

Shobrooke Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 11 April 2017

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Members Present:

Cllr R Ayre (Chairman)	Cllr J Ingham
Cllr C Boulton	Cllr A Jones
Cllr B Curle	Cllr J Lee
Cllr C Furse	Cllr L Pitts

In attendance:

Cllr P Hare-Scott, MDDC (left 8.00pm), Cllr M Squires (left 8.00pm), J Hole, Parish Clerk

Business to be Transacted Public Participation

John Wilkinson, former Clerk to the Parish Council, had recently died and the funeral would take place on Thursday 13 April, 4pm at Exeter Crematorium. Several councillors would attend. Clerk to send a sympathy card from Councillors.

Formal Business

01/04/17 Apologies

Cllr A Ripper (work)

02/04/17 Declaration of Interest

Cllr C Boulton – New premises licence for the Enchanted Garden event at Shobrooke Park

03/04/17 Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 14 March 2017

Agreed and signed as a true record

04/04/17 Mid Devon District Council

4.1

Planning Applications:

17/00177/FULL - erection of 2 agricultural buildings for livestock and storage at Westacott, Shobrooke – no comment

17/00263/FULL - erection of an agricultural building at Nomansland Farm, Shobrooke Park, Crediton Devon EX17 1DH – no comment

New premises licence for the Enchanted Garden event at Shobrooke Park on 3 June 2017 – no comment

4.2

Planning Decisions:

None

4.3

To consider if a request should be made to MDDC for a dog mess bin to be installed at the end of Footpath 23 at Shobrooke Cross. A dog mess bin has been requested by DCC Footpath Warden

Cllr B Curle stated that the “Key Decisions” document recently circulated from MDDC reported that the litter and dog bin policy would be determined in June, so it was unlikely that any new bin would be provided before then. Cllr P Hare-Scott advised that the request should still be made and Councillors resolved to support the request from the DCC Footpath Warden. **Clerk to request** and remind MDDC about the request for a dog mess bin by the allotment footpath

- 4.4 To consider a project to notify to MDDC in order that S106 monies can be allocated. More than one project can be nominated and Newton St Cyres Parish is included in the same catchment area as Shobrooke.
An explanatory e-mail from Juliet Hamlyn-Payne - Planning Obligations Monitoring Officer, MDDC, had been circulated to councillors. Cllr B Curle proposed that a new fence was required at the playpark as it had been noted in the recent playground inspection report, which had been circulated to Councillors, that some of the garden fences which adjoin the playpark need repairing to ensure the integrity of the playpark perimeter. As the council had no power to maintain individual garden fences, a new fence should be installed inside the playpark border as a S106 project. Councillors noted that some fences had gates which opened into the playpark and this meant that some residents accessed their properties through the playpark, some with dogs. The toddler playframe in the playpark was the oldest piece of equipment and it was resolved to notify this as a S106 project together with new picnic benches. **Clerk to provide** estimate of costs to MDDC. Cllr P Hare-Scott said it may take a long time for any S106 monies to be generated as currently the only development in the catchment area was the new housing development at Newton St Cyres and some of the S106 monies from this had already been allocated to the new school. He would try to find out how much S106 monies might be generated.
- 4.5 To note consultation on updated Parish Council Charter and Planning Charter with MDDC and to consider any response (circulated separately)
Cllr J Ingham expressed concern that the 21 days' notice for planning applications would not always fit in with council meeting dates. The Clerk reported that MDDC will usually agree to an extension for comments. If an extension was not agreed, then an additional meeting could be called
- 4.6 Report from Cllr P Hare-Scott
The local plan was submitted at the end of March. MDDC had finished the last financial year on budget. Garden Village status had been granted for 5000 new homes near Cullompton. Although Cullompton residents were generally in favour of the development, nearby villages were not as keen and some recent press coverage had been generated. A peer review had gone well

05/04/17 Road and Footpaths

- 5.1 Outstanding Road and Footpath issues
- I. Blocked drains at Exeter Hill/ Exeter Hill Cross towards Shobrooke, Raddon Top to West Raddon, road by Rew Cross, Efford, outside Setters and Church lane – no update
 - II. Poor road surface by church and Zephyr. Cllr B Curle reported that some tarmac had been laid today by the church. However, the job did not appear to be complete or of high quality. Cllr M Squires would ask Steve Tucker, Neighbourhood Highways Manager, if any more work was scheduled to be carried out. Cllr C Boulton reported that he was able to access the church using his mobility scooters. Although access by mobility scooter was the concern originally expressed, Cllr J Lee reported that some elderly parishioners found the uneven road surface difficult to walk on and were concerned about falling. It was not clear if the poor road surface met the criteria for pot holes but it was agreed to keep pursuing this matter especially as it had been indicated previously by Stephen Tucker that this work was scheduled to be done.
 - III. Backfilling of steps on FP15 and 17 – waiting for drier weather
 - IV. Pothole on Riverford Lane and Exeter Hill Cross and Stump Cross - pothole by Riverford Lane had been filled.
 - V. Broken directional signs – Cllr J Lee and Cllr L Pitts would send the Clerk details of the broken signs. It was noted that any new signs would need to be reflective. Cllr R Ayre reported that a bolt was loose on the signpost by Exeter Hill Cross - Cllr J Lee would repair this
- 5.2 New issues identified - To consider signs warning people about the consequences of not picking up dog mess, especially on the road by the church

