

QUATT MALVERN PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: LAWRENCE E CHITTY.

WWW.QUATTPC.ORG.UK

**WILLIAM S. GRIFFITHS
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL
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BRIDGNORTH
SHROPSHIRE
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20th January 2023

Dear Councillor,

You are invited to attend the Meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council to be held on **Thursday 26th January 2023** in the Village Hall, Quatt, at 7.30 pm, for the purpose of transacting the following business.

W.S.Griffiths

William S. Griffiths, Clerk of the Council.

OPEN FORUM 7.30 PM – 7.45 PM where members of the public are invited to speak on matters affecting the Parish.

Agenda

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN RESPECT OF ANY MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING.

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or an Other Registerable interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the consideration of that item.

3. MINUTES

To approve and sign the minutes of the Meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council held on 24th November 2022.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting and not listed for consideration on this agenda.

6.BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2023/24

7. REPORT FROM THE LOCAL MEMBER OF SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

8. NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Bank Interest £26.52

To approve the following electronic payments:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
27.11.22	W.S.Griffiths	£270.40	0	Net salary *
27.11.22	HMRC	£ 67.60	0	PAYE *
26.12.22	W.S.Griffiths	£173.47	0	Net salary
26.12.22	HMRC	£ 43.20	0	PAYE
19.01.23	W.S.Griffiths	£173.47	0	Net salary
19.01.23	HMRC	£ 43.20	0	PAYE

c) Invoices

Vehicle activated sign and associated works - £3034. 85 +£606.97 VAT = £3641.82

Clerks Travel Expenses - Posting of Notices 16 miles @£0.45 per mile = £7.20

Telephone / Internet allowance	£ 20.00
	= £ 27.20

The Parish Council has been asked to consider making a donation to the Citizen's Advice Bureau, which is exceptionally busy at present helping people experiencing financial and other difficulties.

f) Financial Progress

To consider the summary of receipts and payments for 26th January 2023 and to approve the bank reconciliation.

10. PLANNING MATTERS

a) New Applications.

There are no new applications to consider.

b) Determined Applications

Reference: 22/05370/TCA (validated: 30/11/2022)

Address: 1 The Dower House, Quatt, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 6QW

Proposal: Removal of 1no. Birch within Quatt Conservation Area

Decision: No Objection

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RM2NKETDKRK00>

c) Community Led Plan

Councillor Siobhan Hunter to report

d) Draft Local Plan

There is no further information available on this matter at the present time.

11. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

a) To consider any matters of concern relating to roads and footpaths in the Parish

b) Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) at Quatt Village

The works to install the new VAS near the Farm Shop and to relocate the existing VAS from that location to the junction with Wootton Lane and the A442 have been completed.

The Clerk has inspected the installation and the new device near the farm Shop is working well.

However, when the Clerk approached the village travelling from Bridgnorth towards Kidderminster, the old device which has been relocated did not respond.

The supplier has been notified and has said that an engineer will check the old device at that location.

The supplier has also provided instructions on how to download the traffic data from the new device.

c) Pedestrian Refuge, the BOAT and Wootton Lane

There is nothing further to report on these issues.

12 REPRESENTATION OF QUATT MALVERN PARISH ON SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

The Clerk raised the concerns of residents of Quatt Malvern Parish with the leader of Shropshire Council, Councillor Lezley Picton. She has responded as follows:

"Until Elliott returns can I suggest that residents contact either Richard Marshall, Kirstie Hurst-Knight, Gwilym Butler or myself.

Richard, Kirstie and Gwilym are all Cabinet members so are well placed to deal with any matters that may arise.

I have copied them into this email so you have their email addresses"

The Clerk will post this information on the Parish Council website and on the notice-boards. He has also invited Ms Picton or any of the other councillors mentioned to attend a future meeting of this Council.

13. MEMORIAL TO QUEEN ELIZABETH 2ND

To consider whether a permanent memorial could be installed in the Parish to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth 2nd.

14. PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

a) Electoral Division Boundaries in Shropshire

The Boundary Commission are carrying out a public consultation inviting proposals for new council divisions and division boundaries for Shropshire Council.

The consultation will close on 30 January 2023.

After they have considered all representations made during this consultation, they intend to publish draft recommendations in July 2023.

There will then be a further period of consultation on the draft recommendations. The final recommendations are expected to be published in September 2023.

The new electoral arrangements will come into effect at the local elections in May 2025.

What is an electoral review?

The electoral review will recommend new electoral arrangements for Shropshire Council. We will propose:

- the total number of councillors elected to the council in the future;
- the number of divisions
- the number of councillors representing each division
- Division boundaries; and
- the names of divisions.

