**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**7.30 PM ON THURSDAY 3rd MARCH 2022 AT THE CHURCH CENTRE SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R McNamara (Chairman), I Suter (IS) L Gasson (LG), R Harwood (RH), K Ridout (KR) P Acton (PA) and the Clerk D Green

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

**869. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr White, Cllr Batstone and G Rains.

**870. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**871. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2022 were approved.

**872. MATTERS ARISING**

The Chairman provided updates:

**Defibrillators –** thenew defibrillator for the Ox has been installed and is operational. It has been agreed that the defibrillator for the Pavilion will be in an unlocked cabinet with lighting and possibly a security camera. Both new defibrillators will be insured by the Parish Council.

The defibrillator at the Portman Hall was taken out in response to an incident on the main road, but was not used.

**Noticeboard**  – it was been agreed that this will be refurbished with safety glass at a cost of £ 120.

**Lengthsman** – the road sweeper has been through the village but this visit was not coordinated with the lengthsman. There has now been a separate partial pavement sweep but following recent storms there is now more debris to deal with. The Clerk will follow up progress.

**3 Oaks Tree planting proposal** – the proposers have written to Dorset Council to check that the idea for a footpath will not cause any issues with the Little Lane crossing scheme.

**War Memorial** – cleaning and restoration of the lettering will commence on 7th March following confirmation from the War Memorials Trust that the grant application conditions have been met.

**Climate change –** it was agreed to seek interest from a non councillor to take on the role of attending the monthly Climate & Ecological Emergency Support meeting. It was noted that these are rather lengthy and alternate between being held in the day and in the evening, which is not very practical for everyone.

**873 . PUBLIC SESSION**

A resident raised the subject of the inadequate notification of the recent closure of Hine Town Lane. The absence of advance signage on the road was a concern and It had been very difficult to contact SSE to obtain further information. The Chairman noted that the main problem appears to arise when utility companies are involved and the responsibility for providing information is not transparent. The Clerk will make enquires with Dorset Highways.

**874. UNITARY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

There was no report from the Unitary Councillor.

**875. PLANNING**

**i) Applications update**

The Clerk confirmed that no further information had been received concerning the Hine Town Lane North proposal.

**ii) New Applications to consider:**

**a) P/HOU/2022/0099 - Broughton House, Lanchards Lane, Shillingstone**

Proposal – Erect tree house

There were no objections to this proposal.

**b) P/HOU/2021/03850 - 2 Roman Way Shillingstone DT11 0RH**

Erect 8ft tall fence to right of property back garden

The Council noted that the new fence was very high and enquiries would be made of residents in neighbouring properties before a response is submitted.

**c) P/NMA/2022/00947 - Highlands, Poplar Hill, Shillingstone**

Proposal – Non material amendment – placement of PV panels and change the colour of replacement doors. No PC comment required.

The Chairman noted that there was an issue concerning a previous planning application relating to Highlands and this is now the subject of a complaint with Dorset Council.

There is a general concern Dorset Council no longer sends or posts ‘neighbour notices’ and relies entirely on electronic notifications, which not all residents are able to see. The Parish Council considered that this is of great concern when residents of neighbouring properties may be severely impacted by inappropriate developments. The Clerk will write to the Chief Executive to express these concerns.

**876. FOOTPATHS**

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

**877. COUNCILOR REPORTS**

* **The Church –** there has been a significant growth of ferns and moss on part of the Church roof, which has resulted in major damage. The cost of repairs is estimated as £ 150,000. The Church is seeking grant funding and may need to commence fund raising (LG)

The campaign for donated goods for the Ukraine crisis has been very successful and further donations cannot be accepted at present due to the storage situation. The Disasters Emergency Committee has though launched as appeal (LG)

* **The School –** is now operatingat full capacity (IS)
* **Youth Club –** have had to cancel an event at Bere Marsh due to Covid (IS)
* **Trees –** Burtons Orchard committee will be meeting to discuss the tree planting proposal (RH)
* **Portman Hall –** written report received (KR):
	+ a new coded door  locking system fitted.
	+ the Film club is going from strength to strength
	+ bookings are still increasing, making all the improvements worthwhile
* **Facebook -** there areno current issues (KR)
* **Shillingstone Station –** has the funding in place for the track extension and still has a long-term aim to restore the route to Sturminster Newton (PA)

**878. REVIEW MEETING START TIME**

The Council agreed to continue with the current 7.00 pm start time for future meetings.

