

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

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COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

at Shoreham Village Hall, Shoreham on 3rd April 2019 from 7:30pm

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

Also Present: 4 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 District Councillor John Edwards-Winser and County Councillor Roger Gough.
2. There were no disclosures of interest.
3. The minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 6th March 2019 (copies previously distributed) were received and signed by the Chairman.
4. The actions arising from the meetings held on Wednesday 6th March 2019 were reviewed.

5. **District/County Councillor Reports**

District Councillor

Irene Roy introduced herself as the new nominated candidate for District Councillor to represent Otford and Shoreham in the up and coming elections. She is currently a Parish Councillor at Otford. In that role, she has been involved with many issues concerning traffic and has chaired the working party responsible for that. She has helped put together proposals for consultation. These include the introduction of 20mph limit in Otford as well as new pedestrian crossings. Her main ambition for involvement at District level is to try and bring more focus to villages as much of the current focus seems to be with the towns in the area. She represents the Conservative Party.

County Councillor

No County Councillor was present.

6. **Chairman's Report**

Village Hall – Despite sending out flyers, nobody has come forward to join the Village Hall committee. The existing committee members are managing at the moment but desperately need more people, particularly a Bookings Officer. The Chairman agreed to mention the need for more volunteers as part of his Chairman's report at the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Collins also explained that the Village Hall constitution demands that two members of the parish council become trustees. The Clerk agreed to add this to the Annual Council Meeting in May as it is at this meeting where councillors are appointed to various committees/roles. .

Timberden Farm – The Chairman reported that an offer of £210,000 had been made on the former barns at Timberden and that Mr Muscat was seeking an independent valuation as this price seemed far too excessive for agricultural land. Cllr Collins pointed out that Sevenoaks District Council had not been marketing the land for agricultural use as the sales particulars produced by Batchelor Monkhouse (shown on Right Move) advertise the land as a 'new home'. Given previous comments of objection by the Parish Council, the AONB, CPRE and Kent Wildlife not to mention the numerous objections from neighbours and residents of the parish, this type of marketing is outrageous. The Clerk was asked to write to Sevenoaks District Council asking why, when objections to housing on the site clearly bore considerable weight in the council withdrawing their planning application, are they still advertising the barns as a 'new home'. The Clerk was asked to include a screen grab of the particulars shown on Right Move and also to enquire as to whether any prospective bidders had had sight of the previous objections.

7. Report from the Clerk

- The Clerk reported that a funding application for the sum of £22,000 in respect of the playground refurbishment had been submitted to Enover (Environmental Trust). Confirmation as to whether the application has been successful should be received by the end of May.
- Shoreham Playground been accepted as one of the Tesco Bags for Life projects. Shoreham Parish Council will definitely receive at least £1,000 but it could be £2,000 or £4,000.
- The Recreation Ground is now formerly protected as a Centenary Field and is registered with Land Registry.
- The outdoor table tennis table has been ordered and should be delivered/installed within six weeks. The first instalment of grant £2500 will be received on receipt of invoice. The second instalment of £2,500 will be received on completion. This project has been fully funded by the London Marathon Charitable Trust.
- All allotment rent reminder letters have been completed and are in the process of being distributed.
- The lectern at the Cross has been installed. Cllr Hibbins agreed to find out when the solidier will be taken down.
- An Easter Family Fun Day will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 10th April (10 – 12.30).
- The Clerk requested a week's holiday week commencing 8th April 2019 and this was agreed by all members. This is the last week of her 2018/2019 holiday entitlement.
- Quotes for tree surgery resulting from the tree inspection report are still on-going.
- The tiles removed from the tennis shelter have been taken by a local builder.

8. Village Sign

Having previously agreed to proceed with the installation of a village sign and having received permission from the Walnut Tree Trust to install one on the green outside the cottages, the next steps of the project were discussed. It was agreed that a Working Party consisting of Cllrs Jeffery (chair), Powell and Hibbins as well as the Clerk, be created to obtain costs and to come up with recommendations as to how the project can be facilitated.

