

Stoke upon Tern Parish Council.

Chairman: Cllr Phil Butters

Clerk: Mr G Bould

Emergency on-line meeting Monday 29th June 2026 11am to 12 noon.

In responding to the fast changing circumstances related to the Asylum Seekers accommodation at Dutton Close the Chairman agreed to this emergency on-line meeting, prior to the local residents meeting called by the Rt Honourable Mark Pritchard MP for the Wrekin scheduled for Thursday 2nd July 2026.

Present: Councillors P Butters, S Planton, S Bartram, J Scott, M Gilbert and S Burrell.

Clerk: G Bould.

1. **Apologies:** Councillors D Moore, P Waters, L Bearman and K Newby.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** In view of the possible property de-valuation due to the use of Dutton Close for Asylum Seekers the Clerk to seek advice from Shropshire Council.

Members resolved that in pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings Act 1960, as amended by S.100 LGA 1972) that the press and public are excluded from the meeting in view of the likely disclosure of exempted and confidential items of information and business to be transacted, which could include discussions on individual matters. Any names will therefore be 'Redacted' from the public copy of the minutes.

3. **National Parliamentary Petition:** After some detailed debate members unanimously agreed, as a Parish Council, to fully support Cllr J Scott endeavors in the development of a National Parliamentary Petition along the lines of the drafts circulated and potentially headed "Extend Home Office's Duty of Care to locals in Asylum Accommodation Decisions" in his personal capacity. That this is registered as soon as possible with the Parliamentary Authorities and that the meeting with the MP be informed on Thursday. Cllr M Gilbert agreed to email the MP about the petition and liaise with the local Shropshire Councillor on matters related to the site.
4. **Reaching Out to other local councils:** Members agreed that a potential list of other local councils affected by by similar Home Office action be researched and sent to the Clerk. In the meantime SALC to also be notified about this and the above actions. This will also be coupled with an offer from the Town Clerk at XXXXXXXXXXXX Town Councilth which came in on the 17th June 2026 to provide some mutual support via a Teams meeting on their approach to the Home Office.
5. **Independent Planning Advice:** Members agreed that some specialist independent planning advice/support on ways to delay occupation of the 21 properties on Dutton Close (25 units secured through the areas Neighbourhood Plan for local needs) was need. The action unanimously agreed was for Cllr P Butters to make contact with XXXXXXXX Solicitors, who will take a look and send a fee proposal across for the parish Councils consideration. The Clerk to raise the issue with SALC in terms of advise/support.

Signed:

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15 July 2026

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