

Shobdon Parish Council Meeting July 2019

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29th July 2019 at 7.45pm in the village hall

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

4 members of the public were present.

Public Time: The repair for the milestone outside Yew Tree Close was raised and confirmed that this will be actioned in the autumn. Concern was raised about the cars for sale on the layby opposite Yew Tree Close and this will be raised with the police.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Chris Jaques, Cllr. Roger Phillips and PC Dean Walker
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2019:** The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
3. **Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation:** No declarations were made.
4. **Report by Ward Councillor Roger Phillips:** Cllr Phillips' monthly update will be circulated in the next few days.
5. **Report by West Mercia representative:** The police had no incidents in Shobdon to report. Minor vandalism to the new fence on the land by the Birches had been reported to the police (and the damage had been repaired by a local resident).
6. **Finance**
 - 6.1 **Financial statement:** The financial statement was **agreed**. The current account has a balance of £14,054.79 and the High Interest account has £54,714.30.
 - 6.2 **Cheques:** Cheques were signed as follows – Clerk wages £605.43, HMRC £39.60, William Stokes (gate lock) £6.99, Hudson Stonework £4993.20, Flagpole express £384.00, Glasdon (litter bin) £206.16, Roadmark Ltd £240.00, MJ Evans Fencing £5728.00, Village Hall £27.00, Clerk (newsletter copying and stationery) £157.36.
 - 6.3 **Update from finance working group:** The finance working party had met on the 22nd July and discussed the end of year report, updated reserves plan and playground finance report. It was **noted** that the total costs of the playground project (including new paths) was £51,524.30 with £36,694.47 income received. This means the Parish Council contribution to the project is £14,829.92. It was **noted** that the projected newsletter costs for 2019/20 will likely be £600 (rather than £250) and it was **agreed** that the budget would be amended accordingly. A parishioner has come forward offering to contribute £500 per annum to the upkeep of the new playground at Bar Meadow, for which the Parish Council were extremely grateful.
 - 6.4 **Updated reserves plan:** The updated reserves plan was **agreed**.
 - 6.5 **Quote for gate for field behind the Grove:** A quote for £725.00 plus VAT had been received from MJ Evans fencing. It was **agreed** that the price of wooden gates would be checked before confirming the work and that £725 be set as the maximum budget for the work.
 - 6.6 **Clerks attendance at Day 2 of SLCC conference:** It was **agreed** that the Clerk could attend the 2nd day of the conference at a cost of £80.00 plus £68.00 petrol. (The Clerk will check whether her other parish council will share costs for the event.)

- 6.7 Purchase of noticeboard for MUGA:** The Clerk had obtained 3 quotes for a noticeboard which were circulated at the meeting. These noticeboards were 2 glass fronted panels, with one side being lockable. It was **agreed** that a smaller lockable noticeboard be obtained with a maximum budget of £350 plus VAT.
- 6.8 Purchase of bike rack for village car park:** The Clerk had obtained 3 quotes for a cycle rack for the village car park which were circulated at the meeting. It was **agreed** to purchase Sheffield style bike racks for 8 bikes (4 hoops) with a maximum budget of £535 plus VAT.
- 7. Planning**
- 7.1 191759 – Plot 1 Land adjacent to 13 the Birches:** It was **agreed** that the Parish Council had no comment on the application.
- 7.2 191942 – Land adjoining Hillhampton Farm – approval of reserved matters following outline approval:** The Parish Council were disappointed that the details of the properties made no reference to any physical sustainability measures such as photo-voltaic panels or water/energy conservation features; policy S6 of the adopted NDP applies (particularly S6c). The original planning application design and access statement stated that "The proposal will address sustainability objectives by:In this particular case the new dwellings will adopt:- Sustainable building codes with high 'U' values being applied to the wall, roof and floor construction; Local materials will be sourced for use in the construction and development where possible; Rainwater harvesting will be considered. Solar energy will be considered. Ground source heating is also being considered " - and the Parish Council ask that the inclusion of such features be made a condition of the approval. The Parish Council raised concerns in the original planning consultation relating to existing drainage issues in the field next to the identified road access which will need to be sorted before any additional road is constructed to prevent water running off onto the main road ; the officer report on the original planning approval stated that " with regard to surface water, the supporting statement indicates that the detailed proposal is likely to include provision for rainwater harvesting and soakaway drainage." There are no references to this in the reserved matters application and the Parish Council ask that this be addressed before approval is given.
- 7.3 192504 – 1 Ox House cottages – demolish existing cottage and erect replacement dwelling:** The Parish Council **agreed** that they supported the application.
- 7.4 Update on any other planning issues:** The Clerk has heard from Gigaclear that the revised start date for work in Shobdon is September. Taylor Wimpey is still in discussion with the landowner to resolve issues so that Bateman Close can be adopted by Herefordshire Council.
- 8. Updates and action**
- 8.1 Lengthsman and PROW:** Four new footpath gates have been installed (two at Shobdon Hill wood and two on land at Pearl Lake) and Richard Bowen and Pearl Lake were thanked for their work on this. The lengthsman will be asked to clear the vegetation from the edges of the pavement between Bateman Close and the Birches.
- 8.2 War Memorial:** The rededication ceremony on the 20th July had been a huge success and all involved were thanked for their work. It was **agreed** to leave the decision on whether to install post and chain fencing around the memorial, and discussion about possible planting, until the autumn.
- 8.3 Cycle Path – including to agree budget for path through Grove field:** It was **agreed** that a 2 metre path be installed across the field and the a budget of £2,000 be allowed for the materials for this.
- 9. Items for the next agenda:** Plans for consulting the parish over the Grove field and planting at the war memorial.
- 10. Date of next meeting:** Monday 23rd September 2019
Monday 21st October 2019