

Severn Stoke and Croome D'Abitot Parish Council

Annual summary of planning input by this parish council in 2023.

19 planning applications were responded to by this parish council in 2023, either within the permitted timescale or via an extension received from the district council.

Supporting comments made by parish councillors to the district council included:

- Support for planning applications that are of benefit to the parish and support local jobs.
- Suggest that all new applications strive for inclusion of renewable energy technologies as part of home improvements or new builds.
- Praised the care and commitment to maintaining existing public right of way through/adjacent to properties.
- Comment on matters relating to risk of additional flooding and agreement with proposals for handling.
- Support with caveat about visual impact/visual amenity from certain directions (long range).

Parish Councillor comments that asked for further consideration or rejection by the district council included:

- lack of justification for a new dwelling in the open countryside and comments about distance from existing facilities.
- lack of analysis/protection of impact on nearby ancient /historical landscapes.
- Request that external items such as garages and gates be in keeping with the surrounding area.
- request that retrospective applications be properly investigated and enforced if need be.
- request that settlement boundaries be respected and adhered to.
- Request for reported incidences of speeding be taken into account. Request for residents to continue to report all dangerous driving and speeding in order to assist with district and parish planning and to support police monitoring requests.
- Request for a right of way to be sustained and protected.
- Request for property access point/s onto main road be given more thought.
- Other comments included requests for analysis of impact on water tables, requests for traffic surveys and mindfulness of existing school bus routes.

In one case parish councillors were unable to comment and requested clarification because maps were unclear and details had not been included. In one case parish councillors could not find that the site notice of the application was properly displayed outside the property for the public to see.

We are not required to keep track of our input in this way, but we think it is important for residents to see how much thought and care the parish council takes in responding to all applications, even if it is 'no comment' in the end.

Fees for household planning applications made to the district council will likely as not go up in 2025 (the amount is yet to be set - a national consultation is underway at present). District councils currently charge less than £200 for a basic application and this rarely covers the cost of admin and processing etc. The parish council is asking questions to ensure that the increase cost is necessary and will be retained within the department to ensure the funding of any necessary planning enforcement - we have received positive assurances in this

respect. Find out more here: Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework and other changes to the planning system - [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) (www.gov.uk)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-reforms-to-the-national-planning-policy-framework-and-other-changes-to-the-planning-system>

NEXT MEETING: Wed, 27th November 7.30pm, at the meeting room at Croome National Trust Visitor Centre. Lisa Stevens, Parish Council Clerk, T: 07950256363, E: severnstokeandcda@gmail.com Your councillors are Susan Faulkner (Chair), Laurence Freeman (Deputy), Raymond Williams, Pat Preston, Royston Garrard & Richard Hill. We have vacancies for parish councillors. Contact the parish clerk if you would like to know more or receive agendas or minutes by email or by post.