

October Unitary Councillor's Report

Hopton Wafers

I have already sent to Councillors the latest update on the Hopton Wafers bridge repairs which were due to start in September, but are now delayed due to waiting for a space to close the road.

Kinlet

I have chased up the outstanding fixmystreet jobs regarding the signs etc. New signs have had to be ordered as the ones they had originally have gone missing. One job has been committed to Multevo on 10/8/26 and another job committed to Kier, again new signs being ordered.

Wheathill

I sent an email as promised, chasing up the outstanding parish council documents which need to be back in the hands of the parish council. Unfortunately, I have not had any response to my email, so I contacted Shropshire legal department who have advised using the Parish Council's own solicitor or liaising with SALC.

Stottesdon

Names of the newly appointed senior staff are reported below under Shropshire Council, as requested by the Clerk.

I have reported the bridge near Chorley Hall which has been repaired and has since been damaged again.

Aston Botterell

I have had a meeting with Andy Keyland about coming out to look at the roads around Aston Botterell and he advised me to speak to Chris Haslam. I have received email from Chris Haslam stating the position with financial constraints etc, but that he will contact Multevo who are responsible for scheduling the works and request that the defects are made a priority.

Farlow

I sent my apologies that I could not attend your parish meeting as I had another engagement.

Neen Savage

Goesland. The surfacing scheme is currently programmed to be delivered between the 25/01/27 and 29/01/2027. I have liaised with SC design consultant WSP who inform that post and 3 rail fencing is to be incorporated into the surfacing scheme along with concrete bag work headwall to the water course. I have raised that the site is unsafe to the water course and will require making safe until the scheme is undertaken.

I have also liaised with Perry Muir who will look to have an inhouse jetting unit attend site prior to the scheme commencing to cleanse the culvert under the carriageway.

Shropshire County Council

Arrangements for the Walk the Wards are being finalised. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to get the opportunity to meet Tanya Miles, Chief Executive of Shropshire Council. Just a reminder it is 9th October at the Market Hall at 2.30 p.m.

I attended the full council meeting this month and report as follows:-

Senior management posts agreed:-

Director of Adult Social Services (DASS) – Chris Atherton
Corporate Director Growth & Connected Communities – Helen Martin
Corporate Director Change & Improvement – Jo Brown

Service Director Housing – Ravi Kaur Phull
Service Director Inclusive Education, Family Help & Skills – Amanda Smith

Unfortunately, no appointment was made to the Corporate Director Finance & Governance (S151) and this post will be re-advertised shortly. The current interim S151 officer contract has been extended.

There was a public question regarding the suspension of the Meole Brace Shrewsbury park and ride. A vote was taken and it is to continue for the time being.

Council finances. The Quarter 1 report forecast at £2.291 million underspend for 2026/27 and a reduction is anticipated in the Exceptional Financial Support from £121 million to £90 million. Pressures remain severe, particularly in children's services and adult social care.