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

**7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2022 AT THE CHURCH CENTRE SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R McNamara (Chairman) I Suter (Vice-Chairman), P Acton (PA) L Gasson (LG), R Harwood (RH), K Ridout (KR), R White (RW) and the Clerk D Green. In addition, there were three members of the public present.

**949. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

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

None.

**951. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the meetings held on 6th July 2022 were approved.

**952. MATTERS ARISING**

The Chairman noted that the Asset of Community Vale (ACV) application in relation to the Old Ox had submitted by Cllr Suter and had been acknowledged by Dorset Council. A resident had suggested that an ACV was already in place, but the Clerk had found no evidence of this. The Chairman noted that an ACV is only valid for a period of 5 years.

The defibrillator at the Portman Hall had been used but the patient had sadly died after hospital treatment.

**953. PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no issues raised.

**954. UNITARY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

The Unitary Councilor was not present and a report had not been received.

**955. COST OF LIVING CRISIS**

The Chairman noted that the Cost-of-Living crisis information notices produced by Dorset Council had been displayed on noticeboards and would be going on the website. KR suggested that these should be promoted via Facebook.

IS noted that some local parishes are arranging for community halls to be opened to act as drop-in centres, serving tea & coffee in the winter.

LG agreed to discuss with the PCC what arrangements could be made for the Church Centre to open as a warm space; it was suggested that the PC contacts the WI, the BYB project and the Portman Hall to establish if any assistance could be offered. LG noted that singing sessions for those with dementia can be very helpful.

IS will draft an article for inclusion in the next edition of the Parish News. Ideas such as a clothing bank for school uniforms could be considered.

The Parish Council may be prepared to assist with subsidising additional heating costs for opening the Church Centre.

**956. SPRING BULB PLANTING**

RH agreed to obtain two varieties, circa 300 bulbs in total The BYB will be contacted for assistance with planting. The Garden Club will be asked to consider donating any surplus bulbs for future planting.

**957. FOOTPATH OFFICERS REPORT**

The Footpath Officer was not present. The issue of cigarette butts and litter on the Church Field footpath had been reported to the Clerk. The litter bucket had been provided by the Forum School for their staff to use following an earlier complaint relating to another bin at the footpath entrance on the main road. It was noted that there were cigarette butts all over ground, which is both unsightly and a fire risk. The Clerk had written to the Forum School requesting that the bucket is now removed and for smoking to take place elsewhere, not on a public footpath.

**958.** **COUNCILOR REPORTS**

**Roads –** the PC has not received any confirmation that the Community Highways Officer would be replaced; the outstanding issues of the Little Lane crossing/ speed limit change and the Shillingstone Lane speed survey remain unresolved. The issue of a pedestrian crossing at that end of the village has also been raised by a resident but can only be resolved when the speed limit change is implemented. The Clerk will escalate enquiries if a response is not received soon. Veronica Jenkins has reported that training for Speedwatch will commence shortly (RM).

**Sports Festival –** was a great success with good weather, and many volunteering to help with setting up. The event raised £ 1646.79 and the target was met. The event was opened by the Deputy Mayor of Blandford and Kim Suter made an excellent cake which was donated o Trailway Court, a residential care home in Blandford (KR).

**The Church –** advertising for the new benefice vicar will commence shortly, with interviews in October. The post that will be split between working in the community and the diocese**.** It is hoped to revive the tradition of Carols in the pub at Christmas (LG).

**The School** – there has been a positive outcome to report following discussion concerning the use of the atrium for teaching pupils from Okeford Fitzpaine at the last PC meeting , with parents helping to obtain screens which have improved the teaching environment. ELSA funding for the counselling post has been secured (IS)

**959. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**i) Applications update:**

The Clerk reported that no decision had received in relation to the Squirrels Leap/Land to the rear of the Old Ox application, and confirmed there was no evidence that the decision would be taken by anyone other than the officer concerned.

The Chairman had received an enquiry relating to the decision not to install traffic lights at Augustan Avenue when the School-White Pit development was being approved in 2006. The Clerk had noted that it was the decision of PC meetings at the time not to support the installation of traffic lights, which appeared to be at variance to condition 10 of planning consent seen. It was not clear whether any other proposals were made at the time and whether the issue should be reviewed in the light of subsequent changes at the school. The Clerk has asked Dorset Council to confirm the basis on which the decision not to proceed with traffic lights was taken; it was noted though that the matter is now outside of the 10-year time restriction for enforcement action.

**ii) New Applications to consider:**

1. **P/HOU/2022/04250 - 6 Townsend Shillingstone Dorset DT11 0SX -** Erect single storey extension and alterations. No objection comment returned.
2. **P/PABA/2022/04956 - Hambledon Hall Farm** - Erect agricultural building**.** No objection comment returned.
3. **P/LBC/2022/05077 Maypole Cottage The Cross Shillingstone DT11 0SP -**To acquire listed Building Consent to install 2 new wood - burning stoves, into existing fireplaces.

