

SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting held on
3 April 2014 in Shorne Village Hall**

PRESENT

Mr M Brett (Chairman)
Mr B Wilkinson
Mr R Theobald
Mr J Bugg
Mr D Hart
Mr R Dinnis
Mr R Cooper
Mrs H Shove

**ALSO IN
ATTENDANCE**

County Cllr B Sweetland
Miss S O Newton, 14 The Street
Mr & Mrs S Chevis, 6 Homewood Cottages
Miss P Clifton, 1 Hanbury Cottages, The Ridgeway
Mr & Mrs C Powers, "Sandpit Cotts", 46 The Ridgeway

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders, in order to allow parishioners to speak.

102 Matters Raised by Parishioners

Mr & Mrs Chevis reported that-

- (a) The red telephone kiosk, on Chestnut Green, which is listed, is in a bad state of repair. This matter has also been reported by another parishioner. The matter will be reported to BT who is the owner.

Subsequent to the meeting, the Clerk managed to speak to BT on Monday, 14 April 2014 and the location of the telephone kiosk is listed as The Ridgeway/Tanyard Hill by them. Refurbishment of their payphone kiosks are carried out between March and October and this has been logged for the work to be carried out. Cleaning will be carried out within the next three days.

- (b) The direction sign showing Shorne/Cobham at Chestnut Green has rotated. The bracket for Cobham is rusty and pointing in the direction of Shorne. This will be reported to Kent Highways. **Ref: 17440581.**
- (c) They were unaware that electric fencing was allowed adjacent to Footpath 316 which goes from Woodlands Lane to the Scammels. Mr Wilkinson reported that he had spoken to the PROW Officer about this and he has said that electric fencing is acceptable.
- (d) There is fly tipping in Shorne Ifield Road, about 300 yards from the Thong Lane end. This will be reported to Stuart Alford for arrangements to be made to have the rubbish removed. They were also advised by the Chairman to report any fly tipping themselves to Stuart Alford.

Miss Newton reported on the following:-

- (e) The shed, adjacent to her property, is being used by the Pre School. She is very concerned about her privacy. If she goes into her kitchen, she can be seen. The shed was used again this week and it is becoming quite a problem for her. It was agreed to write to the Pre Group leader, asking for some consideration to be given to Miss Newton's privacy.
- (f) She tried to pay for her waste disposal to the Borough Council online but her credit card was rejected. In the end she paid for this over the telephone to the Borough Council.
- (g) Alice Feather, at St Katherines, aged 98, died about a fortnight ago. The cremation will be held place on 9 April 2014 at Medway Crematorium.

The meeting then returned to the Agenda.

103 Report by County Cllr B Sweetland

Cllr Sweetland reported on:-

- (a) The interactive Sign at The Ridgeway which has been installed and working. The total costs for this will be £7,000.00 half of which will be paid from his grant fund and the Parish Council to pay £3,500.00. He will also check on the costs for the footway in Forge Lane, part of which was to be paid by Cllr Mike Snelling's grant fund and let the Parish Council know the amount.
- (b) The Neighbourhood Forum held at Istead Rise which dealt with Speed Watch and parking near schools. KCC Wardens and the Police were also in attendance. Parishioners can be trained to use the speed cameras. This has started in Cobham. Cllr Sweetland was advised that Shorne is in the process of gathering volunteers to start up a training

programme as well. On the problems of speeding traffic, he reported that there are 20mph signs every few yards in Cobham. He was also approached by a resident at the last Forum meeting, asking if 'unsuitable for HGVs' signs could be installed at the top of Woodlands Lane. If the Parish Council agrees, he will arrange this from his MH Fund. It was agreed by the Parish Council to go ahead with this.

- (c) There are GBC and KCC Community Grants. GBC will match grants which are around £3,000.00 per parish. These are for projects to be applied for by local organisations and not the Parish Council.
- (d) There were grants given in the rural areas for The Meadow Rooms in Cobham, fencing, the Village Shop in Cobham, St Barnabas Church, 1st Meopham Scout Group and SAFRA in Gravesham which does social work with ex-servicemen.
- (e) New Budget Year, which is just over £2 billion, half of which is going to schools. They are looking at services provided and add to the small companies which are already in existence to cover Adult Education, Communal & Trading Services, Kent Legal, Community Gateway, Kent Connect Employment Services eg KCC Supplies and Supply of Energy. The profits from all these companies will all go back to KCC. There are two non-board members on the commercial side, private and public sectors on the Board of Directors. He chairs the Shareholder Board. An ex CEO of Travel-edge is also on it.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Sweetland for his report.

104 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 February 2014

The minutes were AGREED and signed as a true record.

