

SHUSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

7.15pm Monday 8th July 2019

at

Shustoke Village Hall

Minutes

PRESENT:- Councillor B Chandler (Chair), Councillors G Daw, S Taylor
Clerk to the Council, D Jeans.
Also present – Councillor Wright NWBC
One member of the public.

1. Village Hall Evacuation Procedures

1.1 The Chair confirmed all present were aware of the evacuation procedures.

2. Apologies

2.1 Councillors approved the absence of Councillors L and R Pugh.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting (13th May 2019)

4.1 The draft minutes of the meeting on 13th May 2019 had been published and their adoption was proposed by Councillor Chandler, seconded by Councillor Taylor, and agreed by Councillors present. The Chair duly signed the minutes.

5. Matters arising

5.1 There were no matters arising.

6. Contributions from the Public (Maximum 30 minutes)

6.1 A member of the public questioned the quality of the recreation ground car park surface. Councillor Chandler outlined the work undertaken to date and highlighted

that the Council provided free parking for parents of the School as a community service.

7. Financial Report and Audit

- 7.1 The Clerk confirmed that all necessary documentation in relation to the 2018/19 audit had been received by the external auditor and no challenge had been made.
- 7.2 The opportunity for the public to request to view the accounts had been published and was due to terminate Friday 26th July. A reminder had been added to the website.
- 7.3 The Clerk had circulated the June financial report and supporting bank statements. He had also circulated the updated budgets for 2019/20 for both the Council and hall. On a proposal by Councillor Chandler, seconded by Councillor Gough, the Council resolved to accept the financial reports and the updated 2019/20 budgets which were duly signed by the Chair.
- 7.4 Schedules of payments were presented to the Council for both the Council and hall, which were approved and signed by Councillors Chandler and Gough.

8. Planning Matters

- 8.1 There were no planning matters outstanding.

9. Reports from County and Borough Councillors

- 9.1 Borough Councillor Wright advised that Shustoke Allotments had secured a NWBC grant of £1,500.
- 9.2 Following a question from the Chair, Councillor Wright confirmed that the Lengthsman Scheme was a County Council initiative, but he was aware it was working well in Fillongley. He agreed to confirm the availability of a service to Shustoke. He also agreed to consider any funding request in respect of a mains gas supply to the Hall.

Action – Clerk

- 9.3 Councillor Wright updated the Council in respect of the adoption of the Local Plan. There was unlikely to be any development within Shustoke – the focus being on Atherstone, Polesworth and Dordon. The original Borough requirement for 15 houses within Shustoke had been met through the Shawbury Lane development.

10. Reports from Parish Councillors

10.1 Patient Participant Group

10.1.1 Councillor Chandler provided an update and reminded Councillors a ‘Lasting Power of Attorney’ presentation would take place shortly.

10.2 Walk to School Initiative and Afternoon Tea Event

10.2.1 Councillor Chandler confirmed that the ‘Walk to School’ week took place 10th to 14th June but was affected by the poor weather. No one used the Plough car park as was intended.

10.3 Telephone Kiosk

10.3.1 Councillor Chandler undertook to circulate options to Councillors.

Action – Councillor Chandler

10.4 Village Hall

10.4.1 The Clerk provided a financial update. Councillors had received a detailed report from Councillor R Pugh at the recent Hall Trustees meeting.

10.5 Horticultural Services

10.5.1 Councillors highlighted that the hedges had not been cut but accepted that no cut would be possible prior to September.

10.5.2 The Clerk was asked to write to the resident in Church Road in respect of a garden hedge overhanging the footpath.

Action - Clerk

10.6 Recreation Ground & Play Equipment- RG

10.6.1 Councillor Gough had researched sources of funding for new equipment. Full fencing was required for play areas for under 13s.

10.6.2 It was agreed that a working group would be set up under Councillor Gough to propose solutions and take forward grant applications.

Action – Councillor Gough

10.7 Community Engagement Event

10.7.1 Councillor Daw reported on the recent community engagement event which had proved very successful and had been well attended. A Facebook group had been set up to service a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

10.7.1 No residents had made contact re the Speedwatch question and the Clerk was asked to add something to the website. Residents could also be asked about the inappropriate use of Church Road by large goods vehicles.

Action – Clerk

10.8 Neighbourhood Watch

10.8.1 This was covered under 10.7.

10.9 Parking Issues

10.9.1 Councillor Gough advised that she understood a rail around the Green to prevent parking would be financed by a local business. The Clerk agreed to seek quotes for the work.

Action - Clerk

10.10 Street Lighting

10.10.1 In response to enquiries at the Community Engagement event, the Clerk had contacted Warwickshire County Council and received the latest street lighting policy. Unless there was a specific crime issue, no change in the current policy was likely.

10.11 NWAC

10.11.1 Work continued to increase the effectiveness of the North Warwickshire Area Committee of Town and Parish Councils.

11. Date of Annual Meeting of the Parish 2020

11.1 The Council had previously agreed that the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Parish should take place 13th April. However, this would be the Easter Bank Holiday. Councillors were asked to consider moving the event to 6th or 20th April.

11.2 Councillors resolved to hold the meeting on 6th April 2020.

12. Correspondence

12.1 Severn Trent Waterworks Building – Station Road

12.1.1 The Clerk reported that he had received a request from Nether Whitacre Parish Council in respect of the poor state of repair of the listed Waterworks building, just within the Shustoke Parish boundary.

12.1.2 The Clerk reported that he had written to Severn Trent and received assurance that £1m would be spent on renovation during 2019 and proposed that Councillors should monitor the extent of repair. The Nether Whitacre Parish Clerk had been updated.

12.2 Request to Purchase Land – Recreation Ground

12.2.1 The Clerk had received a request from a resident in Croxall Drive to purchase a section of the recreation ground for the purpose of extending the land around her adjacent property.

12.2.2 The Clerk reminded Councillors that the recreation ground was subject to a Non-Charitable Deed of Dedication to the Fields in Trust – Queen Elizabeth II Fields. The deed included an undertaking from the Council not to dispose of the land without the consent of ‘Fields in Trust’. Whilst it might legally be possible to dispose of part of the land, there would likely be legal costs to be paid simply in ascertaining what rights were retained by the Council under the Deed of Dedication. Councillors were therefore asked to consider the principle of disposing of part of the field before legal expenses were incurred.

12.2.3 Following discussion, Councillors resolved that no Parish land should be sold. The Clerk was asked to inform the resident.

Action - Clerk

I certify that these minutes, comprising five pages and attached Council and hall payment schedules covering 14th May and 8th July 2019, represent a true record of the ordinary meeting held on 8th July 2019.

_____ *Chair* _____ *Date*