

Shellingford Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Parish meeting held on Monday 9th February 2015 in the Shellingford Community Hall at 19:30hrs

1 .Chairman's Opening remarks – Barry Moody welcomed the residents, noted that there were no new residents. He passed on his congratulations and thanks to Mary and Mike Vogwell for the excellent website for the village – www.shellingford.org.uk – which they have created and the Chairman urged everyone to visit the site.

2. Apologies received from Tricia Complin, Sue Terry, Jennifer Thompson, Phil Chesterton, Mrs Imogen Jonas and Alan King.

Attendance – 13 residents, Cllr Melinda Tilley and Cllr Robert Sharp

3. Minutes of the 17 November 2014 AGM were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman, with one change:

- Paul Hatcher asked to note that he had suggested at the 17th November meeting that we contact the Oxfordshire County Council Highways to ask them for a copy of the “Road Conditions Survey” so that we can view the results, we may need to get this via an FOI (Freedom of Information) as they might not give it willingly, for viewing therefore it might be worth paying for the FOI.

Proposed by Jennie Chesterton

Seconded by Richard Jonas

4. Matters Arising not elsewhere on the agenda – n/a

5. County Council Report – Cllr Melinda Tilley

- Cllr Tilley asked the Chairman to highlight the OSCB (Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board) information on safeguarding that she has sent to Phil C – she suggested that perhaps we could display this on the village notice board or promote around the village so people were aware of the relevant contact numbers to report a concern. www.oscb.org.uk is the relevant website, and contact details for the Vale's Safeguarding Board representative is Sally Truman 01865 334276 or 01865 323041. The email address is cfaassessmentsouth@oxfordshire.gov.uk
- She went on to talk about the “dangers on the road” pertaining to the A420 and the increase demand for a cycle route, given the increase of traffic due to the increase of new housing developments around the area.
- She went on to inform the parish about the 40% reduction in budget from the Government. There is a review in progress to look at savings of approximately £36,000 by forming a “Unitary Authority”, which the District Councils were not in favour of. This is out to Consultation at the moment but only the financial aspect of this has been developed. The (Oxfordshire County Council) are not even sure how it will all work but feel that it would be particularly important for the “lower tier” like ourselves, and give more powers to smaller parishes, but it was a long way off. Although Cllr Sharp stated that Planning would not come under this, that would remain as is. He reiterated that the idea for a Unity

Authority was still out for Consultation, and the District Council were not happy about the plans but they do have a right to reply. The District Council all need to agree to the proposal but very early days yet.

- As part of the savings Cllr Tilley report that the Chief Executive of OCC would be stepping down, “wants to go” and that the Cabinet would take on the roles that she performs, with a “tight ring” of senior staff around them to cover her role, they would also be removing her office. The meeting to decide all this, and the budget, will be on Tuesday 17 Feb at 10:00 at County Hall, Cllr Tilley extended the invitation to anyone who would like to attend
- No questions were tabled for Cllr Tilley

6. District Council Report – Cllr Robert Sharp

- Cllr Sharp reported that after the fire at Crowmarsh Gifford the offices were back in business, with very little data lost due to the standard practice of data been regularly backed-up off site. With 220 Officers working out of the Abbey House offices in Abingdon, some were working from home or hot-desking
- Planning in the South was severely hit by the fire and they estimate at least a fortnights delay in planning decision
- There is a “Design Guide Consultation” due out for developers and house builders. The Local Plan is due with the Inspector on 18 March, followed by an enquiry
- Community Infrastructures Levy Changes – out for Consultation 23 Feb – 23 March – where the levy will be applied to each new house except where it is a self-build or is for use as affordable housing. The levy is due to come back to the parish council and could be for a few thousand.
- Due to the fire the Bulk Waste collection is not fully functioning as they are hot-desking so there is no direct dial number, although it can still be done over the internet
- Voting for the May 7th elections can be done on line
- Questions to Cllr Sharp

From Colin Broadly:

“Do you or do you not consider that in allowing the appeal to go forward for building on your land and against both the Planning Committee and the majority wishes of the Parish, you are putting your personal and those of your families wishes over those of your civic duties?”

Reply:

“No I don’t, I have abided by the Code of Conduct throughout and withdrawn from the meeting at the appropriate time. Anyone can go through the process and appeal against the decision”. Cllr Sharp suggested that Mr Broadly go to the District Council about it if he needed to.

From Barry Moody:

“Are all staff going to keep their jobs after the fire?”

Reply:

“They are always looking at how things are manned between the 2 District Councils, and will continue to look at how things are staffed – but not due to the fire”

- Cllr Tilley left the meeting at this point.

7. Finance Report – fed back to the Parish by the Chairman

Balance at bank £2581.24

1st half of precept will come in April = £750

8. Planning Application and Appeals

Old Pump House P14/V2876/HH received on 6th Jan. No response from residents received 26th Jan.

APPEAL Fernham Road Development. Letter sent on behalf of village supporting Vales decision. Inspector will visit site alone at unspecific time so no one will be present. This is because the site can be seen from public land. The chairman said he had some copies of the appeal submission if anyone requires them.

There was then a short discussion about the road condition through Shellingford and the effect the traffic was having on some grass verges.

9. Due to the Clark being absent through illness there was no Correspondence since last meeting available.

10. Subcommittee Report on Build Outs

- Report given by Chairman on the findings and analysis from the leafleting.
- Discussion about what further work was going to be done by the subcommittee i.e. Chris Price is going to do a survey, on the amount of activation there is on the 30 Mile an hour activation signs, at peak time – this would be reported back at the next meeting. Robert Sharp suggested that this type of survey may have been done in the past by OCC Highways, may be worth contacting them as well – **Action** for Subcommittee
- The subcommittee will continue with their investigation into alternatives raised by the responses given around the village. These include, but are not limited or exclusive to;
 - I. The purchase of a speed gun, training and legal advise
 - II. The possibility of a 7.5 tonne weight restriction on vehicles using the B4508 except for emergencies and when the A420 has to be closed

Proposed by Jennie Chesterton

Seconded by Richard Jonas

Voting - 11 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstentions.

Paul Hatcher suggested that some investigation went into finding out if there were any reports on assaults on members of the public who ran their own speed camera checks

There was then a short discussion about the road condition through Shellingford and the effect the traffic was having on some grass verges.

Richard Jonas asked for confirmation about the data and how it was gained or used?

11. Parochial Church Council (PCC) - fed back to the Parish by the Chairman

- We have advertised for a vicar and interviews will be taking place on the 9th March

- We would like some volunteers to go on the church cleaning rota. Anybody interested to please contact Sue Terry – 710 678 -. It only works out as 4 times a year!

12. School Governors Report – Judith Terrell (*did not attend*) – report was handed to all attendees.

- Richard Jonas asked if there were any statistics as the report lacked these, the suggestion was that he look at the schools website

13. Community Hall Report – n/a

14. AOB

Robert Sharp going to ask again about the dog poo bins

Meeting Closed @ 20.30

Next Parish meeting – agreed for Monday 15th June at 19:30hrs will be an AGM and will see the election of Chairman, Clerk and the Treasurer. It would be good to have nominations for these posts before the actual meeting.

Jennie was thanked for the tea and coffee and biscuits

Importance Notice

Please note that in order to save on valuable resources all future minutes will be uploaded to the Parish page of the new village website. This should provide a valuable resource for parishioners which will offer ready reference and easy access at any time.

<http://www.shellingford.org.uk/parish-matters/>

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For those who do not have access to a computer and would prefer to keep receiving a paper copy could you let the Chair or Clerk know as soon as possible and they will ensure that copies are printed off and delivered as appropriate.