105 Proposed Day Nursery at the Applestore at Warren Farm

Nothing further has been heard about this. The matter has not been well received by Shorne School. The Head at Shorne School has written to KCC's Legal Dept about this. The Parish Council will review writing to Paul Steed following sight of the latest letter trying to gauge interest received by a parishioner about three weeks ago.

106 Footway at Top of Forge Lane (86)

The remedial works on the fencing have been carried out. Following the meeting, the Parish Council has subsequently heard from Cllr Sweetland. Kirstie Williams, Member of the Highway Fund Team has checked and their records show that the final cost of the footway scheme was £24,757.00 and the late Cllr Mike Snelling contributed £20,000.00 towards the scheme. The Parish Council will pay the rest of the cost of £4757.00.

107 Crabbles Bottom (87)

Mrs Shove reported that she had visited the site and that chippings will be required over a stretch of about 830m to a depth of 6 inches on the surface of the bridlepath. Mr Wilkinson reported that he had contacted the Country Park but was advised that their chippings were not suitable for this purpose.

Mr Dinnis had been asked to take the lead on the Schedule of Works for Crabbles Bottom. He reported that he had arranged for two contractors to walk the site with him. He is looking at 4 to 6 weeks for the chippings on the surface of the bridlepath. The on-going maintenance, over ten years up to 2017, is to bring the state of Crabbles Bottom up to scratch with the clearance of trees, keeping the two footpaths clear etc. Mr Brett stated that he wanted to be able to advertise Crabbles Bottom to parishioners to be used by them.

Mrs Shove suggested having a litter bin on the bridleway and a CCTV camera at the bottom end of Crutches Lane, before the bridge. Mr Brett thought a willow screen more appropriate, but as pointed out by Mrs Shove, it is on the bridlepath and cyclo-path.

Mr Brett suggested having a "Litter-picking Day" in the parish. Mrs Powers stated that she thought the Scouts had made a good job with clearing all the litter on Shorne Common Rough. Mr Dinnis reported that Meopham Parish Council has on their website what they are doing on a region basis and that Shorne could promote this on specific areas like Lower Shorne, The Ridgeway and the Recreation Ground. The Parish Council is to look into purchasing the equipment for this.

108 Shornemead Crossing (88)

Nothing further to report. Cllr Sweetland will check on the current position.

109 Lower Thames Crossing (89)

No further information on this. Mr Dinnis reported that there has been huge activity in Essex on this.

110 Gravesham Local Development Framework (Local Plan) (90)

Mr Theobald reported that the Inquiry is about to be reopened on the 15 April 2014. A decision is expected from the Inspector in about 4 to 6 weeks.

111 Wall at Village Hall, Adjacent to 14 The Street (91)

Mr Bugg reported that he wanted to carry out further exploratory work on the other side of the garage.

112 Shorne Football Club - Lease (92)

Mr Theobald reported that the new lease for the football club is just about ready, which will be for fifteen years. In order for “**exclusion of security of tenure**”, with regard to automatic renewal of the lease, it is necessary to get the certificates signed by both parties in front of a Commissioner of Oaths. Mr Ron Pryor has been suggested. Mr Theobald will contact Mr Pryor to see if he could do this for the Parish Council. The Officers of the Football Club will be invited to attend a Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee meeting.

Mr Powers reported that in the last couple of weeks, the bad language on the football pitch has become worse. Mr Brett will contact the Football Club about this.

113 Vandalism in Parish (94)

The latest vandalism has been the tree being uprooted at the bottom of Tanyard Hill. Mr Wilkinson reported that he is looking to the Borough Council for CCTV cameras. It was reported that the residents in Tanyard Hill would like temporary CCTV cameras. It was suggested that they may be useful in Woodlands Lane as well.

Mr Theobald reported that the small blue 4 x 4 vehicle has been seen on camera but not the registration numbers. He suggested that some small oak posts could be installed at the end of Cob Drive.

114 Planning & Highways Committee

Mr Theobald reported on:-

(a) Interactive Sign at The Ridgeway (96a)

It was reported that the interactive sign was up and working.

(b) Post Office Green/Hayes Terrace - Damaged Railings

It was reported that the bollards have been installed. Mr Theobald is to check on this.

(c) Extension of the Footway at The Ridgeway

Now that the interactive sign has been installed and operational, attention can be paid to the extension of the footway at The Ridgeway. Mr Theobald will report on this further at the next Planning & Highways Committee meeting.

(d) Potholes

Mr Theobald reported that the large pothole in Forge Lane had been filled in, though The Street is still bad.

115 Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee

Nothing to report.

