

## **SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 September 2016 in Shorne Village Hall**

**PRESENT**

Mr R Theobald (Chairman)  
Mr J Bugg  
Mr R Cooper  
Mr R Lane  
Mr M Redfern  
Mr C Rea  
Mrs S Lindley  
Miss P Clifton

**ALSO IN  
ATTENDANCE**

Mr RW Edwards, The Ridgeway  
Mrs PA Edwards, The Ridgeway

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from  
Cllr B Sweetland

**29     Swearing-In of New Co-Opted Members**

Mr C Rea was sworn-in, in the presence of the Clerk.

**30     Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7 July 2016**

- (a) The minutes were AGREED and signed as a true record, with the exception of Minute 22(c), which should read: “The See Ho planning application for the extension and the refurbishment of toilets. Minute 22(d) The Chalk Crematorium had applied to change the design of the roof line and the flue outlet.” Also Minute 23(f), last line should read: “...at Smith Cottage”.

**31     Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- (a) Apex Site – Planning Application for Waste Transfers Modification (22b)

Mr Theobald reported that he attended the KCC Planning Meeting on 14 September 2016 and spoke in support of the Parish Council’s objection to the proposed development by RS Skips at Hoo Junction. Les Hills, the Borough Councillor for Chalk and John Grey from Higham Parish Council were also in attendance and spoke

in objection to the application. Members at KCC agreed to hold a site meeting on Wednesday, 19 October 2016.

(b) Planning Applications Not Being sent to Parish Councils in Future (22b)

The Parish Council has signed and sent off the letter to David Hughes, CEO at GBC.

(c) 23 The Street - Wall Being Knocked Down & Rebuilt (28a)

Mr Theobald reported that he had contacted the Mrs Saxton at 23 The Street regarding the wall which has been rebuilt. The problem has been resolved.

**32 Crabbles Bottom (14)**

Mr Lane reported that the Footpaths Committee approved the payment of £350 for a written report from Kent Wildlife Trust on the future management of Crabbles Bottom. This was agreed by Council. Mr Redfern will contact Neil Coombs to instruct him to go ahead.

**33 Shorne Mead Level Crossing (15)**

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had now received a copy of the Definitive Map Modification Order 2015. Several letters and e-mails have been received from walkers thanking the Parish Council on the successful result of the re-opening of Shornemead Crossing. The Parish Council is to thank Leanne Hornby for her contribution and assistance with this matter.

**34 Lower Thames Crossing (16)**

Mr Theobald, Mr Bugg, Mr Lane and Mrs Lindley had a meeting with the barrister. Mr Theobald will contact him to see if he has any further comments. Mr Lane reported that the on-line petition against the proposals for the Lower Thames Crossing has now over 10,000 signatures which will trigger a government response.

**35 Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy (17)**

Mr Theobald reported that a meeting was held on Thursday, 6 September 2016 and that any proposals in relation to the Local Plan will now not be published until early in 2017.

**36 Park Pale (18)**

Mr Lane reported that there has been some activity with the police being called out. Miss Clifton reported that there was some noise the previous night. Mr Theobald reported that there was also some motorbike activity by Muggins Lane on the previous Sunday with three motorbikes riding over the field where the corn had been cut.

**37     Neighbourhood/Parish Plan (19)**

Nothing further to report on this. The Working Group is to be reviewed.

**38     Boundary Review**

Mr Theobald reported that there were proposed changes to the parliamentary constituency boundaries. Higham would be moved from Gravesend into Medway and Ash, New Ash Green, Hartley and Hodsoil Street would be added to Gravesend. It was agreed that the Parish Council would object to the loss of Higham from the Gravesend constituency.

**39     Website (20)**

Mr Lane reported that the Parish Council is staying with EIS.

**39     Report by County Cllr B Sweetland**

No report.

