

SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
12th January 2023 in Shorne Village Hall****PRESENT**

Mr R Lane (Chairman)
 Mr R Theobald
 Mr R Hardy
 Ms Clifton
 Mrs S Lindley
 Mrs L Williams
 Mr C Rea

APOLOGIES

Mr J Bugg

In attendance:

One attendee

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

None received.

59. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th November 2022

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

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

The Chairman noted that no notice has been received from any members of the public regarding any matters they wish to be included on the agenda, but the Chairman is prepared to give members of the public present the opportunity to raise any issues informally for consideration by the Council. No matters were raised.

61. Review of the Finance Report

The report on expenditure in December was circulated prior to the meeting, and was reviewed at the meeting.

Date	Item	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
		B/F	£22,407.94	£1,184.86	£23,592.80
05/12/2022	DD	Vodafone	£30.10	£6.01	£36.11
08/12/2022	DD	Nest	£100.20	£0.00	£100.20
20/12/2022	DD	Esliip Payroll	£19.00	£3.80	£22.80
23/12/2022	BACS	David Sephton	£395.00	£0.00	£395.00
23/12/2022	BACS	Mrs S Poole (Salary)	£937.24	£0.00	£937.24
23/12/2022	BACS	PKF Littlejohn	£300.00	£60.00	£360.00
23/12/2022	BACS	NPC Tree Surgery	£1,100.00	£220.00	£1,320.00
		Subtotal	£2,881.54	£289.81	£3,171.35
		C/F	£25,289.48	£1,474.67	£26,764.15

Date	Item	Description	Amount	VAT	Total
		B/F	£25,289.48	£1,474.67	£26,764.15
05/01/2023	DD	Vodafone	£31.66	£6.33	£37.99
		C/F	£25,321.14	£1,481.00	£26,802.14

Mrs Poole was asked to look at the Parish Council's payroll provider as we have been informed a 7.8% increase in charges from February. Mrs Poole has looked into other payroll providers and the current provider offers good value. Members were content to continue with the current provider.

62. **To receive an update from the Planning & Highways Committee**

Mrs Lindley gave a brief update since the last meeting on 10th November 2022. The next meeting of the Committee is in 2 weeks.

- a. **Planning:** There has been a number of planning applications in the lead up to Christmas, some of which are revised applications incorporating minor revisions for developments that have previously been refused. The application for a property on land between 29-31 The Street went before Gravesham Planning Committee on the 4th January, which Mrs Lindley attended. The application was refused.
- b. **Highways:** An accident occurred in Green Farm Lane by New Cottages on 2nd January. It was reported that a van mounted the bank to avoid an oncoming vehicle and flipped over, blocking the road.
- c. **Update on meeting with RS Skips:** Mrs Lindley attended a meeting on 14th December with Steve Whitehead from KCC, RS Skips, and Higham Councillors. Mr Whitehead has put RS Skips on notice to improve, and this will be monitored.
- d. **Update on LTC:** After submitting the DCO application in November, we have been awaiting Interested Party registration to open. Mrs Lindley reported that it appeared from the website that the Planning Inspectorate had asked for some documents to be re-submitted which is why there was a delay. Registration of Interested Parties opened on the 9th January until the 24th February. The Parish Council will register their interest, and individual Councillors and members of public can also register.

The Planning Inspectorate has issued a Procedural Decision Notice requesting stakeholders engaged in the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) process to submit a Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary (PADS) Statement which will be recorded in a PADS tracker. The PADS tracker will provide a record of those principal areas of disagreement emerging from SoCGs, with the expectation that the PADS tracker should be updated at every Examination deadline in due course by the Applicant but in agreement with participating parties. Mrs Lindley reported that they have requested that the PADS should identify and summarise the issues into 10-15 areas of most concern, so we will need to merge some of our documents together.

- e. **Parking on Double Yellow Lines:** Gravesham Borough Council sent enforcement officers to enforce parking restrictions in the Forge Lane area, but on investigation they

found that the School had established an informal arrangement permitting parents to use the zig-zag lines as a drop-off point. KCC arranged a meeting on 6th December to discuss the matter and are now looking into this further. As an interim measure, Gravesham Council has been requested to enforce the yellow lines in the afternoons only.

- f. **Update on Shornemead level crossing:** Mr Theobald wrote to Network Rail on 20th December and they responded on the 4th January stating that depending on various factors the indicative date for the installation of the footbridge is 5th June 2023. Mr Theobald will write to Graham Rustling at KCC to request that any extension to the footpath closure is kept to a minimum.
- g. **Road Signs in Thong Lane:** Mr Rea reported that the vegetation obscuring the road signs in Thong has been cut back.