116 Meetings of Outside Bodies**(a) Gravesham Rural Neighbourhood Forum**

Mr Hart attended the meeting held on 20 March 2014. This has already been reported by Cllr Sweetland under Minute 103.

(b) Parish Council Chairmen's Meeting

Mr Brett attended the meeting held on 26 March 2014. He reported that the Lower Thames Crossing, Local Development Framework and the Local Plan were discussed. He reported that he wrote to the MP about Essex's deal with Gravesham Borough Council, for the latter to take people onto their housing waiting list. It was reported that there was negative migration, but as was pointed out, this may have been based on the last Census in 2011.

116 Finance

(a)	Talk Talk	Account (April'14)	£ 40.95
	(Paid by DD)	VAT	<u>£ 8.19</u>
			£ 49.14
			=====

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

Mrs T Martin	Norton Anti-Virus	£ 33.32
	VAT	<u>£ 6.67</u>
		£ 39.99
		=====

KALC	Subscription	£724.98
	VAT	<u>£145.00</u>
		£869.98
		=====

Viking Direct	Cartridge for Printer	£ 53.49
	VAT	<u>£ 10.70</u>
		£ 64.19
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Open Spaces Society	Subscription	£ 45.00
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Mrs T Martin	Postage & Stationery	£ 50. 83
Shorne Village Hall	Hire of Hall & Room - Jan/Feb/March 2014	£ 45. 00
Shorne Scouts	Donation	£ 50. 00
Mrs T Martin	Salary - April' 2014	£783. 38
	Less Tax	<u>- 88. 68</u>
		£694. 70
		=====
Inland Revenue	Tax deducted from Clerk's Salary	£ 88. 68
	PC's Contributions for NI	<u>£ 16. 61</u>
		£105. 29
		=====

118 Correspondence

- (a) From GBC re: Notice of Gravesham Community Awards.
- (b) From CPRE, enclosing literature.
- (c) From NHS England re: Controlled locally determination - Higham, Chalk & Shorne area. To be circulated to all members.
- (d) From KALC re: Subscriptions, advising that it will be the same as 2013/2014 based on the equivalent Band D properties in 2013/2014.

119 Matters Raised by Members

- (a) Mrs Shove reported that Pat Oakshott has confirmed that the Bus Shelter on the A226, adjacent to Pear Tree Lane which is in a bad state, is Shorne Parish Council's responsibility.
- (b) Mr Dinnis reported that nothing has been publicised on the website since last July and that this should be kept up to date. Mr Hart reported that he had been without a computer for quite a while.
- (c) Mr Theobald reported that each member of the Borough Council had access to a £1500 grant; the proviso being that this cannot be given to the Parish Council and only to a local organisation. He has arranged for a grant for the Village Hall Management Committee for decorating and the other half for the Church roof.
- (d) Mr Brett reported that the Clerk had been sent several e-mails by a parishioner at The Ridgeway. The parishioner requested information regarding her property and copies of

the Minutes of the Council and Planning & Highways Committee for the past ten years. Mr Brett had replied and a response is awaited.

- (e) Mr Bugg reported that he had been approached by the residents who live next door to 31 The Street regarding the problems there. The property has been sold and it will be up to the adjoining residents to deal with the problems.
- (f) Mr Cooper raised the matter of a donation to Shorne Scouts for clearing all the rubbish at Shorne Common Rough. £50 was proposed, which was agreed unanimously.
- (g) Mr Wilkinson reported that there were two lots of volunteers for the Speed Watch training, which he has passed to PCSO Clare Croucher. He will let the Clerk have a copy of the list.
- (h) Mr Wilkinson suggested that the Parish Council should have dog bins at both ends at Crabbles Bottom or near the property known as “Park Farm House”. He is talking to Stuart Alford about this. Mrs Shove also reported that there was quite a lot of dog mess.
- (i) Mr Wilkinson reported that Mrs Hornby has asked if the tree which was mowed down by vandals in Tanyard Hill can be replaced and paid for by the Parish Council. This was agreed by members.

120 Matters Raised by Parishioners

- (a) Miss Clifton raised the matter of the Borough Council’s new recycling scheme for collections of wheelie bins and food caddies. She drew attention to the elderly who will have difficulty bringing the wheelie bins to the front of their properties on collection days. It was agreed to contact Stuart Alford about the areas where there will be problems with accessibility in a conservation area. Areas identified were The Ridgeway and Tanyard Hill (southern end), where there are terraced houses and Hanbury Cottages beside Chestnut Green and the cottages in The Street.
- (b) Miss Clifton reported that there is a commercial vehicle parked on the recreation ground which is supposed to only be for cars owned by parishioners at The Ridgeway.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.45pm.