

**SHOREHAM  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

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**DRAFT AMENITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at Shoreham Village Hall from 7.30pm

Present: Cllr L Spence (in the Chair)  
Cllrs R Blamey, J Histed, M S Parkes, N Powell and co-opted member J Tooley,

Also Present: 2 Members of the public

Clerk: Sarah Moon

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Brian Jeffery.
2. Cllr Powell was co-opted on to the Amenities Committee to ensure a quorum.
3. The minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Services Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 were signed by the Chairman as an accurate record subject to the projected total on tennis courts being changed.
4. No disclosures of interest were received from members in respect of items of business included on the agenda for the meeting.
5. The actions raised at the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 were reviewed.
6. Allotments
  - a) An allotment inspection was arranged for Thursday 12th July following the annual competition, which is due to take place earlier that day.
  - b) The Clerk reported that she had been in touch with two fencing contractors and had arranged to meet them later this week. Quotes will be requested for replacing the fence along the High Street side of the allotments and replacing the gate at the main entrance with a more secure variety.
7. Car Park

The unsatisfactory condition of the car park was discussed. Despite pleas in the Gazette and on Facebook, people are still continuing to deposit large amount of domestic and commercial waste (several empty cooking oil drums) next to the bin between the bottle banks. An email has also been received from the village school informing the Parish Council that human excrement has been found in the same location.

CCTV is still required here and Cllr Spence agreed to follow up with Matt Dickens of Sevenoaks District Council to find out how we could go about installing some cameras. It was also decided to approach the residents who live adjacent to the car park to see whether they might allow us to install cameras on their properties. In the meantime, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk post on Facebook asking people to take photographs of any antisocial behaviour or fly tipping that they may witness. The post should also mention the

'Country Eye' app, which allows people to log on line any fly tipping that they see. The app will then automatically notify the appropriate authorities of the problem. Finally it was RESOLVED to ask the Community Payback Scheme to tackle the brambles in the car park and to thin out but not yet trim the hedges.

8. Recreation Ground

a) Tennis Shelter

The Clerk reported that she had received a quote from the supplier of the Oberon material. This was in the region of £5000. Even without labour the material would cost around £2500 and it was therefore RESOLVED that this material would be too costly. Instead, it was decided to go back to the original contractors, asking for revised costs for installing corrugated metal sheeting.

b) Maintenance

The Amenities budget for 2018/2019 was reviewed with the aim of ascertaining whether there are sufficient funds to purchase new tools. New tools would enable the Community Payback Scheme and other volunteers to assist with the on-going maintenance of the Recreation Ground. It was RESOLVED that the sum of £1500 be recommended to full council to pay for the following:

- 3 loppers
- 3 shears
- 3 secateurs
- 5 small forks
- 2 large forks
- 2 spades
- 2 rakes
- Pruning saw
- Leaf blower
- Sprayer
- Weed killer
- Hoes
- Trugs
- Leaf mits
- Query hose attachments

It was agreed that the Clerk look at World of Wolf and, where possible, purchase multi-headed tools.

c) Grass

The quality of the grass cutting in the Recreation Ground does not meet the expectations of the Parish Council. The tractor only mows the parts it can reach and the contractors do not finish off by strimming the edges. The areas near the barrier, the tennis court and alongside the rear gardens of the High Street are particularly overgrown. It was RESOLVED to ask the contractor who looks after the smaller areas if he could strim these edges as soon as the tractor has mown the field and to do this once again in August. This work should be charged at an hourly rate up to a maximum of £120. The grass needs to be raked up and disposed of on the Community Payback bonfire. Cllr Powell confirmed that he has a ride-on mower which he would be happy to donate to the Parish Council. The only problem would be the availability of storage space.

8. War Memorial and Cross

a) War Memorial Plaque

The Clerk confirmed that the name of George Rouse has now been added to the war memorial. The plaque has been engraved and is waiting to be fixed to the stone.

b) View to the Cross from the War Memorial

An update on view to the Cross from the war memorial was given and photographs depicting the trees obscuring the view shown. The trees now need to be identified from the garden in which they are situated and a decision taken as to which ones need to be cut back/down.

c) Centenary Wood

An application to register the Centenary Wood is in progress but a transfer document dating from 2014 in which Sevenoaks District Council agreed that a 20 foot strip of land did in fact belong to the Parish Council needs to be located. The Clerk has made an appointment to look at all the Parish Council deeds held with the solicitor, Knockett and Foster, and if this document is not present there, Sevenoaks District Council will be contacted as they should also hold a record. In the meantime, Cllrs Spence and Parkes agreed that they would inspect the woodland to ascertain any works necessary to be made to the trees and whether this should be done by Community Payback or a professional contractor.

d) Lectern at the Cross

The artwork for the lectern at the Cross is with the volunteer graphic designers and this should be ready shortly.

9. Parish Store

In order to maximise the space required to store parish items, the options around the removal of the toilets, cubicles and plumbing was discussed. The Clerk relayed an email from Cllr Jeffery in which several residents had spoken to him about their disappointment at the decision to close these toilets a few years ago. This was corroborated by a member of the public who stated that residents are now worried that the remaining toilet will be closed as is the case in neighbouring villages. Members confirmed that there is no plan at all to close the remaining toilet as this is an important facility in the village however, the high running costs, the need for storage space and the fact that one toilet would appear to be sufficient lead the Parish Council to take the decision to close the other two.

Items belonging to the Fete Committee and the Shoreham Society can now be moved into the golf club where a safe and secure storage space has been made available. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk ask a local resident, who is a plumber and who has a van, whether he would be able to assist with the removal of these items and also whether he could give a quote for the capping of the toilets. Once all items not belonging to the council have been removed, then the space can be properly measured and a decision taken on the exact work required.

10. Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee had enquired as to whether the Parish Council would consider paying for the hedge to be cut. As the Parish Council had already agreed to pay for mowing and strimming and will also be considering a grant application made on behalf of the Village Hall next month, it was RESOLVED that they would not pay for this. Historically this work has always been undertaken by volunteers and the Village Hall Committee should once again try and find local people who are willing to do this free of charge.

Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Sarah Moon, Parish Clerk