**40     Planning & Highways Committee**

Mrs Lindley reported that:-

- (b) Three new planning applications have been received.
- (c) A letter has been received from Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member, KCC re: Pot-holes. It was reported that some patch repairs have been carried out in The Street and in Pear Tree Lane. The drain in Tanyard Hill has been cleared. Mr Redfern reported that the leak from the mains in Pear Tree Lane has been attended to by Southern Water. Queens Farm Road has been dressed. The speed limit extensions in Pear Tree Lane and Forge Lane had been discussed at the Joint Transportation Board's meeting and this had been referred back to Kent County Council. A financial contribution from the Parish Council may assist in bringing the changes to fruition. Mr Theobald also reported that the street lights have been restored on the A226.

**41     Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee**

(a) Litter Patrol

Mr Lane reported that a total of 22 local volunteers participated in the Litter Patrol on Saturday 17 September, 2016 collecting over 25 bags of litter from the main streets in Shorne, as well as a significant quantity of fly tipped materials from Shorne Ifield Road.

(b) Tree Surveys

At the Footpaths meeting on 8 September 2016 it was agreed to appoint Invicta Arboriculture to carry out tree surveys of the three zone 1 areas in Shorne. Starting at Shorne Common Rough, they will inspect one zone per year, so that each zone is inspected at three-yearly intervals. Mr Lane has contacted David Sephton of Invicta Arboriculture to request a start date.

(c) Shorne Crossroads Bus Shelter

Following the Footpaths meeting, Mr Lane contacted Kevin Law to see whether he could offer any reduction to the (£250) price he has given for clearing the ivy from the bus shelter, but Mr Lane is still awaiting a response. If there is no reduction, Mr Lane proposes to instruct him to proceed at the quoted price, unless volunteers can be found to do the work.

(d) Shorne Common Rough

Mr Lane has obtained a quotation from GW Contractors to install timber butts to replace the missing ones at various locations around the perimeter at a cost of £70 plus VAT per post. On inspection, it appears that five are required to be replaced. Mr Lane requested approval to instruct GW Contractors to proceed. This was agreed by Council.

## 42 Meetings of Outside Bodies

(a) Shorne United Charities

A letter has been received from Mrs P Grace advising that owing to family pressures, she has decided, with regret, to resign as the Parish Council's nominated Trustee on the Shorne United Charities. Miss P Clifton has volunteered to fill the vacancy, which was agreed by Council. The Clerk will advise the Charity's Clerk, Mrs Linda Moffat, accordingly. The Clerk will also send a letter to Pauline Grace, thanking her for the six years she served as Trustee on the Charity.

(b) Neighbourhood Forum/Village Hall Committee Meetings

Mr Lane reported that he noticed that the next meeting dates of the Neighbourhood Forum and Shorne Village Hall Committee are held on the same day. It will be necessary to elect someone else to represent the Parish Council at one of these organisations if the dates clashed. It was agreed that when this occurs, Mrs Lindley will stand-in on the Neighbourhood Forum meetings.

### 43 Finance

- (a) The Clerk reported that the Annual Audit has now been completed satisfactorily. The Annual Return document had been returned by the auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP on 19 August 2016. Copies of the Document have been displayed for 14 days.

(b) Public Works Loans    11th Repayment on Loan - 24 September 2016		
Board (PWLb)	(Paid by Direct Debit)	£1623. 48
(c) Talk Talk	Account (Aug'16)	£ 21. 28
	(Paid by DD)	<u>£ 4. 25</u>
	VAT	£ 25. 53
		=====
(d) Talk Talk	Account (Sept'16)	£ 22. 48
	(Paid by DD)	<u>£ 4. 49</u>
	VAT	£ 26. 97
		=====
(e) Commercial Services	Apply Selective Herbicide to	
	Trading Ltd	£ 585. 00
	(Paid from Nationwide	<u>£ 117. 00</u>
Crabbles Bottom A/C)	VAT	£ 702. 00
		=====
(f) H & P Conservation-	First cut of annual vegetation and additional	
	Works Ltd	£ 195. 00
	(Paid from Nationwide	<u>£ 39. 00</u>
Crabbles Bottom A/C)	VAT	£ 234. 00
		=====
(g) Commercial Services	Initial cut of large meadow area and initial	
	Trading Ltd	£1200. 00
	(Paid from Nationwide	<u>£ 240. 00</u>
Crabbles Bottom A/C)	Crabbles Bottom	£1440. 00
	VAT	=====
(h) H & P Conservation-	Second cut of annual vegetation and additional	
	Works Ltd	£ 195. 00
	(Paid from Nationwide	<u>£ 39. 00</u>
Crabbles Bottom A/C)	VAT	£ 234. 00
		=====