How to get involved

This is a public consultation and views are welcomed from individuals and organisations across Shropshire on where they think new division boundaries should be drawn.

We are minded to recommend that 74 councillors should be elected to Shropshire Council in the future.

This is no change from the current number of councillors.

We are now inviting proposals to help us draw up a pattern of electoral divisions to accommodate 74 councillors, with one councillor representing each ward and an average of 3500 electors. Quatt Malvern Parish lies in the Alveley and Claverley Division, with one councillor representing 3505 electors, projected to increase to 3851 by 2028.

In drawing up new electoral divisions, we must balance three legal criteria, namely:

- to deliver electoral equality: where each councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the area;
- that the pattern of divisions should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities;
- that the electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government.

All submissions will be treated equally and each case will be judged on its merits on its merits and against the legal criteria.

If you wish to put forward a view, you are urged to ensure that evidence supports your submission.

For example, if you wish to argue that two areas should be included in the same electoral division, make sure you tell us *why* they should be together, providing evidence about community facilities, ties, organisations, and amenities, rather than simply asserting that they belong together.

There is more advice on [our website](#) about how you can get involved in the consultation.

Our website features [technical guidance](#) that explains the process and our policies, as well as guidance on how to take part in each part of the process.

There is a webpage dedicated to the review of Shropshire, where you can find all the relevant information.

You can also access interactive maps of the current ward boundaries across Shropshire on the [specialist consultation portal](#). The portal also allows you to comment and upload documents directly to the site.

Does the Parish Council wish to make any comments on the proposals?

b) Sustainable Warmth Strategy

Shropshire Council has produced a draft Sustainable Affordable Warmth Strategy. This sets out the importance of tackling fuel poverty, improving energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions from domestic dwellings.

The draft Strategy has three objectives:

- **Raising awareness of the importance of tackling fuel poverty and improving energy efficiency** – cold homes can worsen health problems and contribute towards excess winter deaths. It is estimated that in 2020 16.5% of households in Shropshire were in fuel poverty.
- **Establishing a pathway to zero-carbon housing** - the Climate Change Act 2008 set legally binding targets to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. It is estimated that it will cost over £4 billion for all Shropshire's domestic dwellings to reach net zero; this includes an estimated £477 million to decarbonise all the county's social housing.
- **Attracting funding to deliver affordable warmth and improve energy efficiency**- the Council provides an energy advice service, which includes provision of energy efficiency measures to eligible households; and seeks to access central government funding for energy efficiency and decarbonisation measures for eligible dwellings.

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Please find the Council's draft Sustainable Affordable Warmth Strategy at <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/media/24969/draft-sustainable-affordable-warmth-strategy-for-consultation.pdf> which we kindly invite you to comment on. Please can all feedback be received by **5 March 2023**.

c) Unsafe Walking Routes to Schools

To ensure that they are meeting the statutory duties under the Education Act 2006, a revised policy for assessing unsafe walking routes to school is being proposed see

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/media/24963/unsafe-walking-routes-assessment-policy-december-2022.pdf>

and a consultation on this proposed policy will run until the 10th February 2023. We do not anticipate that the revised policy will change the entitlement to free school transport for new or existing pupils and will not have any financial impact for the Council. The consultation is available to view and respond to at [Get involved | Shropshire Council](#) alternatively, you can send your comments to tellus@shropshire.gov.uk or use the following address:

Once the consultation period ends all the feedback gathered will be considered and summarised in a report to Cabinet in March 2023.

15. PARISH MATTERS

a) Parish Amenities

To consider any matters of concern arising in the Parish.

b) Smartwater

The Council will recall that Quatt Malvern Parish Council has previously subscribed to Smartwater membership to protect objects in Quatt Church.

A message has been received from the company now operating Smartwater, which is attached to this agenda.

The Clerk has sent a copy of the message to Quatt PCC and asked them how they wish to proceed under the new arrangements. It would appear that they might need to purchase new protection for the items in the Church, to which the Parish Council may be able to contribute.

d) Community Engagement Officer

The Clerk was asked at the last meeting to seek information about the community Engagement Officer at Shropshire Council.

Apparently, that role was made redundant in 2019.

16. AMENDMENTS TO REGISTER OF ELECTORS

There are currently 188 electors on the register.

17. REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

- a) SALC
- b) Local Joint Committee
- c) Cider House /Wootton
- d) Village Hall Committee.
- e) Bridgnorth Local Plan Review Steering Committee

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a) The next meeting of Quatt Malvern Parish Council will be held on on Thursday 30th March 2023 in Quatt Village Hall at 7.30 pm
- b) The date of the Annual Parish Meeting is to be determined.