

Shobdon Parish Council Meeting September 2017

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25th September 2017 at 7.45pm in the village hall

Attendance: Mr W Stokes, Mr S Macdonald, Mr R Bowen, Mr P Sharp, Mrs A Walker, Mr J Miles, Parish Clerk Ms E Lewis, Councillor Roger Phillips

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Adrienne Boxhall. **Accepted.**
2. **Minutes of the meeting held 31/7/2017:** The minutes were **agreed** and signed.
3. **Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation :** No declarations were made.
4. **Report by Ward Councillor Roger Phillips:** The travellers site at Pembridge will increase by four pitches. Roger met with Clive Hall, Head of Highways at Herefordshire Council concerning the B4362 and whether this should be added to the primary routes resurfacing programme. Hopefully it will be clear by March 2018 whether the B4362 will be included in the programme. Roger is investigating the possibility the hedge on Bateman Close adjoining the B4362 being transferred to the Parish Council so it can be maintained by the lengthsman.
5. **Report by West Mercia representative:** An email report had been received. There were no crimes to report between 24/8/17 and 25/9/2017. A PACT surgery will be held on Saturday 28th October between 9.30am – 10.30am at the village shop.
6. **Finance**
 - 6.1 **Financial statement to date:** The statement was **agreed**.
 - 6.2 **Cheques were signed as follows:** Village Hall £27, Fran White playground inspections £113.20, Hi Trees (Mowing) £1416, Hi Trees (MUGA) £492, Hi Trees (lengthsman) £345, Clerk Sept wages £379.99
 - 6.3 **Finance Working Group meeting – precept planning:** It was **agreed** that a meeting will be held on Monday 13th November at 7pm. Venue to be confirmed.
 - 6.4 **2016/17 audit Update:** The Clerk is still awaiting formal confirmation on the audit conclusion from Grant Thornton.
7. **Planning:** No planning applications had been received.
8. **Annual Playground Inspections:** The playground inspections for the MUGA and Bar Meadow had been received and circulated. It was **noted** that all issues raised in the reports were identified as low or very low risk. The fencing at Bar Meadow would benefit from replacing and this will be done as part of the playground project and extension. It was agreed that the Clerk will get some quotes for signs for the MUGA as suggested in the report. (**Action Clerk**)
9. **Standing Orders:** The new standing orders were considered and **agreed**.
10. **Information, Consultation and Response:**
 - 10.1 **Herefordshire Council Minerals and Local Waste Plan:** The consultation was **noted**.
 - 10.2 **Herefordshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan Consultation:** The consultation was **noted**.
11. **Updates and action:**
 - 11.1 **Village Hall Committee and Airfield:** The village hall held their AGM recently and the finances are looking healthy. Initial plans to hold a fashion show as a joint fundraiser with the playground fund in March 2018 are being discussed.
 - 11.2 **Playground working group:** The Clerk has submitted the paperwork required for the £1000 donation from the Julia Morris trust and is waiting for confirmation of the release of the money. Leaflets for the “buy a brick” scheme are being delivered to all households in the village and a mail out to local businesses is planned. The Clerk has an expression of interest form for the European Leader fund to complete. The playground fund has made £6527.17 to date with £330 having been received to the buy a brick scheme (of which £230 is profit).

- 11.3 NDP:** The NDP has successfully completed the second regulation 16 consultation and will now proceed to independent examination. A choice of three potential examiners will be offered to the Parish Council, and it was **agreed** that should these names be available prior to the next meeting Councillors can make a decision on which examiner to choose via email.
- 11.4 Lengthsman:** Work is progressing well. The lengthsman has been asked to clear the growth behind the mill and press on Hanbury Green and to quote for cleaning the war memorial.
- 11.5 Footpath Bridge:** A meeting was held on 24th September with the owners of the pub and Tan House to discuss the proposed bridge; both parties are happy for the bridge to be sited on their land. The proposal is for the Parish Council to have a long lease on the land on either side of the bridge at a peppercorn rent, with no liability on the landowners for the bridge. Groundworks on the Tan House side of the stream mean that the required bridge dimensions will be smaller. The Clerk will get some recommendations for solicitors to act on the Parish Council's behalf and obtain quotes, so that a decision can be taken on which to work with at the next meeting. **(Action Clerk)** The Clerk has repeatedly requested confirmation of the remaining section 106 funds from Yvonne Coleman (Planning Obligations Manager at Herefordshire Council) which it was thought would be about £11,000 after the dropped kerb project but as yet no response has been received.
- 11.6 Cycle Path – meeting with Stonewater Housing Association:** Bill Stokes, Steve Macdonald and the Clerk met with Karen Herbert (Area Manager West) and Hannah (Tenancy Services Officer) from Stonewater Housing Association on the 25th October. The meeting discussed which properties in the parish Stonewater are responsible for, together with plans for the cycle path particularly relating to the field by the Grove and a possible path behind Bar Meadow into the village car park. The Portfolio Manager at Stonewater, Vicki Reynolds, will be contacted to investigate Stonewater's intentions for the field and whether the cycle path can go through the field whilst the area is maintained as green space. The possibility of a path behind Bar Meadow into the village car park, replacing the existing track through the playground, was supported in principle as providing a more appropriate access route but consultation with tenants was seen as important prior to further discussions. Stonewater will liaise on both issues and then contact the Clerk to discuss how to proceed. It was suggested that an article be included in the next newsletter from Stonewater with information on the properties they have to rent in the village and how they are allocated.
- 11.7 Defibrillator Training at village hall:** The Clerk has received available dates for training from Herefordshire Heartstart and it was agreed to hold the training on **Wednesday 1st November 7-9pm** in the village hall.
- 11.8 World War I centennial commemorations 2018:** Ideas for ways in which to mark the commemorations were discussed. It was suggested that, in line with the Eardisland Memorial Walks project, the 6 footpaths out of the village could have plaques installed recording the names of the 6 soldiers recorded on the war memorial. It was agreed that a request for ideas from the village for the commemoration be put in the newsletter, and on the village facebook page, and that the item be put on the agenda of the Parish Council meeting in January 2018
- 12. Items for the next agenda:** No items were raised.
- 13. Date of next meeting**
 Monday 30th October 7.45pm (preceded by Neighbourhood Watch meeting)
 Monday 27th November, 7.45pm