

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

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COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL
at Shoreham Village Hall, Shoreham on 9TH January 2019 from 7:30pm

Present: J Histed (in the Chair)
R Blamey, M S Parkes, N McDonnell, N Powell and L Spence

Also Present: County Councillor Roger Gough
District Councillor John Edwards-Winser
1 member of the public

Clerk: Sarah Moon

Question Time: The Clerk enquired on behalf of a local resident as to the progress of the creation of a footpath down Station Road through the golf club's land. Cllr Spence confirmed that she would chase up the owners of the golf club about this as work does not yet appear to have started.

Given the recent transfer of ownership of the land containing the Millennium Footpath, the Clerk enquired as to whether this could now be made a public right of way rather than a permissive footpath. Council agreed that this would be a good idea but would firstly need to check whether this initiative had the support of the land owner. The Clerk also reported that a local resident was concerned about the state of the fence running between the path and the road and this should also be taken up with the landowner.

On behalf of another resident, the Clerk asked which parish councillors would be attending the meeting regarding the proposed development at Fort Halstead on 10th January. Cllrs Powell, Parkes and Blamey all confirmed that they would be attending and would raise the resident's concerns regarding primary school capacity.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Collins, Hibbins, and Jeffery.
2. There were no disclosures of interest.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5th December 2018 (copy previously distributed) were received and signed by the Chairman.
4. The actions arising from the meetings held on Wednesday 5th December 2018 were reviewed.
5. **District/County Councillor Reports**
District Councillor

The District Councillor stated that he had been very busy going through the new draft of the SDC Local Plan. There are several things which affect Otford, particularly the proposal to double the size of the Vestry Estate.

County Councillor

KCC have confirmed that they will be repairing/rebuilding the bridge over the River Darent following damage by a vehicle. The Parish Council asked Cllr Gough to get KCC to remove the alder growing out of the wall of the bridge at the same time and to ensure that the work is completed in time for the Duck race on 6th May. The Parish Council also asked Cllr Gough to verify with KCC that the contractors, who will be carrying out the work, are fully qualified to work with listed buildings.

Cllr Gough also confirmed that he had spoken to Mike Payton, Head of Highways at KCC, about the state of roads in village following the Thames Water works. The chances of getting the whole village resurfaced are pretty low although it may be possible to do something with a lighter surface dressing. We need to wait however until the works are all finished so we can see the exact places where this would be required.

A new bus route, which will run from Stansted through to East Hill and Otford, should be up and running by the summer.

A detailed communication to all residents of Well Hill in relation to the current state of play of the broadband situation, will be sent out soon.

6. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that he attended the Chairman's Conference run by KALC back in December and that it was very useful. He confirmed that he intended to meet with the Clerk in due course to go through various points which arose out of it.

7. **Report from the Clerk**

- The 3 year tree inspection will take place on Monday 28th January
- Work to fell the dead cherry tree in the allotments has been scheduled for Wednesday 23rd January
- The generator has been fixed and is back in the emergency room. Instructions are required as to what needs to be done to it in order to prevent it from failing again.
- Hedge cutting and scrub clearance work in the car park has been completed.
- Tenders for the 2019 grass cutting contract have been sent out and quotes received.
- The next freighter service has been scheduled for Saturday 19th January.
- The annual playground inspection should take place week commencing 21st January.

8. **Budget**

The budget for 2019/2020, as recommended by the Finance Committee at their meeting held on 21st December 2018, was approved.

9. **Precept**

A precept of £40,000 for 2019/2020 (an increase of £2,000 to cover on-going Village Hall compliance costs), as recommended by the Finance Committee at their meeting held on 21st December 2018, was agreed.

10. **Schedule of Meetings**

Schedule of Meetings for 2019/2020 was agreed.

11. **Woodland**

Engagement with Sevenoaks District Council regarding their on-going management of the woodland around Shoreham was discussed. There have been concerns from several local residents as to the scale of felling which has occurred recently in the woods surrounding the village. There has also been confusion as to which Woodland Management Plan the District Council are working from. The Clerk stated that she had been in touch with Kent Wildlife Trust, who compiled the plan and they confirmed that they had included comments and

suggestions given by the Shoreham Society and the Parish Council. Neither the Shoreham Society nor the Parish Council however had yet had sight of this plan and so there was uncertainty as to whether this plan had yet been implemented. The Forestry Commission should have signed off the report prior to it being implemented but, due to a backlog, this has not yet been done. The plan has therefore already been implemented and Sevenoaks District Council have confirmed that they will provide the Parish Council with a copy and also organise a site visit.

12. **Bridge Over the River Darent**

The planned works to repair the bridge over the River Darent were discussed and it was RESOLVED to comment on the application as follows:

'It is clear that the bridge over the River Darent has been significantly damaged and needs to be repaired and made safe. Shoreham Parish Council is pleased that the existing bricks will be cleaned and reused and that the parapet will be rebuilt like for like. We would like to seek assurance however that the contractor is approved to work on listed buildings. This bridge is an iconic structure, Grade 2 listed and drawn and painted by Samuel Palmer. Not only must the existing bricks be cleaned and reused, but the mortar must also be matched like for like and the metal ties and ancient stones at the top of the bridge retained. Whilst the work is taking place, we would ask that the self-seeded alder tree, which is growing out of the bridge, be removed (killed rather than felled in order to prevent it from growing back). There are also wooden uprights on the opposite side to the parapet which need to be repaired and the railings also require painting. We would also request a method and access statement for closing the road – i.e. will a traffic light system be put in place, how long will the work take etc). Finally, we would ask that any works be completed in time for the annual Duck Race, which has been scheduled for 6th May. Hundreds of visitors are expected to attend this event and if the bridge has not been made safe by then, then this would be a huge health and safety hazard.'

13. **CIL**

Following confirmation of Shoreham Parish Council's first CIL receipt, it was RESOLVED that the Clerk obtain guidelines on exactly how this money may be spent. Once obtained and circulated to all councillors then a decision as to how best to spend this money can be made.

14. **Village Sign**

It was RESOLVED that this item should be discussed in the presence of Cllr Jeffery, who had initially proposed the idea. The Shoreham Society object to the idea but further village opinion should be sought via the Gazette.

15. **Local Plan**

It was RESOLVED that all members should meet on Wednesday 16th January in order to discuss and draft a response to the Proposed Submission Version of the Sevenoaks District Local Plan.

16. **Correspondence/Information**

- a) An email has been received from the Village Hall Committee, notifying the PC of damage/vandalism to the Village Hall roof.
- b) A letter of thanks has been received from the PCC in respect of the recently awarded grant.
- c) The January Issue of 'Clerks & Councils Direct' has been received.
- d) The January edition of 'The Clerk' magazine has been received.

17. **Financial Matters**

- a) Accounts/Payments: The schedule of payments was authorised.

18. **Dates of next meetings** (all starting at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated)

- a) Planning and Amenities Meeting : Wednesday 23rd January 2018, Shoreham Village Hall
- b) Planning and Council Meeting : Wednesday 6th February 2018, Shoreham Village Hall
- c) Planning Meeting (if required) : Wednesday 20th February 2018, Shoreham Village Hall