**SHELLINGFORD PARISH MEETING**

**Minutes of Parish Meeting on 29 October 2018 at The Community Hall**

1. *Welcome and Attendance*

Barry Moody, Chairman, welcomed thirteen residents to the meeting.

Before proceeding, the Chairman noted the recent deaths of Richard Jonas and Joyce Sharp. He expressed his and the village’s sadness at the passing of two longstanding residents who had contributed greatly to the Shellingford community.

Attendees were asked to sign the Attendance Record. Apologies for absence had been received from Jane Stevens, Jane Samways and Jennifer Thompson.

2. *Previous Meeting*

Minutes of the meeting on 16 April 2018 were reviewed and accepted as an accurate record without amendment. The Chairman signed these minutes.

3. *Matters Arising*

It was noted that the £50 approved at the previous meeting (minute 13 of 16 April 2018) as a contribution to The Community Picnic Lunch on 25 May had not been required and therefore payment had not been made.

4. *County Council Report*

Councillor Anda Fitzgerald-O’Connor submitted an oral report.

The possibility of a 20 mph speed limit in the village was discussed at length. Anda did not think it was impossible but it would involve detailed traffic surveys, traffic orders and approval expenses. Normally a village has to pay for speed testing and traffic monitoring. The speed watch equipment is already available and it was felt that the process should be explored further. Anda will investigate and inform Roy Samways, Clerk, about the correct County Council procedure.

Anda explained several recent developments within the County Council. Improved support services for the elderly are available through [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/livewell](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/livewell). £120 million has been allocated to pothole and road repairs in the county. A new Chief Executive Officer, Yvonne Rees, has been appointed from South Cherwell.

Anda is a member of the Planning and Children & Social Care committees of the County Council.

5. *District Council Report*

Councillor Robert Sharp had been unable to attend the meeting ~~until the last item of Any Other Business. He was asked if he wished to raise anything at that stage but did not do so.~~

In his absence, the Clerk briefly summarised the content of a Town and Parish Forum that he had attended on 24 September.

6. *Planning Applications*

The Clerk, mentioned the applications that had arisen since the last Parish Meeting.

Both the demolition of two galvanised steel grain silos at Church Farm and the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house at Wickwood Farm had been granted approval.

7. *Planning Application for Western Extension to Shellingford Quarry*

The Clerk detailed the events that had occurred since the last Parish Meeting.

The quarry operator, Multi-Agg, had held an open exhibition at the quarry on 30 June which had been well attended by local residents. This had created the opportunity to ask detailed questions of Matthew Copplestone (co-owner of Multi-Agg) and his agent, Gemma Crossley.

The Quarry Subcommittee of the Parish Meeting had met on four occasions since April.

On 20 September letters from Oxfordshire County Council had been received by certain residents notifying them of a planning application to extend the quarry (MW.0104/18). The publicity period was stated to be from 20 September to 22 October. The Clerk had not been informed of this and after an official complaint, the process was recommenced with a revised publicity period from 16 October to 15 November.

An Extraordinary Parish Meeting to discuss the application had not been called because of the timing of the current meeting. Matthew Copplestone and Gemma Crossley had been asked to address the current meeting but had prior engagements.

The Quarry Subcommittee had sought assistance from the Campaign for Protection of Rural England and professional advice from Carter Jonas LLP (chartered surveyors and property consultants).

After considering the advice received, the Quarry Subcommittee now made four proposals:

1. That a letter of objection to the planning application should be submitted on behalf of the Parish Meeting before 15 November.

A List of Points to be included in such a letter was issued for discussion. Anda Fitzgerald-O’Connor pointed out that mineral extraction must demonstrate that it does not have an unacceptable adverse impact on various factors listed in Policy C5 of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy 2017. She also agreed that the current monitoring of activity of Oxfordshire County Council is not up to standard. One minor amendment was made to the Hydrology paragraph of the List of Points.

1. That permission be given to seek mitigation of the effects of the quarry extension if it appears that approval is to be granted.
2. That permission be given to be represented at any of the Oxfordshire County Council meetings that consider the application. Such representation might be by a member of the Quarry Subcommittee or a professional appointee. In addition, Anda Fitzgerald-O’Connor offered to speak on behalf of the Parish.
3. That professional fees of up to a maximum of £1,000 be borne by the Parish. This was revised to a maximum of £2,000 at the suggestion of attendees.

After discussion of the proposals, all four were unanimously approved having been nominated by Mike Wright and seconded by Jennie Chesterton.

All attendees were encouraged to submit their own personal comments to Oxfordshire County Council either via their website or by letter or by email to the Case Officer, Mary Thompson.

8. *Financial Report*

Sue Terry, Treasurer, explained that the new system of accounts governance had required a period when the public could inspect the accounts and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return. This Exercise of Public Rights period had been from 25 June to 20 July.

There was a balance of £9,735 in the Parish bank account.

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to Sue for her work as Treasurer.

9. *Precept for 2019/2020*

The Chairman explained that recent precept amounts had been intended to meet future Community Hall developments. Discussion was held about how to fund any speed limit application.

The Chairman suggested that the Precept for the year to 31 March 2020 should remain at the previous year’s amount of £1,500. Phil Chesterton proposed and Mike Wright seconded a motion to approve this, which the meeting did unanimously.

10. *Annual Charity Donations*

Amounts of £150 to First Responders, £50 to Wantage Independent Advice Centre and £50 to Thames Valley Air Ambulance were approved after votes proposed by Phil Chesterton and seconded by Christopher Price.

11. *Speed Watch Report*

Christopher Price submitted an oral report.

A recent check in September had observed between six and eight vehicles breaking the 30 mph speed limit on the Fernham Road. One of these had been travelling in excess of 50 mph. Further checks are scheduled for November and December when Church Street will be included.

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to Christopher and the Speed Watch team.

12. *Community Hall Report*

Sue Terry submitted an oral report.

Refurbishment of the kitchen facilities had been completed with the majority of the cost being met by the Diocese of Oxford.

Plans to extend the facilities and amend the structure of the Community Hall had been placed on hold.

13. *Parochial Church Council Report*

Sue Terry mentioned three important events in the coming months. The Remembrance Sunday Service on 11 November to commemorate in particular those involved in the First World War would be followed by a lunch in the Community Hall. The Christmas Fayre would be held on Saturday 1 December. The church Carols by Candlelight service would be on Sunday 9 December.

14. *School Headteacher’s Report*

Judith Terrell had submitted a written report which was issued to the meeting. This was reviewed.

15. *Any Other Business*

The Clerk reported that BT Openreach had connected superfast broadband facilities to the village in June. A poster explaining the new facilities had been placed on the noticeboard.

The Shellingford village website had been revised.

Vale of White Horse District Council will be carrying out a deep clean of the village common areas between 4 and 6 December.

Councillor Robert Sharp joined the meeting and explained that his mother had died the previous Thursday. The funeral would be held at St Faith’s, Shellingford on 13 November followed by a thanksgiving service at Wantage Methodist Church. Robert invited all village residents to attend if they wished.

15. *Date of Next Meeting*

Planned for Monday 29 April 2019 at 19.30 in the Community Hall.

NB. The deletion in point 5 and the insertion of the last paragraph in point 15 (commencing “Councillor…” and ending “…wished.”) were amendments to the minutes made at the Parish Meeting on 29 April 2019.