

Shobdon Parish Council Meeting September 2020

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday 28th September 2020 at 7.45pm

Attendance: Mr W Stokes, Mr S Macdonald, Mrs A Boxhall, Mr C Jaques, Mrs A Walker, Mr R Bowen, Mrs S Whittaker, Cllr Roger Phillips, Parish Clerk Ms E Lewis

5 members of the public were present, four for items 1-3.3 and one for items 1-6.1.

1. **Apologies for absence:** No apologies were received.
2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllrs Stokes, Cllr Jaques and Cllr Whittaker declared a pecuniary interest in item 6.1 and it was **agreed** that they would leave the room during discussion of the item. The Clerk declared a pecuniary interest in item 12 and it was **agreed** that she would leave the room during discussion of the item. All signed the declaration of interests book accordingly.
3. **Public Participation**
 - 3.1 **Report from Ward Councillor:** Money has been allocated for expansion of the traveller site at Pembridge. Roads for inclusion in the 2021/22 road resurfacing programme need confirmation.
 - 3.2 **Report from West Mercia Police:** No report had been received.
 - 3.3 **Views of local residents on Parish matters:** A member of the public reported tarmac lorries had been seen speeding through the village and this has been logged on the West Mercia police site. A resident reported that on the 6th September, a tractor hit the fence of their property on Moor Meadow and knocked over a streetlight, the driver did not stop; BBLP attended to remove the light but this has not yet been replaced. The Clerk will contact the police to ask them to take enforcement action on speeding and also contact BBLP to confirm when the street-light will be replaced. Resident wished to raise the possibility of extending the 30mph speed limit on the Canterbury road, whether a pavement could be provided to link houses on the Canterbury Road to the village centre and whether road signs could be provided for Canterbury Road. It was **noted** that the extension of the speed limit could be added to the list of traffic projects for action by Herefordshire Council, but this would likely take at least 4 years before it was actioned. The likely cost of this, should the parish wish to fund, would be £10,000. The extension of the pavement would not be possible unless the private landowners in the area agreed to give up land for provision of such a pavement. The request for road signs will be forwarded to Herefordshire Council.
4. **Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 27th July 2020:** The minutes were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.
5. **Finance**
 - 5.1 **Financial statement to date:** The financial statement was **agreed**. The current account has a balance of £30,817.78 and the High Interest account has a balance of £55,119.51.
 - 5.2 **Cheques:** Cheques were signed as follows – Clerk wages £592.23, HMRC £52.80, Mortimers Cross Building Supplies £297.98, SLCC - annual membership (split with Yarpole Parish Council) £80.50, Clerk office allowance, zoom and tree sign £44.34, HiTrees £2,694.00.
 - 5.3 **Bank reconciliation:** The bank reconciliation was **noted** and signed.
6. **Planning**

Cllrs Stokes, Jaques and Whittaker left the meeting

 - 6.1 **202713 Land at Park Top Poultry Site, Uphampton, redevelopment of site:** The Parish Council **agreed** that they supported the application, and welcomed the plans to plant additional trees on the site to help screen the site and the indication that the redevelopment will mean that the poultry site near Ledicot lane can be demolished.
Cllrs Stokes, Jaques and Whittaker rejoined the meeting

- 6.2 **Update on Core Strategy review and national planning developments:** Herefordshire Council have started the process of reviewing and updating their Core Strategy, and have also started a review of the Herefordshire Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) (which was previously known as the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment). As part of this, Herefordshire Council have issued a call for sites across the county which owners/agents wish to be considered as part of this assessment. They have also asked all parish councils who have, or are developing, a neighbourhood development plan to share their site assessment work with them. It was emphasised that this work will have no impact on the NDP until the Core Strategy has been approved, after which it is likely that the NDP will need to be reviewed. There has also been a white paper consultation on "Planning for the Future" which at present appears to suggest that, whilst neighbourhood plan will remain, these will be focused on design guidance rather than site allocation. The Parish Council **agreed** to write to the local MP, and respond to the planning consultation, to ask that the position of community neighbourhood development plans in any new planning system be defended and secured.
- 6.3 **Update on any other planning issues:** It was **noted** that the yurt on land adjacent to Ledicot Lane has now been removed.
7. **Playground Inspection Reports:** The playground reports for Bar Meadow and the MUGA were **noted**; all required work is being actioned. It was noted that both the signs at the MUGA have been put back up, but that the inspection report suggests another sign is required, and it was **agreed** that the Clerk will contact the inspector to check this. It was also **agreed** to purchase two permanent COVID guidance signs for the playground at Bar Meadow to replace the current laminated notices.
8. **Remembrance Day 2020:** The Chair has contacted the airfield about their plans for Remembrance Sunday. It was **agreed** that the flag at the war memorial will be lowered and a 2 minutes silence observed on Remembrance Sunday., but no formal service will be held in line with current guidance.
9. **Updates and action**
- 9.1 **Lengthsman and PROW:** Tree roots are starting to break up part of the road at Uphampton, and the Clerk will contact BBLP to ask them to look into this. Hi Trees will be asked to cut back the briars which are overgrowing the cycle path between the field at the Grove and Bateman Close.
- 9.2 **Footpath Bridge:** No further update has been received from Herefordshire Council following the meeting held in August; the Clerk will contact them to follow up on this.
- 9.3 **COVID 19:** The volunteer network is still active; a further leaflet drop to all households in the parish is planned for October to ensure that all those who might need help are aware that it is still available.
- 9.4 **Adopt a tree scheme – next steps:** The Clerk has ordered an example dedication sign, but this has not yet been received. Once a provider for the memorial signs has been confirmed, the scheme can go live and be advertised across the parish.
- 9.5 **New Parish Council website – update:** An initial meeting has been held with Aubergine to discuss commissioning of the new Parish Council and village website; work on the framework of the site will begin soon.
10. **items for the next agenda:** Parish Christmas tree.
11. **Date of next meeting:** It was **agreed** to move the date of the next meeting to Monday 26th October at 7.45pm.

A resolution was passed to exclude members of the press and public from the following item (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960) as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted:

The Clerk left the meeting

12. Clerks Pay Award: It was **agreed** to implement the national 2020/21 pay award for the Clerk effective from October 2020.