**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT**

**7.30PM ON THURSDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2018 IN THE CHURCH CENTRE, SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councilors Oakley (acting Chairman), T Kennard, R McNamara, P Watts, K Ridout, P Acton, R P Arron, DCC Sherry Jespersen, ROW Officer G Rains; and the clerk D Green; in addition, there were 7 members of the public in attendance.

**313. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Webberley

**314. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Oakley re Item 9 planning, wife has been involved in the application concerning 26 Church Road, Shillingstone

**315. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** the minutes of the meeting held on 2st August 2018 were approved.

**316. MATTERS ARISING:** Discussed per agenda items below

The Chairman advised the meeting that letters have been sent to the Seniors, The Women’s’ Institute and Shillingstone School, suggesting that in view of the significance of this Remembrance Sunday event (100 years since the end of the Great War), that these groups might also like to provide wreaths. The Seniors have kind agreed to provide a wreath. A quality wreath has been ordered by the Clerk for the Council. The Chairman asked Mike Powell to let the council know if there are any other groups that may possibly like to provide a wreath.

**317. PUBLIC SESSION TO RAISE ISSUES**

Lesley Gasson raised four issues:

Hine Town Lane planning issue – Lesley had submitted a video to the planning authority which had been refused, and subsequently sent some 18 photographs. Apparently, there was a visit by a planning officer on 8th August 2018, and a report was due to be issued by 20th August. The Clerk reported that nothing had been received. Cllr Jespersen advised the meeting that planning do not usually advise the outcome of these visits.

Harvest Supper – will be held on Sunday 7th October at 6.00 p.m.; it’s a ‘bring and share’ event, and she hopes to bring along a barrel of cider; there will also be a ‘singalong.

Churchyard trees – Sandy Saunders has visited and identified a variety of trees, some dead & dying. The plan is to raise the crowns of some trees by some 3 metres from the ground to open the view of Child Okeford, though some permissions are required. Due to the cost the work will be done in stages. There had been an adhoc meeting with Mr. Ian Moore were the height of the hedge and the fence at Church field had been discussed.

Street cleaning – Lesley requested that the sweep is booked for November/December after the leaf fall.

Bob Yorath raised the question of the Charitable status of the Recreation Ground and the free use of this by the Cricket Club and Football club. The Charitable status prevents the Parish Council from charging for usage, and suggested that donations for use should be made. The clerk advised yearly donations are made to cover the cost of water and electricity used by the Cricket Club on a metered basis.

**318. COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

Cllr Jespersen advised that much of Deborah Croney’s report relates to the arrangements for the Unitary Council formation, including the appointment of a Shadow Council in the interim period. She explained that there is a newsletter being produced and website information, with ‘frequently asked questions’ information. She advised that questions have arisen as to what will happen about council buildings other than South Walks in Dorchester, where the head office will be based, but that no decisions about other offices have yet been taken. She stated that it is important that council operations are ‘business as usual’ with the intention that there should be no perceived fall of standards. Cllr Jespersen, being the new lead on communities also explained that in is important that there is no cut in the budgets for community groups, and it is hoped that these will all be rolled forward in April for at least a year.

Cllr Oakley raised the issue of the Steam Fair parking, which appear to be poorly arranged this year, a ‘one at a time’ system in place which had led to a lot of traffic congestion. Cllr Jespersen agreed to take this point forward.

**319. FOOTPATHS:**

**Footpaths officer report:**

Graham Rains reported several issues:

Footpath 7 - has brambles growing across it and would like to ask the Parish Council to politely ask the adjacent householder to cut it back.

Graham said he would raise several issues with Graham Stanley:

1. Quarry footpath – Graham asked if anyone was aware if a new sign had been erected. No one has any knowledge.
2. Bridleway 1 – is apparent overgrown & has some debris.
3. Bridge over the Stour – apparently the post is split.

**320. ROADS:**

Cllr Oakley confirmed that the sign at ‘The Knapps’ will be replaced, though this will take some 12 weeks, and he hoped that the sign would be correctly located. Graham Rains commented that this should be put on the other side of the road where it does not require hedge trimming.