(i) The following accounts were passed for payment and cheques issued.

PKF Littlejohn	Audit Fee	£230. 00
	VAT	<u>£ 46. 00</u>
		£276. 00
		=====
Viking Direct	Stationery	£ 43. 12
	VAT	<u>£ 8. 62</u>
		£ 51. 74
		=====
Mrs L Hornby	Letters, postage in connection with the re-opening of Shornemead Crossing	£ 43. 13
Northfleet Press	1100+ printing of Parish Report 2016	£1150. 00
Mrs T Martin	Postage & Stationery	£ 41. 74
Shorne P C	VAT Paid back to Crabbles Bottom Account on H & P Conservation Works Invoice	£ 39. 00
Mrs T Martin	Salary - September' 2016	£ 816. 66
	Less Tax	<u>£ - 92. 33</u>
		£ 724. 33
		=====
Inland Revenue	Tax deducted from Clerk's Salary	£ 92. 33
	PC's Contributions for NI	<u>£ 19. 41</u>
		£111. 74
		=====
Mrs T Martin	Salary - October' 2016	£ 816. 66
	Less Tax	<u>£ - 92. 33</u>
		£ 724. 33
		=====
Inland Revenue	Tax deducted from Clerk's Salary	£ 92. 33
	PC's Contributions for NI	<u>£ 19. 41</u>
		£111. 74
		=====

#### **44      Correspondence**

- (a) From Julie Aspinall, re: Installation of a footway at The Ridgeway. Referred to the Planning & Highways Committee.

#### **45     Matters Raised by Members**

- (a) Mrs Lindley reported on a letter received on Kent Waste Strategy. She will respond to this.
- (b) Miss Clifton reported that at the KALC meeting the matter of what training would be required as a Parish Councillor was raised. Shorne Parish Council does send all new Parish Councillors on a Parish Councillors' Conference as organised by the KALC if the location is convenient.
- (c) Miss Clifton asked if anything has been done about the request for a bench on the Scammells by someone in memory of her mother. Mr Lane reported that he spoke to the lady and put her in touch with David South, the landowner.

#### **46     Matters Raised by Parishioners**

Mr and Mrs Edwards, at 'Creca', Shorne Ridgeway enquired regarding the reference in the Council's Annual Report to consideration being given to extending the footway on The Ridgeway, west from Pump Cottage. Mr and Mrs Edwards wished to register their strong objection to any such proposal.

It was explained that the Council had successfully extended the footway in Forge Lane. This had been possible because the land had been given free. The Parish Council had become aware that the County Council, as the highway authority, owned land beside the road on the south side of The Ridgeway and were investigating if this would enable the footway to be extended.

The Ridgeway had houses on both sides of the road from Chestnut Green to Pondfield Lane and there was no footway for pedestrians. The Council often received complaints about the traffic on the Ridgeway and the road was generally considered dangerous. The Council were looking at ways to improve safety.

The Council had recently received more details regarding the land owned by Kent County Council and it appeared unlikely that this was insufficient to provide room for a footway. This information had not yet been fully reported to members.

If there is any question of the footway proposal being pursued, which is extremely unlikely, nothing would be done without consulting with local residents.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm.