

## Shobdon Parish Council Meeting January 2019

### Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.45pm in the village hall

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

No members of the public were present

1. **Apologies for absence:** No apologies were received.
2. **Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019:** The minutes were **agreed** and signed as a correct record.
3. **Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation:** Chris Jaques made a disclosure of non-pecuniary interest in item 11.3 and signed the book accordingly.
4. **Report by Ward Councillor Roger Phillips:** The upgrade of the Shobdon pedestrian crossing is included in the planned works for 2019/20; there is no planned road resurfacing in Shobdon for 2019/20 but there may be additional money coming to Herefordshire Council from central government for road resurfacing works.
5. **Report by West Mercia representative:** No report had been received
6. **Finance**
  - 6.1 **Financial statement to date:** The financial statement was **agreed**. The current account has a balance of £28,238.09 and the High Interest account has a balance of £74,714.30. The clerk is working on a cashflow forecast for the next 6 months for the Current Account. This will be circulated to the Chair and Vice Chair, and it was **agreed** that on the basis of the cashflow analysis £15,000 - £20,000 will be transferred from the High Interest account to the current account to ensure there are sufficient funds available to cover financial commitments. It was confirmed that this amount forms part of the Parish Council reserves, as the ringfenced MUGA fund has £54,000 remaining following expenditure over the past 3 years.
  - 6.2 **Cheques:** It was **noted** that a cheque for £6987.68 for the deposit on the playground had been written since the last meeting. Cheques were signed as follows: Hi Trees £720.00, Herefordshire Council £6538.13, Planning application fee £164.40, Clerk - photocopying and website £170.13, ICO £40.00, MCBS(PROW) £86.45, Methodist Chapel £50.00, Clerk - Feb wages £592.43, HMRC Feb tax £52.60.
  - 6.3 **Plans for NSI account funds:** It was noted that the Parish Council has £629.84 left from the Queen's birthday celebration in 1977 in an NSI account to be spent on trees or other landscaping. It was **agreed** that the money be ringfenced for the field behind the Grove, so there are some funds available for work on the field.
7. **Planning**
  - 7.1 **184694 – 26 The Birches:** It was **agreed** that the Parish Council supported the plans.
  - 7.2 **Update on any other planning issues:** It was **noted** that there is a planning application for a water storage reservoir at Ledicot Farm in Shobdon parish which has not been sent to the Parish Council for comment. The clerk will contact Herefordshire Council to check the status of this application. Herefordshire Council are planning a public community meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30/7pm in the village hall to brief local parishes on the ongoing work with Gigaclear, all residents are invited to attend.
8. **PROW – to agree plan for 2019/20:** The plan for 2019/20 was **agreed**, with the budget for work being £1,000. It was confirmed that the bridge referred to on footpath SO11 is not dangerous but would benefit from widening.

9. **War memorial and Milestones:** Three quotes had been received for work to repair the war memorial and install it in its new location on Hanbury Green, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Quotes had also been received to repair two of the village milestones. It was **agreed** to accept the quote from Hudson Stonework which came to £3805 (plus VAT) for the war memorial (plus costs of additional lettering) and £1205 plus VAT for the two milestones. The quote for the war memorial was accepted subject to clarification of couple of points of regarding the use of local volunteer's machinery for lifting and transport.
10. **Information, Consultation and Response**
- 10.1 **2019 Elections:** The paper on key election dates and deadlines for nomination forms was **noted**.
11. **Updates and action**
- 11.1 **Playground:** The turnout at the playground open afternoon on the 24<sup>th</sup> February had been extremely disappointing. It was **agreed** that quotes would be obtained for the work to clear the playground ready for the new equipment to be installed, and to install the new paths, as volunteer support for this work could not be guaranteed. It was **agreed** that an update to this effect will be put on the village facebook page. The Sovereign installation of the playground will start on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April and will take up to 2 weeks; during this time part of the village car park will need to be closed. The buy a bricks scheme will close on the 8<sup>th</sup> March so that bricks can be ordered.
- 11.2 **Lengthsman and PROW:** The ditches on the U92414 are blocked in places resulting in water flooding onto the road. The Clerk will contact the locality steward to check whether BBLP will contact the landowner to ensure the ditches are cleared. The bin at the back of the village car park has needed emptying twice in the past 4 weeks, and the Clerk will contact HiTrees to confirm it is being included on their bin emptying rounds.
- 11.3 **Footpath Bridge:** The solicitor has indicated that the contracts for the land transfer should be ready for signing within the next couple of weeks. Kingspan have confirmed that the deadline for the grant for the footbridge can be extended until the end of 2019.
- 11.4 **Cycle Path:** The contracts for the purchase of the field behind the Grove have been finalised and it was **agreed** that the Chair of the Parish council would sign these. Given the amount of other projects currently ongoing, it was **agreed** that once the land transfer is finalised, the community consultation over future use of the field will wait until the playground and war memorial are completed.
- 11.5 **War Memorial:** The solicitor is working on the registration of the Parish Council ownership village green at Hanbury Green with the land registry.
12. **Items for the next agenda:** New names for the war memorial (following research by working group) and wording for plaque at original location of war memorial will be agreed.
13. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019