The matter of the roads and the issues raised by Katrina Holland was discussed. Cllr Oakley praised the actions of Katrina in bringing these issues to the fore. Katrina explained to the meeting the dangers of vehicles parking and excessive speed near the Co-op. She has discussed this matter with Rolly Skeats of Highways at length. The key problems are the lack of a footpath on the Co-op side and people crossing at a dangerous point. She explained that the SID indicator is continually flashing indicating drivers travelling at excess speed. Katina reported that the mobile camera team had been seen the village on 5th September. Cllr Oakley explained that Rolly Skeats had provided the Council with some suggestions as to how the situation could be managed better, with reference to parking these include the installation of some hazard markers some 450 mm from the kerb edge, the pros and cons of which being: 1) vehicles could still get one wheel on the verge so will continue to park there, so will mean the vehicle are parked further out into the road 2) this will urbanise the area making you feel more like you are in a town environment. In relation to a safer crossing point, Rolly has suggested that the drop kerb at the end of the grassed area that could be re-established as a full kerb, the grass could be extended by 1 meter, this may have the effect of pushing people down the road further to a safer position to cross the road. He proposes to trial the use of a ‘false footpath’.

The council agreed to request Rolly to go ahead with his suggested issues and report back, and also like to ask why further speed warning devices or a camera could not be installed.

Cllr McNamara commented in relation to the problems with the Co-op entrance in that it works as a bottleneck, letting only one car in or out at a time. It was said that this must have been obvious to the planners as the scheme had been passed. The matter of further speed warning devices was discussed. Cllr Jespersen advised that these cost around £2500 and are no magic bullet to prevent drivers speeding.

Cllr McNamara raised the issue of whether the layby adjacent to The Cross could be re-designated as residents’ parking’ in view of the lack of spaces for the new houses opposite. The Clerk reported that the Community Highways Officer is now Robert Yarrow, who has been contacted, but is ill at the moment. Cllr Jespersen suggested that the issue is raised again.

**321. PLANNING**

**2/2018/1020/HOUSE | Erect single storey side extension. | 1 Pepper Hill Shillingstone Dorset DT11 0TD**

This involves the creation of a side extension to the property for the purposes of providing a new bedroom and shower room for a disabled child. Would not appear to impact on neighbouring properties at 2 or 8 Wessex Avenue.

No objections were raised.

**2/2018/1110/FUL | Engineering operations to re-grade and re-surface an existing embankment to enable the diversion of the North Dorset Trailway. | Shillingstone Station Road Shillingstone DT11 0SA**

Preliminary work to provide a trackway for access to proposed diversion area.

No objections were raised.

**2/2018/0823/HOUSE | Erect 1 No. single storey, detached outbuilding for use as a workshop/summer house. | 26 Church Road Shillingstone DT11 0SL**

A letter from Kevin Phillip, resident of adjoining property ‘Garfields’ concerning this, which has been circulated to the Council. Kevin Phillips attended the meeting, as did Alex Whicher who has submitted the application. Cllr Kennard Chaired the discussion regarding this proposal.

Kevin Phillips raised his concerns about the impact of the building in terms of the height of the building in relation to the hedges and proximity to his hedges. He explained that the boundary hedges are 2.5 metres high, not 4 m high as quoted in the application. The rear window of the outbuilding will overlook his rear garden and with a resultant loss of privacy. The view of Hambledon Hill from his bedroom windows will be obscured. He also expressed his concerns in relation to the possible use of the building for parties and possible noise disruption, being only 14 metres from his bedroom window. He also raised the matter of the visual impact of the property within the conservation area, that it would be visible from the church. He explained that the Planning Officer will be making another visit to assess the impact of the building, and a Tree Officer will also make a visit. Alex Whicher explained the proposal as he sees I, and confirmed that a mistake had been made in the measurement of the hedge. He gave a letter to the clerk summarising his views. Cllr McNamara queried the location of the proposed building adjacent to the fence nearest to Garfields, and questioned why it could not be moved to the other side of the area. Alex Whicher explained that it would be located down a slope though in theory a move to that part of the area would be possible. Cllr Arron summarised the possible objections to the proposal as being a) loss of privacy, b) Potential noise and c) Impact of the building within the conservation area, all of which are material planning considerations. A motion was proposed by Cllr Acton and seconded by Cllr McNamara to object to the proposal for these reasons. This was carried by a majority vote.

