

SHROPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Division: Highley, Billingsley, Middleton Scriven, Glazeley & Deuxhill

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY - SEPTEMBER 2026

September focused on progressing several long-running local issues, particularly Hitchen's Way, the Netherton Lane / Bynd Lane ford and outstanding highway matters. I also attended the Boyer public consultation, chaired the Audit & Governance Committee and continued resident casework across the division.

The main development at Hitchen's Way was a residents' meeting attended by 15 homeowners, where we agreed practical next steps on the FirstPort management arrangements. Progress has also been made in clarifying what is still required before the road and sewer adoption can move forward.

1. MEETINGS AND ACTIVITY THIS MONTH

Date	Meeting / Activity	Purpose / Notes
September 2026	Traffic Management - Netherton Lane / Bynd Lane	Discussed barriers and road restrictions; Traffic Management did not support that approach.
17 September 2026	Hitchen's Way Residents' Meeting	Met with 15 homeowners to discuss FirstPort site management contract and agreed next steps.
September 2026	Boyer Public Consultation	Attended the public consultation meeting and listened to residents' views.
24 September 2026	Full Council	Attended the September Full Council meeting.
25 September 2026	Audit & Governance Committee	Chaired the formal Audit & Governance Committee meeting.

2. UPDATE ON KEY ACTIONS FROM MY PREVIOUS REPORT

Previous action	September update	Next step
Netherton Lane / Bynd Lane ford	I met with Traffic Management to discuss barriers or road restrictions. They are not in favour of that approach.	Return to Highways to arrange repairs and agree how much work can realistically be undertaken given the continuing water erosion.
Ford depth gauge	Outstanding - I have not yet checked whether the planned installation has been completed.	Confirm whether the missing depth gauge has now been installed.
Coronation Street, Vicarage Lane & Arley View Close road signs	The replacement signs have now been installed. I noticed the Vicarage Lane sign ends at No. 36 although houses now extend to No. 38.	A corrected Vicarage Lane replacement sign has been requested.
Hitchen's Way road adoption	Progressed. Severn Trent has clarified the outstanding adoption requirements and Taylor Wimpey has re-engaged with the process.	Continue pressing for the remedial works programme and a clear timetable for adoption.

Previous action	September update	Next step
Hitchen's Way FirstPort	Residents' meeting held on 17 September with 15 homeowners. Three options were considered; residents agreed to progress Options 1 and 3, while I agreed to investigate Option 2.	Progress the agreed options and report back to residents.
B4363 speed limit / Glazeley signage	Outstanding - I have not yet arranged the planned Traffic Management meeting.	Arrange the meeting to raise the request and understand the assessment process for a speed limit reduction and/or signage changes.
Glazeley Footbridge at Borle Brook	Contacted Tim Symonds and Brian Hickson for an update on repair/reinstatement. It is on the list.	Contact Tim Symonds and Brian Hickson for an update on repair/reinstatement.
Silverwoods	Ongoing monitoring. No new update to report this month.	Continue monitoring with Planning Enforcement for any breach of planning requirements.
Malt Shovel Development	Ongoing monitoring. Gate and entrance reported to Planning Enforcement who will visit the suspected planning breach.	Continue monitoring with Planning Enforcement for updates on any planning breaches.
Audit & Governance Committee	Progressed. I chaired the September committee and continued work on stronger evidence and follow-up of audit recommendations.	Continue Chair responsibilities and evidence-based follow-up of actions and outcomes.

3. HIGHLEY PARISH: HITCHEN'S WAY

Road Adoption

I continued to press the long-running adoption issue during September. Severn Trent has clarified that remedial works and the remaining legal and land-registration requirements must be completed before adoption can proceed. Taylor Wimpey has re-engaged and a further site inspection is being used to identify the necessary remedial works.

The latest position is that Taylor Wimpey is working towards a programme for those works. I will continue to press all parties for a clear timetable and keep residents updated as the position moves forward.

FirstPort / Estate Management

On 17 September I held a meeting with homeowners to discuss concerns about FirstPort and the options available for future estate management. Fifteen homeowners attended.

We considered three routes: local authority adoption of the relevant estate facilities; a local authority or parish council acting as a paid managing agent; or appointing a replacement professional management company. Residents agreed that Options 1 and 3 should be progressed, while I agreed to investigate Option 2.

The aim is to establish which route is workable and provides residents with a more transparent and accountable long-term arrangement.

4. HIGHLEY PARISH: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Boyer Public Consultation

I attended the Boyer public consultation meeting regarding the proposed development. I was concerned that there was no formal presentation and that representation from Boyer was limited, given the significance of the proposal for the local community.

I listened to residents attending the consultation and did not hear any resident in attendance express a positive view of the proposal. I will continue to follow should it progress through the planning process and object strongly.

5. AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

I chaired the September meeting of Shropshire Council's Audit & Governance Committee. My continuing focus is on ensuring that audit recommendations lead to demonstrable improvement rather than simply being recorded as complete.

Where actions are closed, the committee should be able to see evidence that the underlying issue has actually been addressed. I have continued working with Internal Audit on stronger follow-up, clearer assurance and a greater focus on impact and accountability.

6. RESIDENT CASEWORK AND LOCAL ISSUES

I continued to deal with resident enquiries and follow up open matters during September, including highways, planning, drainage, footpaths and other local service issues. Where residents have been unable to obtain a clear response through the usual channels, I have continued to contact officers and escalate matters where appropriate.

7. ACTIONS FOR OCTOBER

Issue	Next action	Owner / follow-up
Netherton Lane / Bynd Lane ford	Return to Highways to agree the repair scope, taking account of continuing water erosion.	Sharon / Highways
Ford depth gauge	Confirm whether installation has been completed.	Sharon / Highways
Vicarage Lane sign	Follow up the corrected sign showing house numbers through to No. 38.	Sharon / Highways
Hitchen's Way road adoption	Obtain the remedial works programme and continue pressing for a clear adoption timetable.	Sharon / Taylor Wimpey / Severn Trent
Hitchen's Way / FirstPort	Progress Options 1 and 3 and investigate whether a local authority or parish council could act as managing agent.	Sharon / residents
B4363 speed limit / Glazeley signage	Arrange the outstanding Traffic Management meeting.	Sharon
Glazeley Footbridge at Borle Brook	Follow up with Tim Symonds and Brian Hickson on repair/reinstatement.	Sharon
Silverwoods	Continue Planning Enforcement monitoring.	Ongoing
Malt Shovel Development	Continue Planning Enforcement monitoring.	Ongoing
Boyer proposal	Continue monitoring the proposal and represent residents' concerns as the planning process develops.	Sharon
Audit & Governance Committee	Continue evidence-based follow-up of audit recommendations and outcomes.	Committee / Internal Audit

8. CONTACT INFORMATION

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Residents are welcome to contact me about local issues, council services, highways, planning concerns, community safety, environmental matters or any issue where help is needed to identify the right route through Shropshire Council.