

Stretton Sugwas Parish Council

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Parish Council on
Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 6.00pm in Stretton Sugwas Village Hall.

Present: Andy Fellowes (Chairman, AF), John Robinson (Vice Chair, JR), Stuart Howard, (SH), Garnet Cresswell (GC), James Croft Hill (JCH), Marianne Marshall (MM).

Also present: Ward Cllr Charlie Taylor, E Noble, Parish Clerk and RFO

1. **To receive apologies of absence – Jane Denny**
2. **To receive declarations of interest and written applications for dispensation –** MM declared an interest in item 4.1.3 and will leave the room when the item is discussed. No dispensations were received.
3. **Public Forum –**
 - 3.1. **Local Residents –** At Chairman's discretion, up to 10 mins will be allocated for the public to make representations, ask questions & give evidence in respect of any item on the agenda – none present.
 - 3.2. **To receive Ward Councillor Report – Ward Cllr Taylor was in attendance in regarding item no 4.1.3 – to answer any questions and was also present at the site visit by the Herefordshire Council Planning Committee.**
4. **Planning/Media**
 - 4.1.1 To elect a parish councillor to represent the parish council at Planning Committee Meetings and to communicate with media as appropriate – it was proposed by JCH and seconded by GC that the Chairperson of the parish council (whoever is elected Chair at the time) be nominated to represent the parish council in communicating with the media and to represent the parish council at planning committee meetings regarding parish council matters as appropriate as and when needed. All present agreed and it was RESOLVED that chairperson will carry out the role of media and planning committee representative.
 - 4.1.2.- To elect a parish councillor to act as deputy, representing the parish council at Planning Committee Meetings and to communicate with media in the elected councillor's absence. it was proposed by AF and seconded by JR that the Vice Chairperson of the parish council (whoever is elected Vice Chair at the time) be nominated to represent the parish council in the absence of the Chairman in communicating with the media and to represent the parish council at planning committee meetings regarding parish council matters as appropriate as and when needed. All present agreed and it was RESOLVED that Vice chairman will carry out the role of media and planning committee representative in the absence of the Chairperson.
 - 4.1.3 Planning application 241746 – Land at Sugwas Pool House, Swainshill, Herefordshire, HR4 7QD – to confirm the attendance of a representative of the parish council at the Planning Committee Meeting on 11th December and to confirm the contents of the 3-minute speaking time allocated to the parish council.

MM left the meeting.

The parish council discussed the application at length and concluded that JR will submit the following comment at the planning committee meeting:

For many years the parish council has opposed any additional development in Sugwas Pool Lane. The principal concern was exit visibility on to the A438. Also significant was the danger for traffic from Hereford turning right, as following traffic approaches round a blind bend.

We are aware that the development proposed in the nearby paddock has been permitted on appeal. We are also aware that there are technical arguments around the acceptability of the visibility splays on to the A438.

We continue to believe that further development increases the traffic risk factors. Also the nature of the single track unadopted lane is not suited to increased traffic levels. The lane is also used by walkers as it is part of the Wye Valley Walk.

Should Herefordshire Council be minded to support this application, Stretton Sugwas Parish Council would propose two mitigating factors.

1} Removal of the hedge fronting the fence to the west of the exit on to the A438.

2) Provision of a passing place at the proposed development as well as a passing place at the proposed paddock (land in between Great House and Rose Cottage) development when it is resubmitted for reserved matters.

Finally, Stretton Sugwas Parish Council believe that Herefordshire Council should not be encouraging development in communities where there are no facilities.

MM re-entered the room.

5. Date of Next Meeting – 16th January 2025 – noted.

Meeting closed at 6.15pm.

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