

**SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Footpaths Properties & Greens Committee  
Meeting held on 3 May 2018 in Shorne Village Hall**

**PRESENT**

Mr R Lane (Chairman)  
Mr R Cooper  
Mr R Theobald  
Mr C Rea  
Mr R Hardy  
Mrs S Lindley  
Miss P Clifton  
Mrs L McCluskey

**74 Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 March 2018**

The minutes were AGREED as a true record.

**75 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**76 CCTV Report (65)**

The CCTV and ANPR cameras were used to identify a delivery van which reversed into the Village Hall on 22 February 2018, damaging the window frame. Police have been informed. The CCTV cameras also captured images of 2 youths on a moped who allegedly attacked a parishioner with a brick in Tanyard Hill on 23 March, striking him on the head. Unfortunately the moped was displaying no registration plate.

The CCTV policy and procedures have been reviewed and updated to reflect the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

**77 Update on Maintenance at Crabbles Bottom (67)**

(a) Repairs to Bridleway Fence

Mr Lane has instructed AGS Hoarding & Fencing Ltd to carry out the repairs to the decayed sections of fence alongside the bridleway, and the work is expected to take place towards the end of w/c 7 May.

(b) Signage

At the previous meeting, Mrs Lindley suggested that it might be necessary to have disclaimer signs concerning public liability for users, and asked Miss Clifton to clarify the issue at GROWC. Mr Lane said that if it was necessary for Crabbles Bottom, it may apply to other Parish Council land. Miss Clifton reported that it would not make any difference to our liability whether there was a sign or not. Mr Theobald said that provided the Parish Council

maintained the area and responded to any reports of hazards, there would be a defence against any claims. Miss Clifton felt that in any event, we should consider signage so that members of the public were aware of the amenity.

(c) Meadow Maintenance

The grass on the orchard meadow area has grown significantly, and Mr Lane has instructed Tom Gozzett to proceed with the first cut of the season.

**78 Maintenance of Play Equipment at Shorne Common (68)**

Mr Lane has requested NPC Tree Surgery to provide some suitable wood chippings, and requested Mr Vilday of All Seasons Garden & Landscaping to proceed with the annual weed clearance, cleaning of the play equipment, and the spreading of bark or chippings as soon as possible.

**79 Litter Patrols (69)**

A small group of residents carried out an unofficial litter pick on the A2 slip roads at Brewers Road on 8 April 2018, clearing over 25 bags of litter.

Mrs McCluskey organised a litter pick and fly-tip clearance operation in Shorne West and Claylane Woods over the weekend of 28/29 April 2018, clearing 41 bags of litter and various items of fly tipped rubbish. She was thanked for organising this and for the sterling job carried out.

On both occasions, Gravesham BC collected the litter for disposal.

The next Shorne litter pick is provisionally arranged for 22 September 2018.

**80 Court Wood - To receive any update on Pathways (70)**

Mr Theobald had previously reported on a planning application for the retention of a shed and fencing in Court Wood, but that an additional piece of land has been purchased and the fencing extended across one of the tracks since the previous application. The Parish Council had sent in representations to the planning application, and Mr Theobald undertook to discuss the matter with the case officer.

Mrs Lindley has made further enquiries to the Land Registry to see if she can establish ownership details without resorting to the more expensive option to obtain data about overall land ownership in Court Wood.

Now that the weather has improved, Mr Theobald will arrange a date to walk the tracks, and will advise accordingly.

**81 To receive any update on Swillers Lane Pathway Extension (71)**

Mr Theobald reported that he had now obtained the agent's details, but considered it advisable to await the outcome of the Court Wood investigations before progressing the matter.

**82 Supplementary Cutting of Greens & Verges (72)**

Mr Lane reported that Colin Lawrence has now carried out 3 of the 4 supplementary spring cuts to the greens and verges where bulbs are planted. Mr Theobald commented on the neat and tidy appearance of the verges.

**83 Damage to Verges at Forge Lane and Malthouse Lane**

The verges in these areas were damaged during the recent drainage work. KCC's contractors have reinstated the ground, but it is not clear whether the ground has been re-seeded. Mrs Lindley reported that grass now appears to be growing. It was agreed to monitor the situation to see if any further action is needed.

**84 Staggered Gate to NS167 at The Scammels, Mill Hill Lane**

Mr Lane reported that David South has advised that the staggered gate has been reinstated to provide increased clearance and easier passage.

**85 Damage to Signs in Shorne Common Rough**

Mr Lane reported that the original 'village green' sign in Shorne Common Rough has been knocked down and damaged, and the smaller sign installed last year is missing. In addition, the 'No Fly Tipping – CCTV in Operation' sign installed last year has been pushed over at an angle. Mr Lane is concerned that replacement signs may also suffer damage, leading to continuing expense. There was a discussion regarding the positioning of any new signs, so as not to compromise the location of any future "Please drive carefully through the village" signs we may have. Mr Lane agreed to look into the cost of replacement signs.

**86 Any Other Business**

- (a) Mr Lane understands that Southern Water will be clearing the long-standing fly tipping adjacent to Crutches Lane and carrying out work to make the area more secure. This may impact on the unofficial lay-by.
- (b) Emails have been received from various parishioners reporting that a resident in Burdett Avenue has erected a high close board fence across the end of Burdett Avenue, blocking off access to footpath NS156. Mrs Lindley reported that she has raised this with KCC Highways, and also with KCC's PROW department as it appears that the resident has also fenced off part of the land alongside NS156. John Pelham has spoken to the farmer's land agent and established that there has been no transfer of ownership of the land. Mr Pelham will also check the line of the footpath.
- (d) Miss Clifton reported that the caravan at Long Acre in Pear Tree Lane has gone.
- (e) Mrs Lindley has copied the Crabbles Bottom file onto a memory stick. This and the file were passed to Mr Lane.
- (f) Mrs Lindley reported that Highways England is carrying out wildlife surveys in Claylane Wood, Great Crabbles Wood, and other areas, although the purpose of the white boxes in these areas is not clear.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.