

Severn Stoke and Croome d'Abitot Parish Council News

As I write we are preparing to co-opt a new parish councillor to represent the parish area of Severn Stoke. We would still like an additional councillor for the Croome d'Abitot area. Now is the best time to join the parish council if you want an easy and gradual introduction – all tasks for the coming year have been allocated and new councillors would be able to feel their way in gently!

Residents have been in touch again to tell us about the impact that **M5 diversions** have on their lives and property. When the M5 is closed, the A38 is used by motorway traffic including countless HGVs, all of which rumble past homes, preventing sleep and causing worries about vibration damage to homes. We have been in touch with Highways England and the Police Crime Commissioner about this and, although we can't change the diversion route or impact on timings, we can continue to push for speed enforcement and better signage. The parish council can also remind Highways that poorly maintained roads and potholes contribute to the lorry noise. Empty lorries seem to be the worst offenders as they rattle past our sleeping communities. There are many seemingly informal schemes nationwide which enable the sharing and filling of empty lorries that are on a return journey. Residents have asked the parish council to write to our MP to raise this issue in parliament. Anything we can do to try to reduce the number of journeys needed and the number of vehicles on our road is a bonus and would help with air quality as well. Residents can assist the parish council by sending in details of their experiences and how the diversions impact their lives. Please take the time to contact us.

In other news: • No progress with the **flood bund**, but residents, the Environment Agency, the County Council and the parish council are far from giving up! • The **new bin** on the A38 layby will be installed soon and the district council have agreed to empty it. • New **dog fouling signs** will go up shortly at Knights Hill, Birch Lane and Westfield Lane. • The parish council has asked for additional **30mph 'reminder' speed signs** for Birch Lane and Kinnersley village. I don't know if we will be successful but we can try. • The police have agreed to undertake more **speed traps** in the parish during the daytime. • The **listed phone box** at High Green is due to be restored, commencing in July. • The Parish council continues to ask for improved **broadband** services across the parish. • Land owners at Kinnersley, Birch Lane and Croome are reminded to **maintain ditches** and ensure that ponds and gullies do not overspill onto the roads and cause flooding to property please.

NEXT MEETING of Severn Stoke and Croome d'Abitot Parish Council: 16th July 2025, 7.30pm – Croome National Trust Visitor Centre SOQ room. Parish Council Clerk, Lisa Stevens, T: 07950256363, E: parishclerk@severnstokeandcroomedabitot-pc.gov.uk
Your councillors are Richard Hill, Susan Faulkner, Laurence Freeman, Ian Daly, Royston Garrard, Pat Preston & Raymond Williams.