

Minutes of a meeting of Atcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 7.30pm in Atcham Memorial Hall

24/068 REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Cllrs Laura Dixon (Chairman), Simon Adney, Stephen Cook, Gareth Jones.
Cllr Robert Trow joined the meeting during item 24/072.

Apologies: Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Keith Daley and Martin Ruston.

Clerk: Alison Utting

Also: SC Cllr Claire Wild (left after item 24/073), 5 representatives of Brunning & Price (left after item 24/071a) , and 10 members of the public (all left after item 24/072).

24/069 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None.

24/070 MINUTES - It was resolved that the Chairman should sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 10th July 2024 as a true and correct record of that meeting. (Prop: GJ, Sec: SA, unanimous.)

24/071 PROGRESS REPORT

a) Mytton & Mermaid extra car park

B&P reported the following:

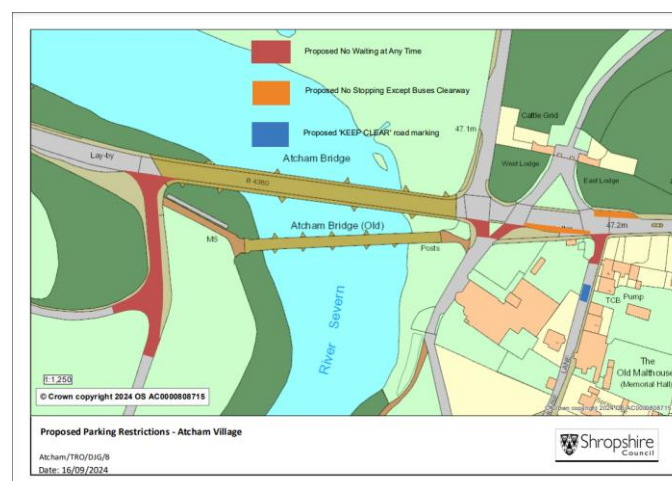
The pre-application consultation was submitted to Shropshire Council in April 2024 and response received in July. From that, work has been ongoing to draft the actual planning application. It is estimated that this will be shared with APC and residents at a public meeting in early-mid October (input welcome), with the aim to have the final application submitted by the end of October. The meeting would be preceded by a leaflet drop. The approximate time scale would then be 3 months from submission to final decision from SC. If that decision is to grant permission, then construction would start as soon as possible, with B&P eager to have the car park in use for the Spring/Summer 2025 season. The outline

proposal is for a 99-space surfaced car park to be created on the Shrewsbury side of the river, with pedestrian access to the pub across the Old Bridge.

Questions raised by residents included: *What will happen with regard to staff parking in the interim, if the current parking permission (private property) is revoked?* B&P replied that this is in discussion. *Will there be extra lighting on the Old Bridge?* *Will there be car park attendants at the new car park?* Plans regarding lighting, control of car park use (ANPR/attendants) and other related matters will be presented at the October public meeting.

Some other questions were put to the B&P team with regard to drainage on the front car park of the pub and car park attendants. B&P promised to investigate.

- b) **Replacement notice board** – This is due to be delivered and installed (by B&P) in early October. The old broken interpretation board will be removed at the same time. Enquiries into land ownership of the grass triangle at the bridge end (pub side) have been fruitless. Councillors agreed to go ahead with installing the notice board there, at the risk of being asked to remove it should a landowner come forward.
- c) **Road repairs and white line replacement (main road)** – CW confirmed that this is in the schedule for next year.
- d) **TRO (double yellow lines) and H-bar markings** – Councillors had received an email from SC Traffic Engineering. They agreed with SCTE's suggestion that the 'Keep Clear' marking agreed for across the pub entrance be replaced by double yellow lines (no additional cost, as the consultation would go through with the main TRO). Councillors felt that it would have the same effect but with the benefit of being enforceable. The proposed 'Keep Clear' markings across the access to the NT cottages / Bowling Club would remain unchanged. Clerk to request an updated plan to clarify. [Inserted below. Larger version available on APC website.]



SC says that the TRO consultation plan, TRO schedule and the 'Statement of Reasons' are being prepared and they will be looking to advertise the TRO proposals as soon as they can subject to current resources and other accident remedial/traffic management projects they are currently dealing with.

- e) **Concrete planters** – Salop Leisure have agreed to donate autumn planting (LD to collect and arrange planting).
- f) **Change of website and email (gov.uk)** – Our current website provider expects to be able to offer gov.uk registration soon. They are promising free domain, set up, and maintenance. There will be a charge (TBC) for the linked 10GB email accounts. Councillors agreed to postpone action until this is available to consider to the existing quotes (est. end September).
- g) **Vehicle activated speed signs** – Due to other pressing traffic safety matters, this has been deferred.

24/072 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Questions raised:

- a) 24/02504/FUL planning application granted permission – *Why were views of residents and the Parish Council ignored?* Cllr Wild replied that there were no material grounds for refusal and that Shropshire Council is under a lot of pressure to fulfil housing allocations. Parish councillors noted their own frustration with the decision, mentioning again that the objections were raised not to the development itself but to the lack of alternative access. It was noted that a Construction Traffic Management Plan must be adhered to, as a condition of the planning permission. A copy of this Plan is available on the parish council website. The CTM Plan requires that a Community Liaison Officer be appointed for the duration of the project. Contact details for this person will be published at a visible location at the site and also on the APC website, as soon as they are available. *Whose responsibility will it be to restore any damage to the road surface?* This has not been addressed in the CTM Plan. It would be raised with the Liaison Officer as necessary. *Can the road markings at the Glebe and farm junctions be repainted to make RoW clearer?* Clerk to request.
- b) *Grassed areas at entrance to The Glebe being used for parking. Can the white posts be extended to prevent this, especially as winter approaches?* Parish Council will look into this.

