

**Minutes of an extra-ordinary Planning Meeting of Chetton Parish Council**  
**held on 8th February**

**Present** Mrs.S.Bayliss (Chairman), Mr.R.Fox, Mr.M.Clarke, Mrs.D.Pearce, Mr.T.Maiklem, Mr.J.White, Mr.E.Crawford Clarke, Mr.J.Mottershead

Also in attendance 18 members of the general public.

**Apologies** Cllr.R.Tindall was present at the site visit but was unable to attend the evening meeting.  
Mr.J.Dunn - illness

**Planning Application No 17/06156/FUL**

The Chairman invited members of the public to comment on the above planning application which was then thoroughly discussed by Councillors who strongly objected to the proposals.

The following reply was sent to the Planning Officer.

**Replacement of existing bungalow with 1.5 / 2 storey three-bedroom dwelling with integrated garage and associated landscaping - The Old Post Office Chetton Bridgnorth Shropshire WV16 6UF**

Chetton Parish Council has discussed the above application and wish to make the following observations.

The premises now known as The Old Post Office was built prior to 1820 when it opened as a National School on land donated by the Church and used by local children until The Down School was built in 1884 when all pupils were transferred. The building then became the local post office and has been used as a private residence until it was recently placed on the market.

St.Giles' church, which was mentioned in the Domesday Book, is a Grade 11\* building with many signs of the 13th century still visible. It is said to have been founded by Lady Godiva whose husband was Earl of the Manor. In the churchyard stands the base of what is thought to be a mediaeval Preaching Cross, there are also two Holy wells and a mass burial pit in the close vicinity.

The proposal is to replace the existing dwelling with a larger, 2 storey building which will demolish the existing building and replace it with a substantially larger dwelling and involve considerable excavation in the garden area when it is feared that archaeological material or very ancient burials which could be disturbed.

Councillors consider that the design for the new building shows a construction which is totally out of keeping with the building styles in this traditional farming community. The layout, height, materials i.e. zinc and white rendered finish will have a detrimental effect on the whole area particularly the near neighbours in the village.

Although Councillors agree that the Old Post Office is urgently in need of restoration work they consider that, due to its history and position in the village, it should be sympathetically

restored as a bungalow, appropriate for modern day living, using traditional materials throughout.

Councillors strongly object to the proposals and request that if the Case Officer is minded to give consent the application be called in to a meeting of Shropshire Planning Committee.