9. CCTV

No update was given on the issue of CCTV however, Cllr Jeffery did report that he had discovered that any authority wishing to use CCTV must register with the Commissioner of Information and abide by certain rules on how the data is used/accessed (GDPR). This means that it is unlikely that a wildlife type camera could be used as the data for such a device would be stored directly onto the camera's memory card, allowing the data to potentially be circulated unknowingly. Cllr Jeffery agreed to speak to the officers responsible at SDC and KCC to try and obtain more details as we must be certain that any information we obtain via CCTV can be legally used, otherwise there is little point in having it.

10. Footpath SR18

The public safety issue regarding the exit from footpath SR18 onto the A225 as well as the damage caused by Ground Control and the removal of the kissing gates at the vineyard was discussed.

Cllr Powell reported that despite being passed back and forth to numerous people at KCC on the issue of footpath SR18, nothing has been done. Access from the footpath on to the A225 is very dangerous and despite KCC having been informed of the safety issues, they still haven't done anything, stating that the highway is not obstructed. Cllr Powell stated that he had also complained to Ground Control who had driven all over the field through which the footpath runs. Despite having said three months ago that they would sort this out, still nothing has been done. Cllr Powell agreed to follow this up.

Finally Cllr Powell reported that he had been in contact with the owner of the Mount Vineyard about removing the kissing gate in order to make the footpath more accessible. The owner appears reluctant to agree to this due to concerns of motorbikes being ridden through there. However, the lower path is actually a newly registered diversion and as such, new paths should be more accessible.

11. **Tree Surgery**

No update was given regarding tree surgery works as quotes are still being sought.

12. **Allotments**

The issue of a brazier being lit and left unattended by a non-plotholder was discussed. It was agreed to remove and dispose of the brazier at the next Working Party, scheduled for Saturday 6th April.

13. **Dementia Awareness**

Cllr Spence reported that she had met with the organisation Home Instead who provide care at home to people with dementia. The organisation are offering to come and run an event in the village to promote awareness of dementia and to explain what can be done to make villages more accessible to sufferers. It was agreed that this would be a good idea and perhaps they could come along and speak at the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Spence agreed to contact the group to see if they would be available on 24th April to do this.

14. **Cross**

Cllr Spence reported that the spray recently applied to the Cross has worked and the moss and weeds have now disappeared. Following water run-off over time, many stones have washed down to the bottom of the Cross and these need taking back up the hill and relaying over the surface. A Bromley fitness group have offered to do this as one of their training sessions and all members agreed that Cllr Spence should contact them to let them know that the Parish Council would be very happy for them to do so.

15. **Annual Parish Meeting**

It was broadly agreed that the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting should run as follows:

- Speech from Chairman
- Speech from District Councillors
- Speech from County Councillors
- Speech from Police
- Neighbourhood Plan item
- Speak from Village Hall Committee
- Dementia Awareness

Cllr Powell agreed to produce a handout covering the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan along with results of the 'Post-It' session held two years ago.

Cllr Jeffery agreed to contact KALC to find a speaker to come and talk about Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr Spence agreed to contact the Home Instead to see if they can come and talk about Demetia Awareness at the meeting.

The Clerk agreed to contact the Village Hall Committee to see if one of the members might be willing to come and say a few words at the meeting.

A motion was passed to extend the meeting past 10.00pm

16. **Correspondence/Information**

- a) A request for financial assistance in respect of a new learning space has been received from Shoreham Village School.
It was agreed to defer making a decision on whether to award a grant to the school until they have received the money from the Duck Race.
- b) The March edition of 'The Clerk Magazine' has been received.
- c) Around a dozen letters of support have been received in respect of the proposed playground upgrade.

17. **Financial Matters**

- a) Accounts/Payments: The payments as per schedule were authorised. However, the Clerk pointed out a discrepancy between the invoice amount for Landscape Services (last year's grass cutting contractors) versus the actual amount paid. This is because the number of cuts charged for does not equal the actual amount of cuts undertaken. The Clerk has therefore issued a payment based on the number of cuts actually carried out (£96 as opposed to £1135.68).

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

- a) Planning: Wednesday 17th April 2019, Shoreham Village Hall (if required)
- b) Annual Parish Meeting : Wednesday 24th April 2019, Shoreham Village Hall (8.00pm)
- c) Planning/Annual Council Meeting : Wednesday 8th May 2019, Shoreham Village Hall

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Sarah Moon, Clerk to Shoreham Parish Council