**2/2018/1039/OUT | Demolish single storey extension and develop land by the erection of 1 No. dwelling with on-site parking. (Outline application with all matters reserved). | Part Garden Of 28 Wessex Avenue Shillingstone Dorset DT11 0TG**

This concerns the demolition of an existing extension and replacement with a new two storey dwelling with parking, in a residential area.

No objections were raised.

**322. FINANCES:**

1. **These cheques and payments were approved:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CQ Number** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** |
|  |  |  |  |
| Debit Card | £ 50.00 | Royal British Legion | Wreath |
| DD | £ 35.00 | Information Commissioners | Reg fee |
| S/O | £ 333.00 | Cricket Club | Rec mowing |
| 2192 | £ 20,000.00 | Nationwide - 95 day deposit | Deposit |
| 2193 | £ 15,000.00 | Nationwide - Instant Access | Deposit |
| 2194 | £ 582.96 | David Green | Aug pay |
| 2195 | £ 583.16 | David Green | Sept pay |
| 2196 | £ 125.60 | HMRC | PAYE |
| 2197 | £ 222.00 | AJS Plumbing & Heating | Switch - Pod |
| 2198 | £ 240.00 | PKF | AGAR Return |
| 2199 | £ 1,905.34 | Came & Company | Insurance |
| 2200 | £ 48.75 | I K Services | Litterpick |
| 2201 | £ 45.00 | Pestwright | Wasp nest |
| 2202 | £ 46.05 | David Green | Expenses |

**323. PLAY AREAS, RECREATION GROUND AND PROPERTY CHECK:**

1. **Play areas**

Whitepits - The Clerk advised that the swings at damaged area had been removed due to safety concerns regarding continued use of that area. He is waiting to have a firm date for the re-surfacing work by Redlynch Leisure

Recreation Ground – The Clerk advised that Steven Day has been asked to give a date when the cableway groundwork will be completed, and reported an issue with a broken spring at the cableway; he will also be asked to attach the new swings at Whitepits.

The Clerk is waiting to receive a quote from Davies Fencing re the bollard replacements at the Recreation Ground Car Park.

1. **Trees and hedges**

It was reported by Cllr Watts that the car park area at the Rec needs strimming. The Clerk was asked to enquire of the lengthsman when this could be dealt with.

It was reported by Cllr Watts that the grating at the Honeysuckle Roar/Vale Terrace area is blocked with trees & debris. Matter to be reported to DCC by the Clerk.

1. **Pavilion:**

The Clerk reported that a New hot water controller had been installed in the Pod to control the system from the changing rooms, so that access to the boiler cupboard no longer required.

1. **Pavilion refurbishment proposal progress**

The Clerk advised that flooring & plumbing quotes had been forwarded to Clive Nelson & the Cricket Club to consider how best to approach making a funding bid. Their committee was due to consider the matter on 28th September.

**324. MOBILE APP PROTOTYPE DEMONSTRATION**

The Clerk reported that unfortunately the prototype App was not quite ready yet. The developers, The App Office had though sent some initial screenshots of working screens. It was felt that these were generally fine; the matter of the name within the App Store was discussed, the need to restrict the visible name to 12 rather than the 13 characters in the name ‘Shillingstone’. The possible use of a hyphen, or possibly removing the ‘o’ in Shillingstone, was discussed. It was agreed to seek further clarification from the App Office regarding the issue.

**325. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The report by the litter picker regarding dog mess near the school and human waste at the layby at the end of the village was discussed. The school will be asked to about the possibility of some signage regarding the dog mess situation. Cllr Oakley suggested that there was little to be done regarding the human waste situation, didn’t feel that any signage would help. It was said that other laybys have a possibly even worse problem.

The Council has received a request for an award of costs against it in relation the Hine Town Lane development in 2017 from the Planning Inspectorate. This is a claim being made by Messrs Pope and Mrs Pring jointly against North Dorset District Council and Shillingstone Parish Council. Advice received from the planning officer Robert Lennis at NDDC to rebut the claim, and with the assistance of former clerk Malcolm Wilson, we have asked the Planning Inspectorate to dismiss the claim. We are waiting to hear the outcome of this.

**326. TO AGREE ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

**327. NEXT MEETING:** This will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 4th October 2018 at the Church Centre. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.