Clerk to find out what signs were available from MDDC and the cost of purchasing our own signs. Cllr J Lee suggested checking the local byelaws to ensure compliance and whether any laws applied to privately owned areas such as the playpark
 Fred Harper had sent a footpath update which noted: i) the Shobrooke walk leaflet was proving popular with dispersers requiring frequent recharging ii) the gate at the top of the steps to FP14, by the Village Hall, would be rehung and the safety of the recently installed wire mesh which appeared to be coming loose would be checked. This had been reported by Cllr L Pitts iii) the work to replace the stile at the North Lodge end of FP27 was still outstanding and if the work had not been carried by the next meeting, the landowner would be contacted again iv) a report would follow shortly on ideas for improvements to the footpath network over the coming year

06/04/17 Finance

6.1 To approve signatures for this month's cheques
 Cllr C Furse and Cllr J Lee

6.2 Parish Council receipts current Account:

Item	Payee	Purpose	Amount £
6.3.1	MDDC	Precept	5,100.00
			£5,100.00

6.3 Parish Council payments current account:
 These were agreed as:

Item	Payee	Purpose	Amount £
6.2.1	DALC	Membership fee	121.95
6.2.2	Playsafe Limited	Annual playground inspection	109.20
6.2.3	J Hole	Salary and expenses	134.56
			£365.71

6.4 Balances:

6.4a Parish Council Current Account balance: £7,185.95

6.4b Parish Council Footpath balance (in above current account figure): £1,148.66

6.4c Parish Council Reserve Account balance: £5,786.63

6.5 Financial Statement and Budget Monitor and unaudited accounts for 2016/17
 These were noted

07/04/17 Matters raised by the Chair

7.1 Update on arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting 6.45pm on Tuesday 9 May
 The meeting would start at 6.45pm with Parish Council business i.e. Chairman's report and accounts with the guest speaker from 7.00pm to 7.30pm. Cllr R Ayre to confirm with speaker

08/04/17 Councillor's Reports

8.1 To consider any Councillor reports for areas of responsibility
 Cllr C Boulton reported that it was not necessary to take salt to the church as there was a salt bin near the church which had a good supply.

09/04/17 Clerk's Report - None

10/04/17 Parish Council

10.1 Playing Field
 10.1a To consider latest Inspection Report
 The latest report had not been received
 10.1b To note annual inspection Report and consider any action required. Minor suggestions in report include gate closer (page 4), warning notice (page 5), Carousel – trip hazard (page 8) Junior swing – reinstall chain links (page 16)

The annual inspection report had been circulated to councillors and to Darren Fox. All equipment was identified as “low” risk, apart from the goal posts and basketball post which were “medium”. Cllr B Curle proposed that all actions identified in the report should be implemented even though risk was low/very low. The following actions were agreed:
Gate closer – Cllr A Jones would look at adjusting the gate so that a 12mm gap was in place. It was agreed to cut the wire to allow small children to reach through to open the gate.

Cllr B Curle would find out the requirements for signs warning about the risks of using equipment and whether a note stating that children should be supervised was required. Notices would be posted on the gate.

Carousel trip hazard – Cllr R Ayre would provide topsoil to build the edge back up

Re-install chain links on junior swing – Cllr C Boulton and Cllr A Jones would re-install

Dent in slide – Cllr C Boulton would inspect this and see if the dent could be pushed out to prevent further deterioration over time.

The barrier bars on the toddler multiplay were noted to have a gap in excess of 89mm. The regulations had changed for new equipment but old equipment was not required to meet the new regulations so no action was required.

Strimmer damage to wooden supports was identified in several places, but it was agreed that not much could be done about this unless the grass was not cut around the posts

Zip wire – Cllr C Boulton and Cllr A Jones would check the tension.

The report noted that the protective surface under the monkey bars would not meet new criteria, however, protective matting had been installed so no action was required

10.2 Update on bus shelter/bench

Cllr A Jones had painted the wood inside the bus shelter and had one more coat of white paint to put on the concrete blocks and would then install the bench. The clerk had received an e-mail asking when the bench would be in place.

10.3 To consider if a sign could be put up requesting that vehicles do not park on the footpath at School Close near the bench, under the cherry tree

Cllr C Boulton reported that this would be covered during the estate walk around which would be taking place shortly.

10.4 To agree if photos of councillors should be put on the website and or on the noticeboard in the bus shelter. To consider a group photo taken at the APM

It was agreed to take a group photo at the Annual Parish Meeting for the website and the noticeboard. It would also be useful to have a copy of the photo on the noticeboard at the playpark.

10.5 Update on parking issues and to note further response from Police

It was noted that the car transporter parked at Moor Lane had moved. The one in School Close was still there.

Minited here but taken before item 6

11/04/17 Devon County Council

11.1 Report from Cllr M Squires

Cllr M Squires was under purdah rules so was not able to give a full report. However, she informed councillors that there was a new highways contractor with effect from 1 April and they may be some settling in problems. Fairer funding for Devon schools was being looked at as on average, funding is £290 per pupil less in Devon than in other parts of the country.

12/04/17 Miscellaneous Correspondence

An e-mail had been received requesting a sign to keep dogs on a lead whilst on the permissive path through the allotments. **Clerk to investigate costs** and put a note in the Brooke.

13/04/17 Minor Matters and Items for Future Agenda

The Clerk would be updating standing orders for review at the next meeting

An invitation had been received to the Mayor Reception on 15 May. Cllr A Jones and Cllr C Furse would attend.

14/04/17 Date of next meeting: Annual Meeting on Tuesday 9 May 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

End of formal business

The meeting closed at 8.45pm
