

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

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COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

at Shoreham Village Hall, Shoreham on 6th March 2019 from 7:30pm

Present: Jonathan Histed (in the Chair)
R Blamey, A Collins, B Jeffery, M S Parkes, N Powell and L Spence

Also Present: 11 members of the public

Clerk: Sarah Moon

Question Time: There were no questions from members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Hibbins, Cllr N McDonnell and County Councillor Roger Gough.
2. There were no disclosures of interest.
3. The minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 6th and Wednesday 20th February 2019 (copies previously distributed) were received and signed by the Chairman.
4. The actions arising from the meetings held on Wednesday 6th February 2019 were agreed to be reviewed at a later date via email.
5. **District/County Councillor Reports**
District Councillor
No District Councillor was present.

County Councillor
No County Councillor was present.
6. **Chairman's Report**
7. **Report from the Clerk**
 - The tree survey inspection report has been received and will be discussed at the Amenities meeting later this month.
 - The annual playground inspection report has been received and will be discussed at the Amenities meeting later this month.
 - The work to replace the tennis shelter roof has been completed.
 - The Clerk reported that she had met with one more company regarding the refurbishment of the playground. A full update will be given at the Amenities meeting.
 - The Clerk reported that a bill of £1200 had been received from Castle Water in respect of water charges for 2018. This excessive amount was due to the on-going leak at the allotments. The Clerk reported that she was in the process of trying to resolve this matter.

- The Clerk reported that she had attended a meeting at the SDC offices with SDC Rick Bayne, Nick Fothergill and John Saynor regarding the creation of a Community Rail Partnership in the Darent Valley.
- Family Fun days will be held on the Shoreham Recreation Ground on 10th April and 30th July.
- The freighter has been booked for 13th April.

8. **Village Hall**

Following the resignation of two members of the Village Hall Committee, the future running of the Village Hall was discussed.

It was agreed that a new Chair was not necessary but that a bookings officer was required. It was also agreed that the committee should increase in numbers so that day to day tasks could be spread between members rather than one or two people having all the work and responsibility

Cllrs Collins, Spence and Parkes reported that they had been in touch with other Parish Councils to find out how they ran their halls :

- Farningham : pays a caretaker to clean and open up the hall. All other roles, including the bookings officer are voluntary;
- Eynsford : awards £20 per month to their bookings officer to cover expenses;
- Otford : has three paid posts (booking officer, caretaker/manager and cleaner) but they have three halls and substantially more bookings.

It was agreed that the scope of the role of the booking officer should be reduced. Not only does he currently take bookings, he is also responsible for turning on the heating, keeping the key, showing people around and meeting and greeting. Some of this work could be spread amongst other volunteers.

It was RESOLVED that a flyer be created asking for volunteers to join the committee. The flyer should impart some sort of urgency but not be negative. It must mention that all new members will be working as part of a team and will receive plenty of support. The flyer should be distributed to all households in the parish and posted on social media. Councillors agreed that they would also try and have conversations with likely candidates. The flyer should be produced in time for presenting at the Village Hall meeting scheduled for 13th March.

If no volunteers come forward by the end of March then it may be necessary to continue only with regular bookings, which could be managed by the existing committee although this option is a last resort and far from ideal.

9. **Village Sign**

The Clerk confirmed that she had received confirmation from the Walnut Tree Trust stating that they would be happy for a village sign to be installed on the green outside the cottages as long as any costs (such as replacing the existing posts) are borne by the Parish Council. It was RESOLVED that further discussion on this matter be deferred until April's Parish Council meeting.

10. **CCTV**

Cllr Histed confirmed that he still had to check the legalities of installing CCTV before any action can be taken on this. Given recent events, this should be done as a matter of priority. Cllr Collins stated that she had spoken to the police regarding the recent crime wave in and had been told that the village was still within a 'low crime area' so limited action would be taken. The police did say however that they would resume their visits to the area by attending the Community Coffee Mornings and would also be present at the Annual Parish Meeting.

11. **2019 Local Council Elections**

The Clerk confirmed that neither she nor the Parish Council need to undertake any activity in regard to preparing for the Local Council elections in May other than displaying the Notice of Election. Any new candidates wishing to stand for the first time or existing councillors wishing to stand again, should contact Sevenoaks District Council directly.

12. **Annual Parish Meeting**

The flyer designed by Councillor Powell was discussed, and, after making minor wording amendments, it was RESOLVED that it be sent for print. The flyer should be distributed to all households within the parish as well as being posted on social media and in the Gazette.

13. **Footpath SR18**
Discussions around the public safety issue regarding the exit onto the A225 as well as the damage caused by Ground Control and the removal of the kissing gates at the vineyard were agreed to be deferred to the next Parish Council meeting in order that County Councillor Roger Gough could be involved.
14. **Correspondence/Information**
The March edition of 'Clerks and Councils Direct' has been received.
15. **Financial Matters**
Accounts/Payments: The list of payments as per schedule was authorised.
16. **Dates of next meetings** (all starting at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated)
 - a) Planning/Council Meeting : Wednesday 6th March 2019, Shoreham Village Hall
 - b) Planning/Amenities & Services Meeting : Wednesday 20th March 2019, Shoreham Village Hall
 - c) Planning/Council Meeting : Wednesday 3rd April 2019, Shoreham Village Hall

Sarah Moon, Clerk to Shoreham Parish Council
The meeting closed at 9.42pm