**879. ROADS ISSUES**

The Chairman has been unable to arrange a meeting with the CHO to discuss current issues but hoped to do so shortly.

**880. SPRING BULB PLANTING PROPOSAL**

The Chairman noted how effective the spring flowers are in Durweston and proposed that spring bulbs could be planted in suitable locations throughout Shillingstone. RH noted that these should only be in locations not subject to mowing. The Council supported this proposal and Graham Stanley and Paul Williams will be consulted for advice.

**881. QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE WEEKEND**

The Chairman noted that street parties would require road closure permission and proposed that co-ordination of these events would be a good idea. KR offered to take this matter forward and will provide information via Facebook.

**882. FINANCES**

**i) Retrospective payments approved:**

The list of payments had been circulated to councillors in advance. These were **APPROVED:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Payee Name** | **Reference** |  **Total**  | **Reason** |
| 02/02/2022 | Shillingstone Cricket Club | STD ORD |  £ 333.00  | Mowing |
| 07/02/2022 | David Green | BACS |  £ 39.30  | Jan 2022 expenses |
| 08/02/2022 | Fenland Leisure Products Ltd | DEBIT  |  £ 777.00  | Basket Swing  |
| 09/02/2022 | Guy Gilding | BACS |  £ 75.00  | 3 months SID rotate |
| 11/02/2022 | Amy Stanners | BACS |  £ 70.00  | Cleaning (Jan) |
| 11/02/2022 | Charlotte Hayward | BACS |  £ 70.00  | Cleaning (Jan) |
| 22/02/2022 | ESET – NOD32 | DEBIT |  £ 38.17 | Anti-virus renewal |
| 28/02/2022 | Parish online  | DEBIT |  £ 54.00 | Mapping tool |
| 28/02/2022 | David Green | DEBIT |  £ 638.97 | Pay Feb 2022 |
| 28/02/2022 | Amy Stanners | BACS |  £ 70.00  | Cleaning (Feb) |
| 28/02/2022 | Charlotte Hayward | BACS |  £ 70.00  | Cleaning (Feb) |
| 28/02/2022 | SNTC | BACS | £1,095.00 | Lengthsman (part 2) |
| 28/02/2022 | Elite Playground Installations | BACS | £ 180.00 | Install basket swing |

**Payments approved:**

Clerks’ expenses: £ 32.15

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

The Chairman advised that:

* repairs to the mower shed had been completed and a report concerning any other issues that need to be considered may be necessary
* residents of a property in the corner of the Recreation Ground, near the play area, who had lost a fence in the recent storm had enquired as to whether the hedging may have contributed to weakening their fence. The Clerk has asked a contractor to look at the situation, though some work is already planned
* the basket swing at the Recreation Ground has been replaced

**884. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk confirmed that the following correspondence had been circulated:

* 02/02, 10/02 and 16/02/2022 Dorset Deserves Better campaign - further newsletters.

The Council agreed to support the campaign which appears to be making some progress in exerting pressure for the new Local Plan to be radically altered.

* 11/02/2022 - Green Lanes Environment Movement (GLEAM) – re HM Govt consultation re the use of Byways Open to all Traffic (BOATs) or unsealed unclassified roads (UURs) by motorised vehicles.

It was noted that, with the exception of Little Lane, there are no byways around the village falling within this classification.

* 14/02/2022 letter – this concerns a compliant relating to an application for a replacement outbuilding at Highlands, Poplar Hill.

This has been referred to Dorset Council and is now the subject of a complaint.

* 14/02/2022 – Dorset Council – re Local Heritage List nominations. This is an initiative to raise the profile of local ‘heritage’ features.

It was noted that there are several in and near the village, including Holy Rood Church, the Trailway, Shillingstone Station and Hambledon Hill. KR will share the link on Facebook.

**885. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

* Annual Parish meeting arrangements: date and speakers/subject agreement
* Augustan Avenue Tree planting decision
* Queens Platinum Jubilee events update
* Street sweep update

**886. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th April 2022 at 7:00 pm**, at the Church Centre. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.14.