

Minutes of Shellingford Parish Meeting

Thursday 27th February 2014 in the Community Hall

1. **Welcome** – The Chair, Barry Moody welcomed the residents.
2. A) **Apologies and Attendance** – These had been received from Sue Terry, Jennifer Thompson, Richard and Imogen Jonas, Paul and Jane Brown, John and Izzy Stammers, Nicky Johnston, and County Councillor Melinda Tilley.
B) **Those present** – Twelve parishioners were present.
3. **Signing of Previous Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 21st November 2013** The Minutes of the 21st November 2013 were examined. The Clerk asked that '9 residents were present' was to be added.

Robert Sharp asked for the deletion of the sentence in 4b of the Minutes which read 'The Village has already agreed to the need for a 'build out' from the Fernham approach to the village on the B4508' on the grounds that no vote had ever been taken on this subject.

The Clerk agreed that there was no record of a vote but that the matter had been discussed at the February 21st 2012 Parish Meeting and he had reproduced relevant documents referring to the vehicle activated signs and 'build outs' in Document B which was available this evening. Alan King proposed that it should be deleted and Robert Sharp seconded. This was agreed.

The Clerk mentioned that Shellingford had obtained £1,000 from the Oxon Community Fund thanks to Melinda Tilley but it had been withdrawn subsequently due to the fact that we could not spend it on the build out before April 2014.

Alan King proposed and Jenny Chesterton seconded the motion that the amended minutes were a true record and the Chair dated and signed the Minutes.

4. **Matters Arising** – There were no matters arising from the Minutes that are not dealt with elsewhere.
5. **County Councillor Melinda Tilley's Report** – Melinda has recently been in hospital due to pneumonia and was unable to give us a written report. The Clerk suggested sending some flowers and message of good wishes which was agreed.
6. **District Councillor Robert Sharp's Report**. – The Vale's Budget has been determined with Council Tax frozen. The Local Plan 2031 – Part 1, was now out for consultation. Part 1 is concerned with Housing Delivery, Updates, Strategic Sites and policies. The consultation period ends on April 4th 2014. There are/were local opportunities to visit the exhibition in the Faringdon Corn Exchange on Tuesday 25th March between 3 and 7.30pm with a Public Meeting in the Shrivenham Memorial Hall on Monday 24th March between 7 and 9pm. (The Clerk has put details of all Meetings on the notice board in Church Street).

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The Vale's calculations indicate a need to build 20,500 homes during the period 2012-2031. In reply to Alan King's question of what implications the Local Plan would have on Shellingford, District Councillor Robert Sharp's, response was 'none'. This view was vigorously challenged particularly on the grounds of the increased traffic volumes using local roads and the infrastructure in general.

7. **Financial Report** – The Treasurer, Sue Terry, was absent but had reported a £2067.64p balance, including £283 which was ring-fenced for the purchase of a bench near to the telephone kiosk on the Fernham Road, which has now been installed.
8. **Planning Applications** – There have been no fresh planning applications received since the last Parish Meeting. However, at this Meeting the Clerk had been alerted to a Screening Opinion dated 31st May 2013 for a possible 45 hectare solar park on Home Farm Land. The Clerk had never received notification of this opinion. He, therefore, wrote to the Vale's Chief Executive Officer to explain the discrepancy when he had been alerted to a screening opinion regarding possible housing development along the Fernham Road (adjacent to 'Woodlands') but not in the case of the Solar Farm. (The Clerk thought that it was sufficiently important to the village to copy the correspondence in Document D).
9. **Significant Correspondence** - This item was dealt with in the usual way and the list was distributed beforehand so there was more time to see what was on offer.
10. **Report of Site Meeting regarding Build Out/s on the Fernham Road** – The Clerk had prepared bundles of documents A, B and C which attempted to show the background information to support the proposal which was contained in the Report of the Site Meeting on 24th January 2014. (This report appeared on the back of the Agenda for the evening's Meeting.)

The Clerk emphasised that it was vital to have the support of the Parish Meeting for any further action. After some discussion, it was agreed that provided no financial costs would be incurred in any investigation a vote on the following proposal should be taken.

"Shellingford Parish Meeting agrees the need for further investigation into the proposal to buy a 'build out' at the Fernham end of the Fernham Road"

Alan King proposed and Jenny Chesterton seconded. The voting was 9 in favour with no one against and 1 abstention.

Colin Broadley suggested a second and allied proposal which was further discussed at length. The Clerk's wording was amended as follows

"This investigation will include the price of one and a possible second build out which would be completed at the same time. County Councillor Melinda Tilley is to be approached for access to the Community Fund administered by the County Council"

Chris Price proposed and Mary Vogwell seconded.

The voting was nine in favour, no one against and one abstention.

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The Clerk will write to Tony Kirkwood to start further investigation on the basis of the two proposals.

Update: Tony Kirkwood has responded stating that a charge for investigation is likely to be levied, somewhere in the region of £300 to £500.

- 11. The A417 Site Meeting** - Item 23 on the November 2013 Minutes records concerns about the present state of the A417 between the Shellingford Crossroads and Cottage Road, Stanford. Accordingly a Site Meeting was arranged for February 3rd with the Area Steward (Keith Stenning). Colin Broadley gave a report of this Meeting and the Clerk had reproduced correspondence contained in Document E. (Unfortunately the Clerk had failed to include Colin's written report which he promised would be included in the Minutes when they are published. **(Please see Addendum for Colin's Report)**)

From reading Document E, the distinct and dismal picture of little or no money being available for any rectification of what seem to be obvious highway hazards. Let us hope that there are no accidents attributable to the condition of the A417 because the County Council now has a record of our legitimate concerns.

The offer to the Parish Meeting for them to spend £100 on a Speed Commission was declined.
- 12. Defibrillator**. The defibrillator news item had been copied (Document F). Colin Broadley had asked for this item to be put on the Agenda. On investigation he realised that the scheme was peculiar to West Oxfordshire and not applicable to the Vale. No further action was suggested.
- 13.** Parochial Church Council – There was no report.
- 14.** Shellingford School Report – This report from Judith Terrell, Head Teacher, had been copied as Document G. The contents were noted and the Head thanked for her report. It is worth mentioning that on Wednesday 2nd April 2014, a site meeting will take place concerning inappropriate parking in Church Street.
- 15.** Hall Committee Report – There had been no meetings since the last Parish Meeting.
- 16.** Any other business. Tricia Complin told us about the three blocked drains in the vicinity of the 'Gatehouse'. This was reported before Christmas and acknowledged with a reference number. Recently, another report was made anonymously but no remedial work had been promised by the County Council. The Clerk volunteered to follow up the report when he had received the reference number.
- 17.** Date of Next Meeting. It was agreed the next Parish Meeting would be on the suggested date Thursday 19th June starting at 7.30pm. However, as it was recognised that Thursdays were inconvenient for some residents a different day of the week would be considered for November.

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The meeting closed at 9pm and Jenny and Barry were thanked for the light refreshments available from 7pm

Phil Chesterton Clerk 02/04/2014

Additional Information and Contact Details

Melinda Tilley – melindatilley@oxfordshire.gov.uk 01865 520385

Robert Sharp - Robert.sharp@whitehorsedc.gov.uk 01367 710549

Offers of help in an emergency from:

Fernham Road

Barry Moody – 01367 710489 or Phil Chesterton – 01367 710308

Church Street

Sue Terry – 01367 710687 or Ben Drew – 01367 710473

The Christian Vision for Men Festival planned for June on Church Farm land will not now take place in Shellingford.

The bench has arrived, and should be ready for the crab apple blossom. It should seat 3 comfortably.

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