



**Clerk to the Council/RFO: J Hodgkiss**

**Chairman: Cllr. C Clode**

**“Protecting and improving the quality of life for all Bayston Hill residents”**

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**Item 152.22/23**

### **Sites for Additional Electric Vehicle Chargers in Shropshire**

Current carbon emissions from transport represent around 40% of the Shropshire’s carbon footprint and the UK government has recently reaffirmed its commitment to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel cars in 2030. Many residents, visitors and businesses in Shropshire are therefore starting to replace existing vehicles with electric or hybrid alternatives which require access to charging equipment.

You may recall that Shropshire Council announced late last year <https://newsroom.shropshire.gov.uk/2022/10/electric-vehicle-charging-points-funding/> that it had secured almost £1m to install an additional 270 charge points in 45 public car parks and streets across the county. This equipment is intended to particularly help residents who are unable to charge their electric vehicles at home (e.g. flats, no off-street car parking etc). For this initial phase of work, the selection of potentially suitable sites was informed by detailed modelling to identify locations where there are likely to be early adopters of electric vehicles in residential areas where properties have little or no off-street parking. Shropshire Council is currently working with its technology partner, ‘Connected Kerb’, to install the new chargers.

The Government funding provider (Energy Savings Trust) has now indicated that there is an opportunity for Shropshire Council to bid for additional 60% grant funding to be used over the coming year and I would therefore welcome your help in identifying additional locations where EV charging equipment could be located. Ideally this would be either on Shropshire Council property, or on land which we could lease formally for this purpose. Proximity to a power supply is also essential, since this directly affects the relative cost and complexity of the installation. Potential additional locations could include parish and community halls or other buildings.

The equipment installed would be owned by Shropshire Council and any revenue from its use would be used to fund its operation and maintenance and to repay Shropshire Council’s 40% contribution to its capital cost. However, significant indirect benefits may arise in the form of support for local residents, businesses and the local visitor economy. No liability would accrue to the host site in respect of the maintenance and operation of the equipment.

Whilst in many cases, we are proposing to install this infrastructure in advance of current demand, the widespread availability of chargers will help to build confidence and may help our residents to make an earlier transition to electric or hybrid vehicles as a positive contribution to reducing Shropshire's carbon footprint.

Whilst it is possible that further funding opportunities may arise in future, it is essential that we make the most of the current availability of grant funding to help to meet the capital costs of installing this equipment.