

# SHOBROOKE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual General meeting held on 13th May 2014 in the Parish hall.**

Clerk: John Wilkinson, 4 Silver Way, Shobrooke, Crediton, Devon. EX17 1HP

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**Present:** Cllr C. Furse (ch) Cllr R. Ayre, Cllr C. Boulton, Cllr R. Dawkins/F. Letch, Cllr N Dyson, Cllr F. Harper, Cllr B. Curle. CCllr M. Squires, Cllr P. Hare-Scott. Cllr P. Baker.

## **1. Public Questions.**

None.

## **2. Apologies.**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr J. Lee.

## **3. Minutes.**

Following a minor alteration, the minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.

## **4. Retiring Chairman's Summary.**

The Chairman summed up the activities over the past year (report attached)

## **5. Election Of Officers.**

5:1 Cllr Furse was nominated by Cllr Boulton for a further year as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Dawkins with all in favour.

5:2 Cllr Dawkins was nominated by Cllr Boulton to serve a further year as vice chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Ayre.

## **6. Guest Speaker.**

Cllr Paul Baker attended to give a talk about road safety. He has had a great deal of experience in this field and is still actively engaged in it.

He believed that the most effective technique was the Community Speed Watch where volunteers man a radar machine at a given, strategic location and monitor passing traffic. If a vehicle driver is found speeding and two out of three criteria can be satisfactorily confirmed, his details are retained. If the offence is repeated, a visit is made to the offenders address by the police where a warning is issued. Should there be a third transgression, a penalty is imposed.

Cllr Baker said that he was happy to lend the equipment but warned that a painstaking and protracted process of selection must be undergone with the police. Sites for the placement of the radar machine had to be agreed by the local constabulary and they must be satisfied that danger exists at the chosen venues.

Cllr Baker warned that the statistics derived from 'black boxes' placed to monitor traffic could be highly misleading and give a totally different result than that obtained from radar equipment.

A great deal of prejudice has been experienced from various establishment officers who may well believe that no problem exists or that it has been exaggerated.

The first move would be to have the police visit the village with a radar gun.

## **7. Roads and Footpaths.**

7:1 Nothing has been done about Camps Bridge. Money earmarked for repairs during 2013/14 had been diverted to make good storm damage following the storms of the winter.

Cllr Squires said that money would be re-allocated to the problem during the current year.

7:2 In the absence of response from the Highway Department the Clerk was asked to invite Bob King to view the site where the requested items were desired. These were - a painted 'footpath' from the Village Hall into the village, a priority passing place outside the Village Hall and two signs in the village.

## **8. Playing Field.**

8:1 Darren Fox has agreed to take on the job of leading the Friends of the Playground.

8:2 Members felt that the recent RoSPA report was favourable and only some trouble with the entry gate stopped the findings being perfect. No remedial work was recommended

8:3 The Clerk was asked to approach Wicksteed with a description of the part required. No photograph had been supplied.

Shobrooke Arts and Crafts approached the PC with a request to erect a tepee for the celebration of the coming solstice. Members saw no objection to this since they were covered by the insurance carried. A risk assessment must be carried out.

## **9. Allotments.**

Cllr Boulton declared a personal interest in this item and left the meeting.

Members were satisfied that Mr D Boulton might well have been badly treated and a meeting was called for with representatives from the Association and the PC, the Clerk being asked to set this up.

The danger to the PC is that should any action be taken to sue for costs, the financial damage could be disastrous.

## **10. Finance.**

10:1 The current bank statements were circulated and showed a balance of £4,278.50 in the deposit account and £6,762.56 in the current account.

10:2 The annual audit has not yet been despatched.

10:3 It was decided to see whether a better price could be obtained for the years insurance premium.

10:4 Membership of the DALC was to be renewed.

10:5 Accounts to settle.

10:5:1 Deferred (Came)

10:5:2 Information Commission £35.00

10:5:3 DALC annual fee £116.95

10:5:4 John Wilkinson Clerk £276.90

The cheque for J. Fey was delayed since the audit had not been completed.

Two accounts presented late by Mr. J. Fey were paid to be ratified at the July meeting.

Shobrooke Village Hall, rent £45.00

Shobrooke Parochial Church Council grass cutting etc £430.00

The Clerk was asked to draw up an account of what had come in and been spent on footpaths.

The Clerk was asked to prepare a statement of accounts for 2013/14 and thence to the present.

**11. Planning.**

No reports.

**12/13. Snow Warden and Community Watch.**

These positions are to be advertised in the Brooke.

The Electoral Officer of MDDC is to be advised of the resignation of Mrs Mary Finning and the vacancy for another councillor.

**14. Correspondence.**

The Clerk presented the printed matter received over the past two months.

**15. Sale of Allotment Land.**

There was protracted discussion about the sale, details of which had now been published. Cllr Ayre said that the price being asked was too high, well in excess of what would be expected for such land and he advised anybody interested to offer considerably less.

The Clerk was asked to write to Stags asking that should there be no bids by the given time would they contact the PC as sitting lessees.

**16. Right to Community Bid.**

The Clerk was asked to ask that the Allotments and the Village Hall be listed.

**17. Chairman's Reports.**

A short review of standing orders was carried out.

1. Vacancies should be and had been filled.
2. Election of officers (Electoral Officer to be advised of vacancy)
3. The review of standing orders, financial regulations and risk management devolved upon the chairman.
4. Handling of complaints.
5. 3 signatories already exist.

The Clerks job description is to be circulated with the minutes.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm. Next meeting 8th July

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