

Severn Stoke and Croome D'Abitot Parish Council

Laurence Freeman – Chair	Raymond Williams	Susan Faulkner
Pat Preston	Royston Garrard	Lee Russell
Nicola Sumner	Richard Hill	<i>4 vacancies</i>

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As we run up to the Christmas holiday period of 2023 it is with great sadness and regret that we have to report the necessary demolition of Severn Stoke village hall. The damage caused by the regular flooding of the last few years has meant that demolition is now essential. For small communities such as Severn Stoke parish the hall has always been a focus for social activity and so it is sad to see such an asset disappear. Its replacement would be expensive and

difficult but we will continue to explore all options in full consultation with the community. All resident memorials within the hall have been transferred to St Denys Church and all framed photos are in the keeping of the parish council.

After 13 years of continual lobbying by residents, the parish council and our District and County council colleagues, we still await the construction of the flood defence bund for Severn Stoke. The village hall is the first major casualty of this delay and, whilst we remain hopeful that construction will take place next year, nothing is guaranteed and we must hope that the village loses no other major assets in this way. Thank you to all residents and businesses for pulling together in the most recent flood in October.

On a brighter note, we now possess another vehicle activated speed sign to use in trying to reduce speeding through the parish. It has been initially installed in Kinnersley and it will enable us to rotate our signs more often across the parish.

Following discussions with firms on the Defford site we continue, as best we can, to monitor heavy traffic movements through our villages. It is, of course, not against the law and we rely heavily on the goodwill and co-operation of local contractors.

A supply of daffodil bulbs has now been received for the volunteers in Kinnersley to plant in the village. We look forward to seeing the result of their efforts next spring!

Due to a number of reports of mud on roads, the parish council has re-iterated the recent police reminder of the obligations of those that use agricultural machinery and key advice for drivers sharing the road network with our farmers.

A spate of suspected vandalism or perhaps just appalling bad luck has meant that the parish council owned bins along the A38 at Clifton now need replacement and the bus shelter at Severn Stoke requires maintenance. We await an insurance claim before commencing these projects.

Residents are encouraged to sign up to the police 'Neighbourhood Matters' messaging system. This enables residents and businesses to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can receive updates on crimes, latest information on on-going incidents and learn more about what the police are doing in our community.

<https://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk/>

Finally, we still have vacancies on the parish council and would love to hear from anyone interested in joining us. It's your community and if you love it why not get involved? To everyone in the community we wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Contact the parish clerk if you would like to receive agendas or minutes by email.

NEXT MEETING: Wed 24th Jan 2024 7.30pm at Croome visitor centre SOQ room

Lisa Stevens, Parish Council Clerk, T: 07950256363,

E: severnstokeandcda@gmail.com