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

**7.05PM ON THURSDAY 9th JUNE 2022 AT THE CHURCH CENTRE SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R McNamara (RM) (Chairman), I Suter (IS) R Harwood (RH), P Acton (PA) and K Ridout (KR) ; Unitary Councillor P Batstone (PB) and the Clerk D Green.

In addition, there were seven members of the public present.

**916. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Gasson & White

**917. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

None

**918. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meetings held on 5th May 2022 were approved.

**919. MATTERS ARISING**

The Chairman provided these updates:

**Footpaths Officer** – Graham Rains has agreed to continue as Footpaths Officer, and if he cannot attend meetings will answer queries by email.

**Spring Bulb planting –** RH has providedapproximate bulb costingsand advised that these should be bought in September, with a view to October planting. The Council will need to consider how best this can be organised, possibly with assistance from Paul Williams and the team at the Big Yellow Bus (BYB) project.

The Jubilee planters by the Village gates, kindly provided by the BYB have been stocked by the Garden club. The PC agreed to cover the cost of plants (£ 65). If these fall into disrepair, it was agreed that they will be returned to the BYB project.

**Lengthsman** – the Sturminster Newton Team have resumed mowing activities, but have asked the Rangers to assist with some tasks including cutting the Church Centre bank. It was noted that some verges are looking rather long and the Clerk will ask the Rangers when a cut will take place.

**Old Post Office Noticeboard –** the renovation has been completed.

**920. PUBLIC SESSION**

A question was asked as to why the planning application concerning Squirrels Leap and the Old Ox was not being considered at this meeting.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council and the village needed additional time to review the application in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan; the Church Centre was not an appropriate venue for the whole village to have its say. The Parish Council has requested an extension to the comments deadline to allow a review by the consultant to the Neighbourhood Plan consultant to take place.

A question was asked as to whether the application would be considered policies stated in the existing North Dorset Local Plan, in the absence of any agreed Dorset Local Plan. Cllr Suter confirmed that this would be the case. Cllr Suter advised that a meeting of concerned residents had taken place and a flyer will be distributed throughout the village in the next few days.

A question was also raised as to whether the three existing dwellings were the only properties, other than the B & B accommodation, provided for under the ‘made’ Neighbourhood Plan in 2017. IS advised that this would be considered by the planning consultant.

**921. UNITARY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr Batstone noted that:

* Recent security incidents during Dorset Council events, including people gluing themselves to desks and smoke bombs, had caused alarm and distress and this had necessitated the introduction of a fob-controlled door access entry system. There is now a police and security presence at all public meetings and this is not without cost to Council Tax payers.
* The People & Health Committee is considering a Youth Justice Plan.
* Holloway Farm – it is hoped that this can be let to people commencing careers in farming, rather than operating as a supplement to existing businesses, and will provide job creation opportunities. The Crayfish farm lease is in place for 2 years and the business appears to be operational. The issues of leases for the Bee-keepers and the Lavender Farm is still on-going.
* St Mary’s School issues are being resolved.
* Assistance is being provided to a local resident concerning a family matter which is taking up some time.
* Newly arrived Ukrainian families are being assisted with Universal Credit claims, English classes and schooling. There are some funding issues are these are being worked through. Cllr Carole Jones is heading the response locally.

**922. FOOTPATHS**

The Footpaths Officer was not present and there were no reported issues.

**923. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Chairman provided these updates:

**i) Applications update:**

* **3 Pepper Hill Shillingstone Dorset DT11 0TD –** Erect new porch, (demolish existing**). -** Granted 26/05/2022
* **13 Stour Close Shillingstone Dorset DT11 0SU -** Erect new rear & side extensions. Remove existing conservatory. Granted 11/05/202

**ii) New Applications to consider:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Application date** | **Ref** | **Address** | **Description** | **PC decision** |
| 06/06/2022 | P/HOU/2022/03428 | Cedar Lodge, Knapps, DT11 0RA | Erect Replacement Brick Garage/Store | No objection – no impact on neighbours; next door to Tel exchange |

iii) **Squirrels Leap/Old Ox proposal -** The Chairman confirmed that this will be considered at the Extraordinary Meeting on 14th June. The planning consultant has agreed to provide a draft review, and the Council agreed that a cost of around £ 500 would be acceptable.

IS noted that a number of Tree removal applications had been made, all of which appeared to have a link to this proposal. The Clerk will investigate these.

iv) **Definitive Map Modification Order** – Holloway Lane - conversion of route at a (B.O.A.T – Byway to all traffic).

