

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

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COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

at Shoreham Village Hall on 1st March 2017 from 7:30pm

Present: R Blamey, A Collins, P Dodd, A Hibbins, J Histed, B Jeffery, N McDonnell, M S Parkes and L Spence

Also Present: 9 members of the public
District Councillor John Edwards-Winser
County Councillor Roger Gough

Clerk: Sarah Moon

Question Time: No questions were raised by members of the public.

1. No apologies for absence were received.
2. There were no disclosures of interest from members.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 1st February (copies previously distributed) were received and signed by the Chairman.
4. Brian Jeffery was formally co-opted onto the Parish Council and his Declaration of Acceptance duly signed.
5. Actions arising from February's meeting were reviewed.
6. District/County Councillor Reports
District Councillor
Two television masts in the area are due to be having some work done in 2017/2018 to change the antennae to allow more mobile phone usage. All TVs will need to be retuned and some residents will need to buy new digi-boxes.
A housing needs survey was carried out a few months ago by Sevenoaks District Council and a ward by ward analysis will be published towards the end of the month. The population of the district is expected to grow by 19% with the fastest growing group being those aged 65 and over. Older people have stated that they generally prefer to live in their current home with living support at home rather than to downsize.
County Councillor
It is hoped that a meeting with Geoff Bineham to progress the Traffic and Parking proposals can be scheduled for 17th March.
An email has been received regarding Preston Hill. The reason why Shoreham Parish Council has not been kept updated was because KCC thought that Preston Hill fell within the parish of Eynsford, not Shoreham. They have agreed that Shoreham Parish Council will be kept up to date from now on.
Secondary school placements – most children got their choice although number of children being allocated a place slightly up on last year.

7. Chairman's Report

Nothing to report other than items on the agenda.

8. Report from the Clerk.

- (a) Work is on-going to complete the grant application for the re-chalking of the Cross.
- (b) A contractor to complete the grass-cutting works for 2017 has been found and this will be discussed in further detail at the Amenities meeting on 15th March.
- (c) The Parish Council website has been upgraded and I attended a course on how to maintain the new version. It was agreed that Alison Collins would take responsibility for reviewing the website and to come up with recommendations as how to improve both the look and feel as well as the content.
- (d) I have enrolled on an evening workshop run by KALC entitled 'Preparing for your Audit'. This will take place on 30th March.
- (e) Confirmation has been received from the tennis court refurbishment company that work will commence on 25th April. Access to water in the Village Hall has been approved by the Village Hall Committee.
- (f) Rent letters will be sent to all allotment plot holders over the next couple of weeks.
- (g) Sevenoaks District Council have advised that business rates relating to the Old Livery Store are due but have reduced the amount owed from £1854.18 to £970.12.
- (h) Confirmation has been received from Sevenoaks District Council advising that Shoreham will not be able to host a Family Fun Day this year due to all the dates being allocated to other parishes.

9. Timberden Farm

The Clerk obtained the name of the purchaser from Sevenoaks District Council but was told to seek any details from the land agent. Having done this, the following information was imparted:

- The purchaser's name is Mr Muscat
- He is from a Kentish family who are in the butchery business
- He plans to raise a herd of beef cattle on the land in order to supply his family business
- In order to run an agricultural business he needs farm buildings
- Sevenoaks District Council intend to develop the existing farm buildings will therefore not sell them to him
- He will need to build new farm buildings
- Until the situation is resolved the land will probably continue to be used for temporary grazing

As the purchaser could have made use of the farm buildings, the Council agreed that it should not be necessary for Sevenoaks District Council to redevelop the site into residential dwellings. Plans for the site had been drawn up and these were due to be presented to the residents of Shoreham in early January 2017. This did not happen and it appears that the plans may have changed again. Shoreham Parish Council would therefore like to know how much money the District Council have spent on this to date. As there is somebody who could have made use of the buildings, the costs incurred in engaging architects and drawing up plans was unnecessary. Members agreed that a Freedom of Information Request be sent to Sevenoaks District Council to determine the costs to date. Cllr Histed agreed to draft the wording and to pass to the Clerk for submission. It was also agreed that the Clerk write to the Chief Planner at Sevenoaks District Council (Richard Morris), the Chief Executive Officer and the Head of Council (Peter Fleming) stating that Shoreham Parish Council wishes the farm buildings to be sold to Mr Muscat.