63. **To receive an update from the Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee**

- a. **To ratify the order for urgent work on trees in Shorne Common Rough:** Ms Clifton had previously notified Members of the need to issue an order due to its urgency, and this was formally ratified. NPC Tree Surgery has suggested a management programme be put in place due to the amount of Ash die back in the area.
- b. **Update on Shorne Recreation Ground lease agreement:** The details of the lessees have been obtained, and the lease agreement will be signed on behalf of the Parish Council by Mrs Poole and Ms Clifton on Monday evening 16th January at the Pavilion.
- c. **Update from LTC Designated Fund:** Ms Clifton reported that Mike Phillips has told us that LTC has agreed 100% funding for management of the trees in the orchard at Crabbles Bottom, this being considered a 'priority habitat'. The funding is not considered mitigation or compensation and will be available irrespective of the outcome of the Lower Thames Crossing. Mr Phillips is waiting to hear from Brogdale. LTC has also agreed to fund the footpath alongside Shorne Common Rough as this is considered an important link for walkers between one part of the village another.
- d. **Update on the Licence to use the Scouts premises for non-scouting activities, and to note the Licence for Dandelion Trust which was signed on 15.12.22:** At the previous meeting Members were reminded that the Parish Council wrote to the Scouts on 27th September re-affirming our position and our offer of a proposed licence which was sent to them on 9th July 2022. No reply has been received. Unless a reply is received agreeing to our offer, we will need to inform the Scouts that there can be no subletting of the premises for non-scouting activities under the existing peppercorn rent arrangements.
- e. **Queen's Green Canopy Scheme:** This was a nationwide initiative originally for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Shorne Community Wildlife Group has applied for the Christmas tree they planted at Post Office Green to be registered, and this has been accepted and a virtual plaque has been issued to them. On 20th December a very successful 'carols on the green' event took place around the tree, attended by approximately 30 people. The tree was lit, and mince pies and mulled wine was available to the parishioners. They are hoping that this will become an annual event.

The Scouts have also applied to the Woodlands Trust for a hedge pack and 30 native trees. The application was successful, and planting needs to take place before the end of March 2023. Mr Theobald and Mrs Lindley will liaise with the Scouts on where to plant the trees.

- f. **Defibrillator for Shorne West:** Mr Rea has looked into this and has received a form from UK Power Networks, and requested some help filling it in. Mrs Poole has offered to fill this in and get it sent off. It was also agreed that for commonality, we should use the same supplier and equipment as previously supplied at the Village Hall.
- g. **Crabbles Bottom:** NPC Tree Surgery have cleared the Orchard, and replaced the missing fence bar. The entrance to “the den” was blocked off and shows no signs of being used.

64. To receive any report from Borough Councillor R Lane

Nothing to report. The only meeting Cllr Lane has attended since the last Parish Council meeting was the Borough Council Meeting on 6th December 2022.

65. To receive any report from County Councillor B Sweetland

It was noted that Cllr Sweetland introduced Ms Haroona Chughtal, KCC’s new Director of Highways, to Mrs Lindley and Mr Lane at an informal meeting in Shorne on Tuesday 29th November 2022.

66. Update from Mrs Lindley on the King’s Coronation celebrations

Mrs Lindley has had a meeting with Mrs McCluskey and Mrs Poole regarding what we may organise to celebrate the coronation. It has been agreed to do a High Tea in the large hall, which will include sandwiches, cakes and scones, with a glass of bubbly, and have a large screen showing the coronation. The tickets will be charged at £5.00 per person, and children’s activities will be in the small hall charged at £1.00 per person. This will include some food. The next meeting is on 18th January which will include members from the Pop Up Café and the Church. The timing is yet to be confirmed from Government. We are still in discussion regarding memorabilia for children at school under the age of 11.

67. Correspondence requiring action

Jeskyns Young Farmers have enquired whether Shorne Parish Council has any small areas of land (about an acre) which the Parish Council would allow them to use for a peppercorn rent to house small animals. This was discussed and it was considered that the Parish Council does not have anywhere that would be suitable for this.

68. General matters raised by Members for discussion

- (a) Mr Lane apologised for not including the Civility & Respect Pledge on the agenda for formal resolution, and requested Mrs Poole to include it on the agenda for the next meeting.
- (b) Mr Lane requested Mrs Poole to circulate the current Risk Register to Members for any comments, so that this can signed off for a further year in May.

- (c) Ms Clifton asked about the KALC community award scheme. It was discussed and agreed that someone could be recognised within the community. Mr Lane suggested that we could issue our own awards rather than nominate someone for the KALC community award scheme, with a presentation at a Parish Council meeting or the Parish Assembly.

Date of next meeting. The next meeting will take place at 19.30 on Thursday 23rd February 2023 in Shorne Village Hall Committee Room.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.19

Signed Mr Lane:.....

Dated:.....