Cllr Gasson had noted in correspondence that this may well be helpful given the additional traffic along Holloway Lane re the Lavender Farm/Bee-keepers projects. There were no further comments.

**v) Planning meeting 27th May –** KR had attended this on behalf of the PC. The meeting was not particularly useful, as few questions were answered on the day. However, the Head of Planning Matthew Piles has agreed to attend Council meetings and the Council resolved to take up this offer at some stage.

**924. COUNCILOR REPORTS**

**ROADS -** The Chairman had asked the Community Highways Officer for an update regarding the main issues, but there had been no response to date (RM)

**SCHOOL** – two staff had left and replacements were being sought; Okeford School may be temporarily closed (IS)

**PORTMAN HALL** – Film Club event on 25th June (KR)

**FACEBOOK** – reports of a white van acting suspiciously in Gunn Lane and elsewhere in the village had been made. This vehicle may have changed its number plates. Reports should be made to the police, as all are logged for reference (KR).

**925. SUMMER BREAK PROPOSAL**

It was proposed and agreed that the PC should not meet in August 2022 for a summer break. Any planning or other issues can be dealt with be means of an Extraordinary Meeting.

**926. FINANCES:**

**i) ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT & ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS**

These were **APPROVED** and duly signed by the Chairman.

**ii) Retrospective Payments approval:** the following payments were **APPROVED**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Payee Name** | **Reference** | **Total Amnt** | **Description** |
| 03/05/2022 | Rialtas Business | BACS | £ 154.80 | Alpha support |
| 03/05/2022 | TEEC Limited | BACS | £ 144.00 | Domain charges |
| 03/05/2022 | Shillingstone C C | STD ORD | £ 366.66 | Mowing |
| 09/05/2022 | David Green | BACS | £ 64.04 | April 2022 expenses |
| 09/05/2022 | Elite Playground | BACS | £ 36.00 | Basket swing repair |
| 09/05/2022 | Guy Gilding | BACS | £ 75.00 | SID deployment |
| 09/05/2022 | Shillingstone C C | BACS | £ 100.00 | Arrears payment |
| 09/05/2022 | PCC Shillingstone | BACS | £ 500.00 | Parish Magazine Grant |
| 09/05/2022 | PCC Shillingstone | BACS | £ 250.00 | Churchyard grant |
| 09/05/2022 | PCC Shillingstone | BACS | £ 250.00 | Shillingstone Youth Club grant |
| 17/05/2022 | The Portman Hall | BACS | £ 18.00 | Hire of PH for APM |
| 17/05/2022 | Dorset Association | BACS | £ 402.02 | Subscriptions |
| 23/05/2022 | Charlotte Hayward | BACS | £ 52.50 | Cleaning |
| 23/05/2022 | Amy Stanners | BACS | £ 52.50 | Cleaning |
| 30/05/2022 | David Green | STD ORD | £ 648.51 | May 2022 pay |
| 30/05/2022 | Portman Hall | BACS | £ 18.00 | Hall hire 14th June |

**ii) New payments approval**

Clerk’s expenses £ 32.55

**927. PLAY AREAS, RECREATION GROUND AND PROPERTY CHECK**

The Chairman confirmed that:

* An Inspection of the Pavilion with the Tennis Club has taken place and subsequently several issues had been raised with the Cricket and Football Clubs relating to the storage of redundant items in lockers and under the kitchen sink. It has been agreed that these will be removed by 1st July. The issue of strimming around the Tennis Court has been raised again with the Cricket Club.
* There are some tree branches touching the zip wire need to be removed. These will dealt with shortly.
* The long standing hedging contractor has retired. The Clerk has asked Dorset Council contractors for a meeting to discuss requirements at the Recreation Ground and Holloway Lane; he will ask other contractors to quote if there is no response soon.
* Boiler Service for the pavilion - this will be conducted shortly

**928. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk confirmed that the following correspondence had been circulated:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **FROM** | **DESCRIPTION** |
| 13/05/2022 | Cllr Batstone | What’s Happening In & Around Sturminster Newton' - newsletter |
| 18/05/2022 | Judith Compton | Thank you & update from the Shillingstone Youth Club |
| 18/05/2022 | Dorset Police | Intro from Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector Joe Turner |
| 24/05/2022 | Dorset Council | Definitive Map Modification Order - Holloway Lane |
| 01/06/2022 | Dorset CAN | Newsletter update |
| 07/06/2022 | Climate Action Network | May CEE support meeting notes |

**929. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Nothing specific at this stage.

**930. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th July 2022 at 7:00 pm**, at the Church Centre. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.05