

## **SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Footpaths Properties & Greens Committee Meeting-held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at Shorne Village Hall**

#### **PRESENT**

Ms P Clifton (Chairman)  
Mr C Rea (Vice-Chairman)  
Mr R Lane  
Mrs S Lindley  
Mr R Theobald  
Mr J Bugg  
Mr R Hardy  
Mrs L Williams  
Mr T Rochard-Pullen  
Mrs D Salmon (Parish Clerk)

#### **APOLOGIES**

None

#### **In attendance:**

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

None.

61. **Minutes of previous meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023:**

Approved by ALL members.

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

None.

63. **Recreation Ground:**

- Ms Clifton has noticed increased rubbish outside the pavilion and will make further checks. Clerk to write to AFC Shorne if required.
- Mr Rea commented on the poor condition of the pitches currently. Ms Clifton has provided AFC Shorne with details of grants available to Grassroots football from external sources and will follow up with team manager.

64. **Shorne Common:**

- a) **Roundabout** – continuing repairs – Contractor A Day confirmed a start date of end of January but has not confirmed if the works have been completed. Mr Rea will check the roundabout and contact the contractor for an update if necessary.
- b) **Approve Contractor for Tree Work** – Quotes circulated to members in advance – Ms Clifton requested 3 quotes but only 2 replied. All members agreed to proceed with Gozzett Tree Surgery and Land Management Ltd. Clerk to proceed with order.

**65. Footpaths:**

- **NS368 Shornemead:** closure has been extended to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024.
- **Field South of Gravesend Rd:** 3 of the footpaths had been ploughed. This was reported to KCC by Ms Clifton. KCC have confirmed that 1 has been re-instated but no further updates have been received regarding the other 2. Ms Clifton will check when weather permits.
- **NS156 through New Green Farm:** Mrs Lindley has queried the width of this route to KCC for checking.

**66. Bus Shelters – Update:**

- a) **Noticeboard** – Ms Clifton has taken delivery of the new noticeboard for the Southern Bus Shelter. Mr Rea and Mr Lane are to install as soon as weather permits.
- **Lighting:** Mr Rea and Mr Lane met with a KCC engineer on site to discuss the reinstatement of the electricity connections to both shelters, but KCC will no longer permit this. Due to high quotations for new supplies from UK Power Networks, the Council will not be proceeding any further with this option. Mr Rea is now in the process of investigating the feasibility and costs of solar-powered lighting.
- **Commemorative Plaque:** The commemorative plaque that was on the front of the Southern Bus Shelter will be reinstated inside the shelter.
- **Signs:** 2 'Shorne Parish Council' signs have been ordered to be fitted above the entrances to the shelters.

**67. Crabbles Bottom:**

- Hoist Fencing have confirmed the start date for the repairs as 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- No further communication from Mr Parkinson regarding metal detecting at the site.

**68. LTC Designated Fund – Update:**

- a) **National Nature Reserve:**  
Former Darnley Estate – Ms Clifton and Mrs Lindley have attended meetings regarding Shorne Parish Council's involvement in this. They propose that Shorne Parish Council become Affiliate partners at this time rather than Core partners. This can be upgraded at a later date. All members agreed.
- An email was received on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 to confirm that a bid for funding for the restoration of a traditional Bramley Orchard at Crabbles Bottom had been submitted. No updates since.

**69. Verges and Greens:**

- **Shorne Common Rough:** Ash Dieback – Works have not yet been completed by Contractor. Quote was approved in December and works were due to be completed in January. Ms Clifton to request update from Contractor.
- **Shorne Common Rough:** Picnic Area – Tree branches are growing over the area and restricting grass growth underneath. Ms Clifton to contact Tom Gozzett to discuss the area being cleared.

**70. Debrillator for Shorne West – Update:**

- Mr Rea confirms that the new AED is now fitted and registered. CCTV camera also fitted. If possible, a small Shorne Parish Council sign will be fitted to the external casing.

- Mr Rea and Mr Hardy to produce and distribute an AED information flyer to local residents.

**71. Site of former Shorne windmill – Update:**

Shorne Woods Archaeological Group have now completed the Geophysics Survey. Ms Clifton distributed the results to all members in advance of the meeting. Due to the inconclusive results, the Group are now hoping to complete a Magnetometry Survey.

**72. Litter in Park Pale – Update:**

Small bin has now been added by Gravesham Borough Council. They are also responsible for emptying and maintaining this.

**73. Village Hall Car Park – Update:**

All works are now completed, including the drains and gulleys being cleared, and new signage.

**Any other business:**

**74. Matters raised by Members, including from other Committees being discussed for convenience:**

- Mrs Lindley advised that National Highways have notified of upcoming local events regarding the Lower Thames Crossing. These dates have been published on the Shorne Parish Council website and social media.
- It was reported that on more than one occasion parishioners have observed a known person (name redacted) apparently driving at excessive speed within the village. Other members have also observed this. Ms Clifton will raise this with the individual concerned.
- Mr Lane noted that the Clerk's probationary period is approaching completion and unless there was any reason otherwise her employment will then become permanent. All members were content with Mrs Salmon's continued employment.
- Ms Clifton – KCC responded regarding the possibility of a Salt Bin in the Shorne Village Hall car park. Discussion by members agreed not to proceed due to other bins being available close by.

**75. Matters raised by attending Parishioners (at discretion of the Chairman):**

None in attendance.

**Date of next meeting.** The next meeting of the Footpaths, Properties & Greens Committee will be held at 19.30 on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:47.

Signed Ms Clifton :.....

Dated:.....