

Shobdon Parish Council Meeting December 2020

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday 14th December 2020 at 7.45pm via zoom

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Sue Whittaker.
2. **Declarations of interest:** Bill Stokes made a declaration of non-pecuniary interest in item 6.1 and it was **agreed** that he could stay in the meeting but take no part in discussions.
3. **Public Participation**
 - 3.1 **Report from Ward Councillor:** The Herefordshire Minerals and Waste Plan will be discussed on the 15th December; the plan makes reference to the quarry in Shobdon but this is unlikely to come back into active use in the lifetime of the plan. The traffic figures for September and October Shobdon will be sent out over Christmas, and Cllr Phillips was asked if he could find out if the figures for April were available, so that the impact of lockdown on traffic in the parish could be seen.
 - 3.2 **Report from West Mercia Police:** A theft of wreaths from the cemetery in Shobdon has been reported to the police.
 - 3.3 **Views of local residents on Parish matters:** No residents were present.
4. **Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 30th November 2020:** The minutes were **agreed** and will be signed as a correct record after the meeting.
5. **Finance**
 - 5.1 **Cheques:** It was **agreed** that cheques for the Clerks wages, tax and invoice for the replacement airplane steering wheel will be signed, together with any other invoices that are received relating to agreed budget items.
 - 5.2 **Donation to Methodist Chapel for electricity connection for Christmas tree:** It was **agreed** to donate £50.00 to the Methodist chapel.
6. **Planning**
 - 6.1 **183192 Reconsultation Land at the Humbers – erection of 10 new dwellings:** The Parish council agreed that they continued to support the application for dwellings on the land, in line with the adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan but had the following concerns/comments: that any foul drainage system guarantees there will be no discharge into adjoining fields or into the gardens of properties on site. That it be made a condition that no surface water from the development is allowed to enter the public sewers which already experience problems with overflow and flooding during heavy rainfall. That pedestrian safety in accessing the site needs to be a priority, and the proposed dropped kerb (in the applicants transport report) which will require pedestrians to cross the road in an area by a blind bend where there are concerns over traffic speed does not seem like an adequate measure to ensure pedestrian safety whilst maintaining connectivity in the village.

7. **Footpath Bridge:** The Chair of the Parish Council met with Bruce Evans on site to look at the design for the footbridge. There are standard BBLP foundation specifications for a wooden footbridge, which depend on the weight of the bridge. The Parish Council now need to obtain three quotes for a wooden bridge and then the required foundations can be confirmed. The Chair will send the bridge specification to the Clerk so that companies can be contacted to provide quotes. Bruce will confirm whether the bridge will require planning permission and whether Herefordshire Council will adopt the footbridge.
8. **Shobdon Traffic Plan:** The Clerk had met with Simon Hobbs, Senior Accident Investigation Engineer at Herefordshire Council, to review safety on the B4362 by the end property on Moor Meadow following the recent accident. As part of the discussions, it was suggested that councillors meet with Simon in the New Year to look at developing a traffic plan for Shobdon, which would include the overarching aspirations for traffic safety measures that could be put in place over the next 5-10 years. The plan could then be used as the basis for any traffic work in the parish should budgets or funding be available. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would set up a meeting with Simon in the New Year.
9. **Items for the next agenda:** No items were raised.
10. **Date of next meetings:** The meeting schedule for 2021 was **agreed**. An extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held via zoom on Monday 21st December at 8pm to discuss a planning application. The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 25th January 2021 at 7.45pm.