10. Traffic and Parking

No updates were received as the Working Party is awaiting a meeting with Geoff Bineham and Roger Gough. A date of Friday 17th March has been suggested for this.

11. Emergency Planning

- (a) No updates were received other than Vicky Hitchcock has accepted the role of Head of the Emergency Planning and Resilience Group. Both the Clerk and Cllr Spence met with Vicky to provide her with more details about the role.
- (b) The Flood Warden Training event has been scheduled to take place on Saturday March 18th, from 9.00am -11.30am in Village Hall. Numbers to be confirmed by 10th March. The Clerk agreed to print out flyers, which Cllr Spence would distribute to the homes most likely to be affected in the event of a flood. The event should also be advertised on Facebook, the website and on posters around the village. Cllr Dodd agreed to speak to the Crown and Kings Arms pubs to ask them to send a representative along to the training course.

12. Dog Fouling

- (a) Cllr Dodd confirmed that he had reported the dog mess on Church Street to the dog warden including a name and address of the suspected owner. He asked for any assistance she is able to provide.
There is also lots of dog mess on the Recreation Ground. Cllr Spence agreed to talk to the residents who have noted this and ask them to make a report which can be submitted to the dog warden. There is also a problem of plastic dog bags being thrown in the bushes at the top of the Recreation Ground.
- (b) The Clerk was authorised to purchase a new dog bin for the Village Green as the existing one is broken.

13. Darent Valley Consortium

In addition to a reduction in the speed limit on the A225, PC river wardens and DRIPS and a valley website, the following items were also requested to be included on the agenda:

- Preston Hill
- Darent Valley Landscape Partnership

Cllr Spence agreed to send the notes from the previous meeting to Cllr Blamey.

The next meeting of the Consortium will be hosted by Shoreham Parish Council and held at Shoreham Village Hall on Wednesday 22nd March at 7.30pm. Cllr Dodd to chair the meeting, Sarah Moon to act as Clerk and Cllrs Blamey, Hibbins, Parkes and Spence to attend.

14. Annual Parish Meeting

The next Annual Parish Meeting will be used as a platform to impart information about the Neighbourhood Plan. A short film will be shown and an exercise to get people involved in thinking about how they could help shape the parish in the future will take place. No invitations will be sent out but the event will be advertised in the Shoreham Post, on the Parish website, on Facebook and on posters around the village. It is hoped that by hosting this meeting in the morning, a different demographic may be encouraged to attend. The Clerk agreed to ask Playgroup if some of the toys could be borrowed for the event in order that families with young children can attend.

15. Parish Store

A water leak occurred in the ladies toilet/village store a few weeks ago. This was probably due to the water heater being switched off some time ago and the pipes freezing and bursting. Fortunately there was no damage to any of the contents in the store but it lead to discussions as to whether any further refurbishments are required to improve the storage

facilities currently being used by the Parish Council and various village societies. Cllr Histed agreed to look at the heater to see if it is still working. If it is not, then a new one should be purchased and installed. Cllr Histed also agreed to remove the doors from the cubicles in the ex-ladies toilets to facilitate access to stored items. Cllrs Spence and Parkes agreed to inspect the ex-lades toilets and to make recommendations as to what, if any, further refurbishment is required.

16. Correspondence/Information

- (a) A request for financial assistance has been received from Shoreham Cricket Club. A donation of £550 was agreed.
- (b) A request for a grant of £250 has been received from Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Service. A donation of £250 was agreed.
- (c) An email has been received from South and South East in Bloom asking whether Shoreham would like to take part in the competition. The Clerk agreed to write to the organisers, asking for further details as to what the competition involves and what would be in it for us.
- (d) Issue 1 2017 of the Allotment and Leisure Gardener has been received.

17. Financial Matters

Accounts/Payments: The schedule of payments was authorised.

18. Dates of next meetings (all starting at 7:30pm[SP1])

- (a) Planning and Amenities Meeting : Wednesday 15th March 2017, Shoreham Village Hall
- (b) Flood Warden Training : Saturday 18th March 2017 at **9.00 am**, Shoreham Village Hall
- (c) Planning and Council Meeting : Wednesday 5th April, 2017, Shoreham Village Hall

Sarah Moon, Clerk to Shoreham Parish Council

9.28pm.