- c) *Current road works (Malthouse Lane) – why was no notice given?* Cllr Wild said that emergency work by Severn Trent often has to be done with no advance notice.
- d) *Double yellow lines at pub entrance (24/071d above) – Is that going against responses to the recent survey?* Councillors reiterated that it is a simple replacement for the 'Keep Clear' markings already agreed for this location, but with the benefit of being enforceable.
- e) *Some residents are proposing to install their own signs (on private property) to try to deter parking. Can the Parish Council give a grant towards the cost of these?* The parish council is happy to consider all grant requests. It cannot legally give a grant to an individual and may only consider grant requests from constituted groups or organisations (see form on website).
- f) A representative of the Memorial Hall committee asked the parish council for permission to paint the notice board outside. Councillors were happy to give their permission.

24/073 SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Claire Wild spoke briefly about the 'Future Options' survey (email) regarding possible assumption of some of SC's maintenance/groundskeeping responsibilities by the parish council, in order to be able to process matters more efficiently using local contractors.

24/074 ANY OTHER REPORTS – None.

24/075 EMSTREY BANK ROAD SAFETY – Council received the report (published separately) of the urgent meeting held on 6th August, between representatives of Atcham Parish Council, Shropshire Council, West Mercia Police, and Salop Leisure. They noted that temporary 'No overtaking' signs have been put in place and that SC Traffic Engineering is currently liaising with their contractor, Kier, regarding the introduction of double solid white 'no overtaking' lines on the B4380 Emstrey Bank from Emstrey Roundabout down past the entrance for Salop Leisure. A further meeting will be held on 4th November to consider progress and further actions. Cllr Jones urged that the parish council should continue to push for a 40mph limit to be put in place between Emstrey island and Atcham.

24/076 MAINTENANCE MATTERS

- a) **Old Bridge maintenance** – Update from local contractor, who has carried out a few extra actions to help keep pavements and roads clear. Re: actions to clear external vegetation growth from the structure: Historic England has advised 'that plants are treated so they die and shrivel which should make it easier to remove

them. We do not recommend trying to forcefully pull saplings out, as this can cause greater damage to the historic fabric of the structure.' Councillors to look into how this might be done.

- b) **Streetlights on new bridge** – These have been reported as very dirty. They are on a 6-yearly schedule for cleaning and safety checking (Shropshire Council).

24/063 PLANNING

- a) There were no new **planning applications** received in advance of this meeting.
b) Council noted the following **planning decisions**:

24/02487/FUL Severn View, Emstrey, SY5 6QS
Proposal: Erection of two storey side extension
APC decision: No response
SC decision: Grant Permission

24/02504/FUL Barn to the east of Atcham Grange
Proposal: Conversion of barns to 4 dwellings
APC decision: Oppose (see previous minutes 24/063)
SC decision: Grant Permission

24/078 FINANCE

- a) Council noted the following **payments** made since the last meeting:

Amount	Details	Power to spend
331.60	Clerk's salary (August)	LGA 1972 s112
11.99	Website fee	LGA 1972 s142

Council agreed to make the following **payments**:

Amount	Details	Power to spend
331.80	Clerk's salary (Sept)	LGA 1972 s112
19.35	Clerk's expenses	LGA 1972 s112
11.99	Website fee	LGA 1972 s142
35.00	Training (Clerk)	LGA 1972 s111
60.00	Room hire for meetings	LGA 1972 s134 1-3

The following receipts were noted: £22.13 bank interest.

- b) Council approved the **accounts** and **bank reconciliation** to date.
- c) Council considered the **banking report** and resolved to transfer all funds from Lloyds accounts to new accounts with Unity Trust Bank, starting with the current account. Signatories for the new accounts will be SA, SC, LD and RT. (Prop: SA, Sec: RT, unanimous.)
- d) Council approved the **Neighbourhood Fund Report**:

ATCHAM PARISH COUNCIL								
Report on Neighbourhood Fund Payments Received and Expenditure to Date								
YEAR RECEIVED (APRIL)	AMOUNT	TO BE SPENT BY	BALANCE B/F FROM PREV. YEAR	ACCUMMULATED FUNDING (inc. interest)	EXPENDITURE WITHIN FINANCIAL YEAR	DESCRIPTION	BALANCE TO CARRY FORWARD	STILL TO SPEND
2023	1303.16	2028	2850.49	4165.81	0.00		4165.81	2850.49 by 2027 1303.16 by 2028
2024	7384.57	2029	4165.81	11601.87	0.00		11601.87 12006.73	2850.49 by 2027 1303.16 by 2028 7384.57 by 2029

24/079 PARISH MATTERS – LD asked everyone to support and publicise upcoming events: Saturday 28th September Pub & Quiz Night at the Malthouse. Saturday 19th October Oompah Band Night (venue TBC). Saturday 30th November Christmas Craft Fair at the Malthouse.

24/080 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Shropshire Council** – Garden waste subscriptions.
- b) **Resident** – Interested in joining PC. Contact details to be held.
- c) **Woodland Trust** – Free tree packs available.
- d) **Parish Online** – Renew subscription? £38.40. No.
- e) **SC** – Early Help Update.
- f) **SC** – Place Plan nominations (on agenda for Nov)
- g) **SALC** – AGM 30th October 4pm Shirehall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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