It was noted that the application did not include a ‘Design & Access’ statement and it was very difficult to establish precisely what work was proposed. It was agreed to return a ‘neutral’ comment and refer this to the Conservation Officer.

**960. FINANCES:**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Payee Name** | **Reference** |  **£ Total**  |  |
| 01/07/2022 | Public Works Loan Board | DD | £ 1,359.72 | Loan repayment |
| 04/07/2022 | Shillingstone Cricket Club | STD ORD | £ 416.66 | Mowing |
| 07/07/2022 | Harts of Stur | DEBIT  | £ 20.43 | Padlock & chain |
| 11/07/2022 | SSE | DD | £ 164.02 | Pavilion electricity |
| 13/07/2022 | David Green | BACS | £ 51.45 | Office allowance |
| 13/07/2022 | Dorset Planning Consultant  | BACS | £ 500.40 | Planning advice re  |
| 13/07/2022 | Elite Playground Inspections | BACS | £ 60.00 | Recreation Ground  |
| 13/07/2022 | HM Revenue & Customs | BACS | £ 148.00 | PAYE Q1  |
| 13/07/2022 | Total Energy Services | BACS | £ 175.99 | Gas boiler servicing |
| 13/07/2022 | Defib4Life Ltd | DEBIT | £ 174.35 | Rep pads defib |
| 18/07/2022 | Ian Suter | BACS | £ 8.00 | Flyers Sq/Ox  |
| 26/07/2022 | Margaret Kennard | 2387 | £ 65.00 | Plants for Jubilee |
| 26/07/2022 | David Green | BACS | £ 92.44 | Office allowance |
| 28/07/2022 | Fireline Ltd | DEBIT | £ 59.88 | Extinguisher service |
| 28/07/2022 | David Green | STD ORD | £ 648.31 | July 2022 pay |
| 02/08/2022 | Shillingstone Cricket Club | STD ORD | £ 416.66 | Mowing |
| 08/08/2022 | Sturminster Newton TC | BACS | £ 1,095.00 | SLA contract |
| 08/08/2022 | Guy Gilding | BACS | £ 75.00 | SID rotation |
| 09/08/2022 | Information Commissioner | DD | £ 35.00 | Data protection fee |
| 11/08/2022 | Bourton Fencing | BACS |  £ 282.00 | Replace gate post |
| 12/08/2022 | Charlotte Hayward | BACS |  £ 120.00 | Cleaning |
| 12/08/2022 | Amy Stanners | BACS |  £ 120.00  | Cleaning |
| 22/08/2022 | Total Energy Services | BACS |  £ 66.00 | Plumbing |
| 22/08/2022 | PKF Littlejohn LLP | BACS |  £ 360.00 | External Audit |
| 26/08/2022 | Wessex Grounds Services | BACS |  £ 100.15 | Weed control |
| 30/08/2022 | David Green | SO | £ 648.31 | August 2022 pay |

**ii) New payments approval -** Clerks expenses - £ 84.81

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

The Chairman noted that:

* A new Padlock & chain has been obtained for the main gate and the code changed.
* A rotten gate post has been replaced
* The mower shed roof has been repaired free of charge by Chris Clark; the PC thanked Chris for this work. Some further repairs are required but sourcing tiles will be difficult
* A new contract for cutting hedges at the Recreation Ground & Hollway lane has been agreed

RW had received a report that the Pod door had been left open and the keys in the lock.

**962. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk confirmed that the following correspondence had been circulated:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **FROM** | **DESCRIPTION** |
| 13/07/2022 | Climate & Ecological support meeting  | June 2022 meeting notes |
| 13/07/2022 | Dorset Deserves Better | Questions for Dorset Council meeting 14/07/2022 |
| 03/08/2022 | Nordcat & Friends of Stour Connect | Celebration Event 13/08/2022 |
| 03/08/2022 | Dorset CPRE | July Newsletter |
| 08/08/2022 | Bob Yorath | ACV listing status |
| 10/08/2022 | Veronica Jenkins | Pedestrian Crossing at the Co-op request |
| 15/08/2022 | Climate & Ecological support meeting  | July meeting notes |
| 15/08/2022 | Dorset Council Spatial Planning  | Asset of Community Value application acknowledgement |
| 17/08/2022 | Dorset Council | Dog waste bin near Maypole Cottage |
| 19/08/2022 | Veronica Jenkins | Traffic lights at Augustan Ave – 2006 planning decision |
| 23/08/2022 | Dorset Council | Interim response re 2006 planning decision re traffic lights  |
| 24/082022 | Simon Hoare MP to Veronica Jenkins | Re pedestrian crossing query |

The Chairman noted the enquiry from Dorset Council relating to a request by the resident of Maypole Cottage to have the dog waste bin moved to the other side of the bench at the Cross, or elsewhere, away from the property.

The PC agreed to support the proposal that the bin could only be moved at the householder’s expense and only as far as the other side of the bench.

**963. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

* Financial/Budget review
* Jubilee Cup arrangements

**964. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 6th October 2022 at 7:00 pm**, at the Church Centre. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.16.