

**SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 in Shorne Village Hall**

**PRESENT**

Mr R Lane (Chairman)  
Mr R Theobald (Vice Chair)  
Mr R Hardy  
Ms Clifton  
Mrs S Lindley  
Mr Bugg

**ABSENT / APOLOGIES**

Mrs L McCluskey  
Mrs L Williams  
Mr C Rea  
Mrs S Poole (Clerk)

**19. To receive any declarations of interest for any items on the agenda**

None received

**20. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

**21. Any items raised by Parishioners in attendance at Chairman's discretion**

None received

**22. Review of the Finance Report**

The finance report was circulated on 20<sup>th</sup> June. Larger items of expenditure included NPC Tree surgeons for work at Shorne Common and Shorne Recreation Ground, Tom Gozzett for cutting the grass at Crabbles Bottom and pruning the orchard, and Mr Lawrence for supplementary verge cutting. It is noted that the total expenditure for the Jubilee is £3,886.41 plus VAT. Mrs Poole will check this figure when she returns from holiday. **Post Meeting Note:** This includes Refunds from the Dinner and Dance

**a. Review of AGAR prior to audit by PKF Littlejohn**

Ms Clifton has raised some queries and will be reviewing this with Mrs Poole on her return next week. The revised AGAR will be circulated to Members.

**23. Interim report from the Planning & Highways Committee**

Mrs Lindley reported that there had been a high number of Planning Applications recently.

Galliford Try have submitted an application as to whether prior approval is required for the proposed telecommunication mast installation off Swillers Lane. Although the proposed location is within the LTC Order Limits for nitrogen deposition compensation land, National Highways were unaware of the application.

The latest Lower Thames Crossing Consultation ended on 20<sup>th</sup> June. Most of the refinements in the consultation affect the North of the river. Mr Lane thanked Mrs Lindley for all her hard work on the consultation submission.

National Highways have at last resurfaced and renewed the road markings on the A2 slip road where it meets Brewers Road.

There have been three RTA's reported at Shorne Crossroads in the past month. The matter has been raised previously with KCC. Although the signage at the crossroads may be adequate, traffic has increased, there are more vehicles making turns, and more risk taking. It will be brought up again at the next meeting with KCC Highways.

On 8<sup>th</sup> June, a motorcyclist was killed in Park Pale. Mr Lane had requested meetings with the Police and Simon Jones of KCC only two weeks previously due to the ongoing motorbike problems in Park Pale. Since the fatality, meetings have been arranged with Chief Inspector Will Lay and Simon Jones, to take place in July.

The proposed 20 mph scheme consultation is in progress and runs until 31<sup>st</sup> July. Initial responses are strongly in support of the proposals, although a number of respondents would like to see the 20 mph zone extended beyond the proposed boundaries.

#### **24. Interim report from the Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee**

Ms Clifton reported that Tom Gozzett had carried out the tree work in the orchard at Crabbles Bottom. It was noted that Mr Gozzett had used the felled branches to construct a barrier to block access to "The Den", the site often used for sexual activities.

Mr Theobald, Mrs Lindley and Ms Clifton had visited Shorne Common earlier to try and determine the boundary of the old School Garden with the Common. Mr Lane has circulated to a draft of a proposed memorandum of understanding (MoU) with John Chandler to avoid any issues arising out of the adventure trail in the future.

##### **a. Bus Shelters at Shorne Crossroads**

The consultation closes on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Responses received so far indicate support for carrying out improvements to the bus shelters, although not many people appear to use them. If the bus stops are not well used, we may need to consider less expensive options. We are still awaiting information from KCC regarding this year's grant scheme, and Mr Theobald is to arrange a meeting with KCC to demonstrate that the land is in fact owned by KCC.

##### **b. Use of Shorne Scouts premises for non-scouting purposes**

Following the internal meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June, Mr Lane has circulated a draft of a proposed letter and licensing arrangements for review by Members. Mr Theobald has made some amendments to this. Once this has been finalised, we should send this to Shorne Scouts and arrange a meeting with them to finalise the arrangements.

#### **25. Jubilee Events**

The beacon lighting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June drew a very good crowd and the bar did very well.

Unfortunately, the Ball on Friday evening had to be cancelled.

It was very windy weather on Saturday for the Street Party. Although there was a good turnout, the weather possibly had an effect on the trade stands which didn't do too well. It was difficult to judge numbers for catering, however unused food was sent to a charity for the homeless.

In spite of the weather being against us on Sunday, some hardy people arrived with blankets. The Fish & Chip van was very popular.

The Jubilee Mugs were a great success; these were given free to the children of Shorne School.

**26. To receive any report from Borough Councillor R Lane**

Progress with the Local Plan continues to be delayed. The Planning Committee approved an application for a 6/7 storey block of flats at the rear of the old Majestic Cinema, which includes the refurbishment of the frontage of the cinema in King Street and bringing it back into use as community workspaces. GBC has engaged consultants to develop an integrated walking and cycling plan for the Borough. Whilst this will focus on the urban area, there should be opportunities for the parish councils to have input. Since GBC established a dedicated enforcement team, they have issued numerous fixed penalty notices and prosecutions for fly tipping, including a recent £20,000 fine. As a result, instances of fly tipping in the Borough have decreased significantly. The rapidly increasing rate of inflation is having a severe impact on Council finances, and it is now facing a £3 million budget deficit over the next few years.

**27. To receive any report from County Councillor B Sweetland**

Nothing to report

**28. Correspondence requiring action**

We have received text correspondence from Mr Fish regarding the land adjacent to his property. It now appears that he is questioning our ownership of the land, and he claims to be in contact with the Darnley Estate and consulting his solicitor. We have responded to say that the land belongs to Shorne Parish Council and written separately to say that we shall be seeking reimbursement for the cost of replacing the Shorne Common sign and post.

**29. General matters raised by Members for discussion**

- a. Mr Lane reported that he has not ordered the "Thank you for driving carefully through Shorne" signs and the Spigot Mortar signs yet. He will add the Shorne Common sign and place orders during July.
- b. Members are reminded that the Civic and Patronal Service will take place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, followed by refreshments at the Church.

**30. Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will take place at 19.30 on 8<sup>th</sup> September in Shorne Village Hall Committee Room

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.28

Signed Mr Lane:.....

Dated:.....