

## SHELLINGFORD PARISH MEETING

### Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9 November 2015 in the Community Hall

1a Welcome Barry Moody, in the Chair, welcomed 15 residents

1b Apologies were received from Jennifer Thompson, Tricia Complin and Imogen Jonas.

2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 June had been circulated electronically. There were no amendments. It was proposed by Jennie Chesterton and seconded by Alan King that the Minutes be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously.

3 Matters Arising None

4 Election of Clerk. The Chair asked for nominations. None were forthcoming. The chair indicated that this item would therefore be discussed again later, under Agenda Item 15

5. County Council Report. Cllr Melinda Tilley. Cllr. Tilley gave an oral report. As Cabinet Member for Education, she spoke of the impact of cuts on schools and Children's Centres. Further sharing of facilities with the Vale District Council was possible. There was a brief explanation of the way the County Council might manage without a Chief Executive Officer. The possible closure of the Stanford tip – she is hopeful that it will be saved, but no decision yet. Colin Broadley briefly mentioned that he had approached Coplestone brothers on the possibility that they could keep the tip open, using it for commercial waste. Cllr Tilley said she would pass the idea on. The Kingfisher Project (re. child abuse) was receiving better co-operation from the police. Only 3% of child abuse could be called sexual abuse. The other 97% was due to many other causes, e.g neglect, emotional abuse etc. Colin Broadley thanked Cllr Tilley for her work on behalf of the parish and the county.

8 Precept for 2016-2017

After some discussion, this was agreed at £1,500. Proposed by Alan King and seconded by Chris Price. Carried unanimously.

9. Annual Charity Donations. Agreed to send £100 to First Responders and £50 to the Independent Advice Centre in Wantage.

10 SpeedWatch Report –Chris Price The speedwatch device has been purchased jointly by 8 villages. Shellingford's contribution was £300. Chris is the coordinator for the 8 villages and will provide a rota. Shellingford's entitlement is one day a fortnight. Training in the use of the device has begun, and the police need to identify safe locations for its use. Chris is hoping for a team of 6 from Shellingford. A minimum of 2 people is required for efficient operation, 3 would be ideal. Chris will buy sufficient high-visibility jackets. The insurance aspect of the operation is undecided. (Shellingford has no public liability insurance). Chris mentioned that he would be notifying the School and Nursery School of the Speedwatch initiative.

Phil Chesterton thanked Chris for his work in making Shellingford a safer environment.

11. Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.)- Sue Terry The diocesan architect had visited St Faith's to report on the condition of the fabric. The Christmas Fair would be on 5th December in the Community Hall, 10.0 -12.0pm. The new vicar was 'taking an interest' in the village.

12 Financial Report - Sue Terry, Parish Treasurer. The audit had been successfully completed. To date, we had £3,741.49 in the bank. Sue was thanked by the Chair for her work on our behalf.

13. Community Hall Report – Sue Terry Although there had been no recent meetings, of the Committee there had been discussions with the School on sharing costs of maintenance and much needed alterations to the kitchen, and the regulations associated with these proposals.

14. School Governors' Report The Head has apologized for the fact that this was not available, as she was unaware of the date of the meeting and did not receive a copy of the last Parish minutes.

6. District Council Report – Cllr. Robert Sharp. The Vale's Local Plan Stage 1 had been completed. Stage 2 would be completed in January 2016. The arrangements for the District council following the arson attack were proving successful. Melinda Tilley had already mentioned the status of the Stanford Tip. There were no further questions.

15. Vacancy for a Parish Clerk The Chair outlined his personal thoughts on the problem. He was of the opinion that the Parish Meeting should continue albeit in a reduced form with an AGM held between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> June. There was considerable discussion. Several people said they thought the Parish Meeting must continue, it was the basis of our democratic structure. Residents need to be made more aware of the situation. It was agreed that Alan King and Phil Chesterton (former Parish Clerks) together with Barry Moody would produce a description of the Clerk's duties, to be distributed to every household, in the hope of finding a new Clerk.

16. Any Other Business. There was a presentation to Phil and Jennie Chesterton for their work on behalf of the Parish, who thanked the meeting for this very kind gesture.

17. Date of Next Meeting Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in the Community Hall, 7.0 for 7.30pm