

**SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Footpaths Properties & Greens Committee  
Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022 in Shorne Village Hall**

**PRESENT**

Miss P Clifton (Chairman)  
Mr R Lane  
Mr R Theobald  
Mr J Bugg  
Mrs S Lindley  
Mr R Hardy

**Apologies**

Mrs L McCluskey (Vice Chair)  
Mrs L Williams  
Mr C Rea

**In attendance**

None in attendance

**95. Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022:** These minutes were agreed as a true record, these were Proposed by Mr Hardy seconded by Mrs Lindley, all agreed.

**96. Any Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered in the Agenda.**

No matters arising from the Minutes

**97. Chestnut Corner**

Mr Lawrence did the first cut of the season at the beginning of March, to the green as well as verges where there are daffodils planted.

**a. Notice Board**

Ms Clifton reported that the Ivy is continuing to grow. Mrs Poole reported that she has heard nothing from the householder next to where the noticeboard is. Ms Clifton asked for volunteers to cut back the Ivy, Mr Hardy and Mr Lane offered to help Ms Clifton.

**98. Shorne Common Rough**

Ms Clifton has noticed there is much less litter, a local resident has put a wheelie bin at the top of the slopes, which is being used, only 2 bags of rubbish collected on the litter pick from that area.

Mrs Lindley reported that the pathway which leads to Venesta driveway appears to have had type 1 put down on the Parish Council land. We are unsure of who has put this down, Mrs Poole will write to the owner of Venesta to advise them this is Parish Council land and, if it was them, permission would need to be sought from the Council beforehand, as this is not in keeping with the rural area.

**99. Recreation Ground**

Ms Clifton reported that the football matches are now being played each week, they have not given us a schedule, Mrs Poole will ask for a fixture listing.

**a. Rubbish**

Ms Clifton has been checking after matches and the litter has decreased recently, but there are still slight issues of sticky sock tape, Ms Clifton will go over there and speak to them, just to remind them to check after matches. Mrs Lindley asked about the fences around the field, Ms Clifton said it is on the wish list to proceed with this.

**100. Overgrown Hedge, Tanyard Hill**

A letter was sent to No 3 Park Cottages, and reported to KCC, and the hedge has been partially cut back. It was decided to keep an eye on this during the next few months when there will be more growth. If this causes a problem to the highway another letter will be sent.

Mr Lane has reported the apparently abandoned car to the PSCO, who has been unable to contact the owner. The PCSO has reported it to Gravesham Borough Council, although the Council will normally only take action if 3 parameters are met.

**101. Bus Shelter, Tanyard Hill**

Ms Clifton reported that Storm Eunice did some damage to Tanyard Hill bus shelter. The shelter pulled away from the concrete base and moved back approx. 1 foot. Mr Vilday has now got all materials to fix and secure this and the work should be completed by Thursday next week. Mr Vilday will apply some wood preservative to the shelter at no extra cost.

**102. Shorne Common**

Ms Clifton reported that the Car Park repairs were completed by Balfour Beatty, week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> March and they did an excellent job, Mr Lane will write to thank them as this was done for us free of charge. It was decided that a sign stating that Balfour Beatty had done the work FOC was not necessary.

- a. Ms Clifton gave the committee an update on the Adventure Trail. Creative Play has not replied to communication about a site visit. Trim Trail have given us a quote to supply and install 7 pieces of equipment for approx. £9.5k but have not offered a site visit. We have also contacted a local company called Play Spaces and are awaiting a site visit. They have given options of various packages for approx £6.5k. Ms Clifton will circulate pictures, descriptions and costs from the various companies. Ms Clifton confirmed that we are limited by the width of path as to equipment that can be used.
- b. Ms Clifton gave an update on Tree Work that NPC has carried out on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March. As requested, they have left some logs for us to use as a barrier for the Adventure Trail and also as wildlife habitat. Ms Clifton will contact NPC to ask them to cut back a bit more (about a metre) near the dog bin.

### **103. Update on Footpaths**

The concrete block at the entrance to NS163 from Crown Lane has been moved allowing access by motorbikes. This has been reported to John Pelham and he has been in contact with Mr Shove to see if a fence can be installed.

Reports were received of fallen trees in Crown Lane, near the Gravesend Road. Although Mr Lane reported this on 4<sup>th</sup> March to KCC Highways, the trees have still not been moved, so Ms Clifton will also report it to John Pelham.

Footpath NS156 opposite the See Ho – the kissing gate at the bottom of Digby's field has frequently been difficult to negotiate due to water running down from the field. This has now been rectified after KCC Footpaths arranged for a contractor to dig a gully and lay type 1 aggregate. Ms Clifton will report that the gate does not shut properly to Mr Pelham.

### **104. Bus Shelters, to look at quotes for works.**

Mr Bugg has given the drawings and specifications to a builder contact who will produce a budget figure. It is hoped that this will be in time to be reported to Full Council on 14<sup>th</sup> April. The contact has indicated that a fixed price will be difficult due to increases in materials prices.

### **105. Crabbles Bottom**

First cut of the Orchard, footpath and bridleway was done over the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> March.

On 16<sup>th</sup> April Ms Clifton is going to New Ash Green to meet Jerry Ash, who runs the Community Orchard, for advice on the ancient trees.

- a. **Entrance to The Den** – John Vilday has advised us to plant Pyracantha, as these are quite spikey bushes, instead of a fence. Ms Clifton will visit the site with Mr Vilday.
- b. **To approve expenditure for Crabbles Bottom Management Plan** – Ms Clifton has previously circulated the Management Plan to committee, and it was agreed that a Contract would be drawn up with Tom Gozzett. This gives Mr Gozzett the responsibility for cutting the orchard, footpath and bridleway when necessary. The timing for the cutting of the wild flower meadows will be specified in the contract.

It was agreed to pay Mr Gozzett in four instalments between April and October. Invoices from Mr Gozzett will be required.

Mr Theobald asked about dividends received from our investment money for Crabbles Bottom and how this compared to payments we make. Mrs Poole reported that in January we received £786.88 and she will report back at the next meeting how much we have received for the year.

- 106. Scout Hut** – A reply had been received from the Group Scout Leader regarding the subletting of the Scout Hut for commercial activities. A discussion took place, a number of views were expressed and licencing was seen as an option.  
Mr Theobald will draft a response to the Group Scout Leader to suggest a meeting with the Parish Council where all the views could be discussed and a satisfactory resolution found.

**Any other business:**

**107. Matters raised by Members**

Mrs Poole reported that the Jubilee Committee had another meeting today, and things are moving along nicely, they will present a budget for approval at next full council.

Ms Clifton reported that the stump of the dead tree has now been removed.

Mr Lane asked have we heard anything about the door on the Telephone Box on Post Office Green, Ms Clifton reported that it is now opening but doesn't close properly so will be reporting this again.

**108. Matters from other Committees being discussed for convenience**

None

**110. Matters raised by attending Parishioners**

None

**Date of next Footpaths, Properties and Greens Committee meeting.**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.13

Signed Ms Clifton:..... Dated:.....