

# Minutes of Shellingford Parish Meeting

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013 in the Shellingford Community Hall

1. **Welcome** – The Chair, Barry Moody welcomed the residents.  
**Apologies and Attendance** – These had been received from Jennifer Thompson, Tricia Complin, Nicky and Susanna Johnston together with County Councillor, Melinda Tilley and District Councillor, Robert Sharp.
2. **Signing of Previous Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013.** There were no amendments, corrections, alterations required for this record. Sue Terry proposed and Pam McLeod seconded the motion that they should be accepted. This was unanimously supported and the Chair signed them as a correct record.
3. **Matters Arising** – There was one matter arising from these Minutes, Item 11. “The County Councillor’s Report”, There was a possibility of securing some money for the construction of the ‘build out’ but no progress had been made. Melinda has now sent a COMMUNITY FUNDING REQUEST FORM which the Chair and Clerk were authorised to submit to Melinda who would sponsor our application.
4. **A) The Financial Report** – Our Treasurer, Sue Terry, reported that on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013, we had £2,258.24p in the Parish Meeting account. Sue assured Jennie Chesterton that the £283 for the proposed seat by the telephone box was ring-fenced. Barry Moody was paid £71 for the materials he had purchased for renovating the telephone box. Jennie Chesterton proposed and Colin Broadley seconded that we accept the Financial Report and the voting was unanimous. The Chair thanked Sue for her work. On Sue’s suggestion the Meeting moved on to Item 8 of the Agenda.  
**(Item 8) – Donations** - A sum of between E100 and £120 was agreed. After discussions it was unanimously agreed that the allocation of donations for this year should be £100 to the First Responders based in Stanford in the Vale and £20 to the Independent Advice Centre based in Wantage. Colin Broadley proposed this action which was seconded by Pam McLeod.  
**B) Precept for 2014-2015** - At present Shellingford’s precept is £750 which represents for a Band C property a total charge of £7.42 per year. The village has already agreed to the need for a ‘build out’ from the Fernham approach to the village on the B4508. The Clerk recommended a precept of £1,000 towards the cost of this ‘build out’ and after some discussion Jennie Chesterton proposed £1,000 and Mary Vogwell seconded this proposal. The vote was unanimous in favour of the increased precept.
5. **Report - County Councillor Melinda Tilley** – Melinda apologised for her absence but had sent a short written report chiefly concerned with the spending cuts being imposed on the County Council. Please remember you can contact Melinda on 01865 520385 or by emailing [melinda.tilley@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:melinda.tilley@oxfordshire.gov.uk)
6. **A) Report – District Councillor Robert Sharp** – Robert also apologised for the non-attendance. His written report concerned planning and applications for housing development in the Vale. The Vale’s Local Plan is likely to be published in late 2014. Please remember you can contact Robert on 01367 710549 or email [Robert.sharp@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:Robert.sharp@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

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**B)** The Chair had produced a written report of a meeting in Wantage in late September which brought together our MP, the leader of the Vale District Council and the Minister for Planning, Nick Bowles. Copies available on request.

In the discussion the Clerk was asked to write to our MP Ed Vaizey, with a copy to David Buckle, Chief Executive Officer of the Vale Council to emphasize Shellingford's concerns regarding the impact of any planning decisions on the infrastructure of the area such as increased traffic volumes, water supply and pressure as well as educational services. Where were the locally based sustainable jobs for the incoming residents?

7. **Significant Correspondence.** – This item was dealt with in the usual way and the lists were distributed beforehand so there was more time to see what was on offer. The Clerk took time to relate the sad story of poor services concerning the disposal of fly-tipped debris at the Shellingford Cross Roads. He also mentioned the annual Town/Parish Forum that both he and the Chair attended. This event covered the District Council's views on 1. Relaxation of Planning Regulations; 2. Community Governance Reviews, and Boundary Changes that do not affect us; 3. The possibility of a Shellingford Parish Charter; 4. The Local Plan update. In addition there were surgeries and interviews with relevant service personnel and numerous stands. We both felt it was a useful, if at times confusing evening with perhaps too much information 'overload'.  
The Emergency Plan was also completed. The recent planning application for a new conservatory at 'Woodlands' Fernham Road was discussed and there were no objections from those at the Meeting.
8. **See insert after Item 4**
9. **Update on the Telephone Kiosk and Seat** – The Meeting warmly thanked Barry (Chair) for his work during the summer in restoring and reconditioning our telephone box. The Clerk produced copies of the draft diagram of the Fernham Road and Church Street residences which will eventually be on display in the box. He asked for comments as to accuracy and wondered whether the Kitemore, Sands, Newbury Farms as well as the Goodlake Barns should be shown as inserts on the diagram. This was thought desirable. The Clerk apologised for his inaction in obtaining a suitable seat. There should be progress in the spring time when the Crab Apple trees were in blossom.
10. **The Parish Church Committee Report.** – This was given by Sue Terry. Sue spoke of the very successful Fund Raising event which totalled over £2,600 toward the St. Faith's Restoration Fund. There were still plans to include toilets and catering facilities within the Church.
11. **The School Governor's Report.** – The head had previously produced a written report which the Clerk distributed. Earlier in the day (the 21<sup>st</sup>) the Chair had received a letter from Susan Long, a School Governor. It outlined the perennial problems of inconsiderate car parking in the vicinity of the School and made suggestions for the alleviation of the present situation. How could the Parish Meeting help? Points that arose from the discussion were 1) The Parish Meeting has no legal powers to influence the problem and 2) A solution was more likely to come from a Meeting between the affected farmers, the school and the Police. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to the Chair of Governors along these lines. The head was thanked for her report.
12. **Hall Committee Report.** – There was no Report.

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13. **Any other Business.** - Colin Broadley drew attention to the recently completed road improvements to the Shellingford Quarry entrance. He expressed concern that no grading of the road side bank had been done with the result that soil is being washed onto the road surface after rainfall. The Clerk also commented that the dangerous gullying was still present along stretches of the A417 which in his opinion was creating an 'accident waiting to happen'. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter to the Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department outlining these two concerns. Mike Vogwell raised the perennial problem of drainage in the vicinity of Wilderness Copse which should have been repaired when the Farm Cottages Development was permitted. The Clerk suggested writing to our MP as Thames Water and the Highways Department seemed uninterested in addressing the problem. (Update – drains have been rodded, and new drains installed outside Wilderness Copse, moves are in hand by the Highways Department to repair the crushed drains which were discovered to go under the Garden of Wilderness Copse via a French drain out to the fields. The Highways Department were very pleased as they had been looking for the drains for many years, and the repairs should help alleviate many of the drainage issues on the Fernham Road).
14. **Date of Next Meeting.** – As the suggested date fell in half term, it was thought better to move the date to Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Sue Terry would put the date in the Hall Booking Diary.

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Jennie and Barry were thanked for the welcome provisions of light refreshments.

Phil Chesterton 10/10/2013

With winter knocking on our doors it is well to remember that  
Barry Moody (710489) and Phil Chesterton (710308) in Fernham Road  
and

Sue Terry (710687) and Ben Drew (710471) in Church Street

have offered to help where they can in an emergency.

This may be of particular use to the newcomers to Shellingford.

Some Pub Quiz knowledge gathered from the 2011 Census

Shellingford Parish has a population of 173.

It has an area of 712 hectares

(1 acre is 0.405 hectares)

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Merry Christmas