**SHELLINGFORD PARISH MEETING**

**Minutes of Parish Meeting on 7 November 2022 at The Community Hall**

1. *Welcome and Attendance*

Fiona Wright, Chair, welcomed twenty two residents to the meeting. An Attendance Record was completed by those present. Apologies for absence had been received from Janine Elton, Dawn Pollard, Julian Pollard, Alastair Sharp, Janice Sharp, Robert Sharp and Jennifer Thompson.

2. *Previous Meeting*

Minutes of the meeting on 16 May 2022 were reviewed and accepted, subject to one amendment. After replacing “…water facilities…” with “…servery and WC…” in line one of topic three, the Chair signed these minutes.

3. *Matters Arising*

None arose that were not already covered on the agenda.

4. *County Council Report*

Councillor Juliette Ash arrived for this topic and left after it to attend another parish council meeting. She was able to listen and respond to various questions from parishioners. Most of these concerned speeding and traffic.

It was highlighted that A420 diversions have a major impact on Shellingford and all villages due to the roads not being wide enough. Juliette agreed that it was a major problem, but that it needs to be considered in the context of all of the A420. In particular, the A420 should not be a designated lorry route for HGVs. Juliette will raise this with the County Council and the Chair will discuss possible HGV restrictions with Mark Francis, Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department at an already arranged meeting.

Juliette said that it might be more effective to work with other parishes on this topic. The Chair agreed and suggested a working group of parish council representatives be organised by Juliette.

Congestion at school drop off and pick up times was discussed. Juliette felt that something small could be done to improve matters and she has a small budget that could be used. She asked the Parish Meeting to suggest ideas. On this topic, Janine Rowe offered to talk to the Headteacher about the school buses.

Roy Samways, Clerk, will write to Juliette thanking her for attending this meeting and answering parishioners’ questions.

5. *District Council Report*

Councillor Nathan Boyd had been unable to attend due to other meetings.

6. *Planning Applications*

The Clerk reported on applications and decisions since the last Parish Meeting.

An appeal against the decision by VOWH District Planning to refuse a Permission in Principle application for the construction of up to four dwellings at Home Farm at the end of Church Street had been allowed by the Planning Inspectorate on 6 June.

An application to form a new highway access, with a surfaced track, to Church Farm is under consideration by VOWH District Planning. The proposed plans had been available for parishioners to review at a display at Goodlake Barns in July.

7*. Neighbourhood Plan Report*

Mike Wright submitted an oral report.

An exhibition of the documents and progress made had been held on 25 October. Sharon Brentnall of our advisors, Bluestone Planning, had been present to respond to questions. A flyer had been delivered today to all village properties encouraging everyone to complete an online questionnaire with their views on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Mike Wright was thanked for his work on the Plan.

8*. Financial Report*

The Treasurer reported that the current funds held were £5,865.

9*. Budget for the Parish*

* *Community Infrastructure Levy (“CIL”)*

The Clerk reported that VOWH had notified him that £7,784 of CIL funds were available to the Parish. As Shellingford only has a Parish Meeting, these funds cannot be spent without VOWH approval through its application process. The Clerk explained what the funds could be used for and the differences from a section 106 obligation.

The Clerk reported that he had applied for the first tranche of CIL to be used on the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device. VOWH had required that this be approved by a Parish Meeting. A motion to apply for the expenditure of CIL on the acquisition of a Speed Indicator Device was proposed by Barry Moody, seconded by Jennie Chesterton and unanimously approved.

A discussion was held about how the remaining CIL could be used. Possible improvements to the Community Hall and the clearance of village footpaths were suggested. This topic will be included on the agenda for the next Parish Meeting.

* *Current Financial Information*

The Clerk explained the new spreadsheet, available on the village website, which sets out past, current year and budget income and expenditure.

* *Precept for 2023/2024*

The Chair reported the result of her Freedom of Information request showing that Shellingford had the sixth lowest precept in VOWH for Band D for those parishes who set a Precept last year. Having considered this and the Financial Information spreadsheet, a motion to retain the Precept for the year to 31 March 2024 at the previous year’s amount of £1,500 was proposed by Christopher Price, seconded by Mike Wright and unanimously approved.

* *Donations*

After discussion, a motion to donate £150 to First Responders, £50 to Vale Community Impact, £50 to Thames Valley Air Ambulance and £100 to Faringdon Food Bank was proposed by Barry Moody, seconded by Janine Rowe and unanimously approved.

* *Green Canopy*

Sue Terry proposed that a tree be planted under this scheme. As the parish does not own any suitable land, it was suggested that this should be considered initially by the Mann Trust.

10*.* *Traffic Calming Subcommittee Report*

The Chair expressed her belief that a new 20 mph speed limit in Shellingford could be implemented by Oxfordshire County Council between Spring 2023 and Spring 2024.

Approved speed camera road signs had been purchased and installed. A new hand held speed camera had been purchased.

Sites, within the village, for poles to mount a Speed Indicator Device had been agreed with Mark Francis, Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department. However, a resident had objected to the site opposite Shellingford House and alternatives will be discussed with Mark Francis on 11 November.

Christopher Price reported that the speed gun had been used for nine sessions over two months and captured 120 vehicles speeding at over 36 mph. Mark Francis will be asked if new 30 mph signs could be placed near Goddards on the Fernham Road.

Three people are needed to conduct speed watch sessions and volunteers are needed.

The meeting thanked the subcommittee for their work and commitment and Julian Mellor for painting the telephone box on Fernham Road.

11*. Community Hall Report*

Sue Terry submitted an oral report.

There had been improvements and maintenance work completed recently. New blinds and a refurbishment of the toilets had largely been paid for by the school, whilst the cost of internal painting had been borne by the Hall Committee. It is hoped to increase use of the Hall now that the Covid-19 situation has improved.

12*. Parish Footpaths Wardens Report*

Janine Elton had been unable to attend and the Clerk read out her report. Christine Powell volunteered as a replacement for Fiona O’Regan who had stood down recently.

13*. Parochial Church Council Report*

Sue Terry reported that a Service of Remembrance will be held on 13 November and the Carols by Candlelight service is to be on 11 December. The Christmas Fayre is planned for 26 November.

Imogen Jonas explained the progress made on the project to provide a servery and WC in St Faith’s church. An architect had produced various options that had been considered by the Parochial Church Council and made available for comment by everyone at various village functions during the year. It had been decided to pursue option 1A (outside WC and water connection at an approximate cost of £150,000) now with the aim to eventually achieve option 5 (replace existing vestry and redevelop). A response from the Diocese is hoped for by 30 November. The proposed location of the external WC has changed following a Diocesan Board visit and the Chair asked that updated plans be made available for review by residents. Imogen readily agreed. A plea for assistance to Jane Matthews in fund raising

was made.

14*.* *School Headteacher’s Report*

Judith Terrell’s written report was reviewed. It was especially noted that the school had recently received a successful “Good” assessment from an Ofsted inspection.

15*. General*

No questions were raised.

16*. Any Other Business*

Attention was drawn to the King’s Coronation on 6 May 2023 and to the fact that it will be 100 years in 2023 since Shellingford became distinct from estate ownership. Celebrations in both cases will be considered.

The Clerk reported that Oxfordshire County Council plan to conduct a “deep cleanse” of village pavements between 12 and 14 December.

17*. Date of Next Meeting*

Planned for Monday 15 May 2023 at 19.30 in the Community Hall.