Proposal: Variation of conditions 1 (Approved drawings), 8 (Lighting scheme) and 16 (landscaping) of 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)

Consultation expiry date: 1st October 2025. ADDITIONAL DETAILS

NO FURTHER COMMENT

- **25/02777/FUL**

Applicant: Mr Paul Hughes, c/o agent Mr Glenn Church, Homeplan Drafting Services, 28 Jasmine Close, Abbeydale, Gloucester, GL4 5FJ

Proposal: First floor extension to rear and part garage conversion at 32 Spire View, Siddington, GL7 1WP

Consultation expiry date: 13th October 2025

NO OBJECTION

- **25/02803/TPO**
 Applicant: Mr. & Mrs. Claire and Rob Forbes, c/o agent Ms Sarah Duckworth, Duckworths Arboriculture Ltd, Glebelands Bungalow, Mildenhall, Marlborough, SN8 2LR
 Proposal: T1 - Copper Beech - Works: Fell to ground level
 Following a detailed inspection, unfortunately the tree is undermined by Kretzschmaria deusta (Brittle Cinder) fungus which is an aggressive pathogen of trees. The presence of this fungus means there is an unacceptable risk of tree failure particularly in high wind events. The tree is growing adjacent to the property and the public highway and poses an unacceptable risk to residents and people on the public highway. Replacement planting will be undertaken - Hornbeam recommended as a possible alternative - at The Coach House, Fraziers Folly, Siddington.
 Consultation expiry date: 1st October 2025
 NO OBJECTION
- **25/02982/FUL**
 Applicant: Mr James Dodd, c/o agent Mr Alan Tompson, Christopher Stanley Architecture & Planning Ltd, Watermoor Point, Watermoor Road, Cirencester, GL7 1LF
 Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension, first floor extension & garage loft conversion at Greystone Cottage, Ashton Road, Siddington GL7 6HW
 Consultation expiry date: 24th October 2025
 NO OBJECTION
- **25/02993/FUL & 25/02994/LBC**
 Applicant: S Head, c/o agent Mr Colin Rowland, Halzac Design Ltd, 1 Whitgift Close, Swindon, SN5 6HQ
 Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension, alterations, air source heat pump, widening of the vehicle access and associated works at Nashes Barn, Coach Road, Siddington, GL7 6HL
 Consultation expiry date: 29th October 2025
 NO OBJECTION
- **25/03007/FUL**
 Applicant: Mr John Neil Kirtlan, 6 Beechwood Road, Siddington, GL7 6NF
 Proposal: Erection of garden studio (Retrospective) at 6 Beechwood Road, Siddington, GL7 6NF
 Consultation expiry date: 28th October 2025
 NO OBJECTION

Planning decisions at Cotswold District Council to 9th October 2025

- **25/02055/FUL**
 Erection of carport to side elevation, front porch and replacement of front elevation with Cotswold stone at 1 Cherry Tree Drive, Siddington, GL7 1PJ. Application permitted.
- **25/02487/DMPO**
 Application to modify a Section 106 Agreement of Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) The Town and Country Planning (Modification and Discharge of Planning Obligations Regulations 1992) at land parcel at Severells Field, Parkway, Siddington.
 Application permitted.

10 - PLAYING FIELD MATTERS

Trim Trail

Cllr C Smith reported that the application to the Lottery Fund had been successful, and the Clerk reported that the grant had now been received. The Council expressed its gratitude to Cllr C Smith for all his efforts with this project.

Siddington AFC

Cllr M Young had kindly sponsored the new strip for the team.

11 – GRAVEYARD EXTENSION

There was no further update.

12 – FINANCE

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

The amounts noted for October were:

- £25.00 – Siddington Village News – donation (October)
- £57.01 – Siddington Village Hall – room hire (Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan)
- £651.25 – Corinium Education Trust – school activities at Siddington CofE School
- £456.00 – N Gibbs – grass cutting
- £4,327.98 – SK Heating & Cooling Ltd – 50% of cost heating system at the Village Hall
- £564.00 – R O W Berry – fence and gate repairs at the playground
- £37.35 – PATA (UK) – payroll services
- £4.25 – Lloyds Bank – account charges
- £35.39 – R Cowley – expenses (mileage, phone, Land Registry search fees)
- R Cowley – salary (October)

The Parish Council also noted receipt of the 2nd tranche of the precept - £8,500.00

13 – POTENTIAL CLOSURE TO TRAFFIC OF GREEN LANE

There was no update.

14 – CORRESPONDENCE

- 1 Copy of Cirencester Town Council's community governance review request to Cotswold District Council.
- 2 Monthly GCC report from Cllr Spivey (GCC).
- 3 Copy of Preston Parish Council's response to Cirencester Town Council's community governance review request to Cotswold District Council.
- 4 Half yearly Community Speedwatch and speed enforcement report. The Clerk also reported that the posts for the ANPR cameras were due to be installed that month.
- 5 GAPTC training opportunities.
- 6 Cotswold Lakes Trust Impact Report.
- 7 GRCC information session on Community-Led Planning Options.
- 8 CDC Business Matters newsletter.
- 9 GAPTC - Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) survey on local authority-led neighbourhood governance.

- 10 GCC Councils Connected newsletter.
- 11 Email of thanks from a resident regarding the new fencing at the children's playground.
- 12 Invitation to take part in a show on Cotswolds Radio.
- 13 GRCC Newsbites newsletter.
- 14 GRCC request for flood wardens. The Clerk would forward to Jan Bayley.
- 15 Update on installation of poles for the ANPR speed cameras.
- 16 Briefing from the Leader of Cotswold District Council on the Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation - development strategy options.
- 17 CDC Press Release on Local Plan Review.

15 – COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr C Young commented on the poor state of the area to the front of the shop. It was hoped that this would be tidied up before Christmas as part of the shop extension work.

Cllr Barge reported that the Vicar was planning to mark Remembrance Sunday on 9th November with a service at the church, and it was hoped that as many people as possible would attend.

Cllr C Smith reported that he had attended the presentation in Kemble by Grantscape, who would be administering the annual Aura solar farm community benefit fund. He had not been impressed with the proposed arrangements and the poor distribution and allocation of unspent funds. It was agreed that this would be an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy, and the funds should be paid annually to the Parish Council who would distribute to worthy projects in the parish, and maintain any surplus funds within the parish for future years.

Cllr Deller reported that he had seen a dead deer on the roadside near Talland, and would report this via the CDC website.

16 - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the members of the public present.

17 – NEXT MEETING

The Chair thanked members for attending, and the meeting closed at 8.36pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 7.00pm in the Committee Room at the Village Hall.

Chair