

Shobdon Parish Council Meeting February 2018

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26th February 2018 at 7.45pm in the village hall

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

1 Parishioner was present

Public Time: No issues were raised.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Richard Bowen, Adrienne Boxhall and Cllr Roger Phillips. It was noted that health issues may prevent Mrs Boxhall from attendance at meetings for a few months.
2. **Minutes of the meetings held on 29th January 2018:** The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 29th January 2018 were **agreed** and signed.
3. **Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation:** No declarations were made.
4. **Report by Ward Councillor Roger Phillips:** Councillor Phillips had sent an email report in his absence. Cllr Phillips has been pursuing concerns over the state of the roads within the council and was pushing for the B4362 to be included in the road resurfacing programme.
5. **Report by West Mercia representative:** No report was sent.
6. **Finance**
 - 6.1 **Financial statement to date:** Due to the bank account being in the process of being switched, no finance statement was available.
 - 6.2 **Cheques:** No cheques were signed at the meeting. It was **agreed** that once the current account has been switched to Lloyds, cheques for the Clerk's wages for February and Data Protection registration renewal (**£35.00**) could be signed.
 - 6.3 **Update on current account transfer to Lloyds:** A cheque book and paying in book for the new Lloyds current account have been received. The form to switch the Santander account to the new Lloyds account had been completed and the switch should be completed by the 3rd March.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1 **Update on planning issues:** No issues to report.
8. **Neighbourhood Development Plan housing site criteria and assessment:** The assessment of all the potential housing sites in the parish against the agreed criteria was discussed and agreed. This means that the top 4 sites, in order of preference are: site 5, site 13, site 6a, site 12. It was not clear whether three or four sites would need to be allocated within the amended NDP to meet the target of 44 houses for the plan period, given contribution from sites that have already received planning permission. The Clerk will liaise with Bill Bloxsome to confirm. **(Action EL)** The NDP will need to be redrafted and agreed prior to being submitted for regulation 14 consultation.
9. **Parish Council Solicitor contracts for lease of land for footbridge:** The contract had not yet been received. It was **agreed** that the Chair would sign this once the paperwork was received.
10. **Road resurfacing –update on progress following letter to Herefordshire Council:** There has been correspondence with Herefordshire Council following the original letter and some of the main potholes in the parish have been filled, however the key concerns detailed in the letter still remain. There has been reference to the B4362 being in the resurfacing programme for the next year and the Clerk will liaise with the locality steward to confirm this. Balfour Beatty have also notified councils that the velocity patcher will be in operation for a few weeks and the Clerk will check whether it will be working on any of the roads in the Parish. **(Action EL)**

11. **World War 1 2018 Centennial Plans plans for the commemoration:** The plan to name the 6 main footpaths out of the village after the soldiers recorded on the war memorial was **agreed**. The possibility of arranging a village walk across the parish near the centennial of the end of the war was also discussed.
12. **Information, Consultation and Response**
- 12.1 **River Lugg Internal Drainage Board – consultation on byelaws:** The consultation was **noted**.
13. **Updates and action:**
- 13.1 **Playground Working Group:** A meeting to look at the wider plans for the playground, including fencing and the potential path from the car park into road behind Bar Meadow has been arranged for the 28th February. The Clerk is still trying to get an indication from Stonewater Housing Association of when a consultation with Bar Meadow residents about the planned path can be arranged. The full Leader fund application needs to be submitted by the 16th March.
- 13.2 **Lengthsman and PROW:** The draft plans had been circulated prior to the meeting and were **agreed**. The PROW budget includes funding for 6 footpath posts on which the names of the soldiers from the war memorial can be marked. A plan for all the work that needs doing across the parish footpaths over the next 3-4 years is being developed.
- 13.3 **Footpath Bridge:** The plans for the bridge have been sent to both the landowners and their solicitors. The contract for the legal work should be signed in the next week. The plans have also been sent to Herefordshire Council planning department to check whether any planning permission is required. Once the legal work on the lease of the land is started, and confirmation of planning status received, then quotes for building the bridge will be sought.
- 13.4 **Cycle Path:** There has been no further news from Stonewater on the land by the Grove. The legal process for the purchase of the strip of land between the Birches and the MUGA is underway.
14. **Items for the next agenda:** The future of the newsletter will be discussed at the next meeting. It was noted that Phil Sharp will be resigning from the parish Council when he moves in the middle of March. He has served on the Parish council for nearly 15 years, much of which as Chair of the Council. Thanks were expressed for his huge contribution to the life of the parish and the work of the parish council.
15. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 26th March 2018
Monday 23rd April 2018