

# SHUSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 31st July 2023 at 7.30pm

## EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

### PUBLISHED MINUTES

**Present:** Councillors G. Dupree (in the Chair), O. Brown, L. Dupree, G. Farr and G. Noble  
Clerk – Neil Millard  
2 members of the public (prospective councillors)

#### **1 Apologies**

- 1.1 All Councillors were present.
- 1.2 Councillor Brown declared her acceptance of office at the meeting as prescribed by the Council at its previous meeting

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda.

#### **3 Consideration of Co-option to fill Casual Vacancies (2)**

- 3.1 Local residents, Richard Hill and Nicola Larkin were present at the meeting and both indicated their willingness to become members of the Council. They had both previously indicated an interest in co-option and Mr. Hill had also previously been a member of the Council
- 3.2 It was RESOLVED that Richard Hill and Nicola Larkin be co-opted to fill the two remaining casual vacancies on the Council
- 3.3 The two candidates for office both declared their acceptance of office to formally become members of the Council.

#### **4. Consideration of Terminating the Current Arrangement for Providing Horticultural Services at Shustoke Recreation Ground**

- 4.1 Members discussed at length the performance of the contractor providing the grass cutting service at the Recreation Ground. This included the background issues including splitting the contract, changing specification and the late appointment of the contractor. The Chairman advised that he had met the contractor and believed that there was limited scope for the current situation to be rectified by him to the Council's satisfaction.
- 4.2 It was RESOLVED that the current arrangement for providing horticultural services at the Recreation Ground be terminated with immediate effect.
- 4.3 The Clerk was instructed to write to Liam Harper in sympathetic terms reflecting the fact some of the problems that have arisen were out of his control. Members also agreed that any outstanding invoices from him be paid.

**5. Consideration of Interim Arrangements and Specification for Providing Horticultural Services at Shustoke Recreation Ground**

- 5.1 The Clerk advised that he had accepted a quotation from the Rae Rose company to try and get the previously cut areas under control. This was in accordance with the decision made by the Council at its previous meeting. He had been assured that the work would be carried out on the following day.
- 5.2 Members discussed at some length the potential options for providing a service for the remainder of the current year. The Clerk advised that there appeared to be some confusion regarding the exact specification for the work required particularly the provision of wild areas and whether these needed to be retained or cut back. A local contractor had been contacted and he had offered estimates for carrying out ongoing grass cutting and strimming.
- 5.3 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk engage the Rae Rose Company to undertake a further cut of the previously cut areas and to trim the wild grass with the exception of two specific areas. He was authorised to incur expenditure up to a maximum of £250 and the work to be carried out prior to the next meeting.
- 5.4 It was RESOLVED that the Council review the situation and the question of interim arrangements and specification at the next meeting

**6. Consideration of a Response to Consultation Regarding the Following Planning Application: Waterworks House, Station Road,**

- 6.1 The Chairman provided an outline of the history of the original and amended application and the views of the residents of the adjacent property.
- 6.2 It was RESOLVED that no response be made to the consultation in respect of this planning application.

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:45pm.*

**I certify the above minutes, comprising two pages as a true and correct of the meeting which took place.**

**Signed .....**      **Name .....**

**Chair**                                      **Date**