**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**7.00 PM ON THURSDAY 21st MAY 2024 AT THE PORTMAN HALL SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R McNamara (RM) (Chairman), I Suter (Vice-Chairman) (IS) M Barlow (MB) R Harwood (RH), R Leadbeater (RL) M Pomeroy (MP) K Ridout (KR) Unitary Councillor S Murcer (SM), Footpaths Officer G Rains, the Clerk D Green.

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

**1257. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr McNamara was nominated to stand as Chairman for the forthcoming year, seconded, duly elected and signed the Acceptance of Office

**1258. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Suter was nominated to stand as Vice-Chairman, seconded and duly elected.

**1259. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr White.

**1260. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**1261. TO APPOINT OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Council agreed to appoint Graham Rains the as the Footpaths Officer.

**1262. STANDING ORDERS/FINANCIAL REGULATIONS/CODE OF CONDUCT**

An amended version of the Financial Regulations, in line with the National Association of Local Councils model, was **AGREED** by the Parish Council.

**1263. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

Following the 2024 Dorset Parish Council Election, the Parish Council **re-affirmed** adoption of the General Power of Competence.

**1263. GRANTS FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR**

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** that the following grants should be made:

1. Parish Magazine - £ 500
2. Churchyard maintenance - £ 250
3. Shillingstone Youth Club - £ 250
4. PCC – Lytchgae renovation - £250
5. The Vale Pantry - £250

**1264. RESERVE ACCOUNT PROVISIONS**

The Parish Council **AGREED** to the following reserve account allocations:

1. Tennis Club - £ 250
2. Play Equipment at Hine Town Lane - £ 1000
3. Tree Survey - £250
4. Neighbourhood Plan - £ 1000
5. Defibrillators - £ 250

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

**7.10 PM ON THURSDAY 21st MAY 2024 AT THE PORTMAN HALL SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R McNamara (Chairman), I Suter (Chairman) (IS) M Barlow (MB) R Harwood (RH), R Leadbeater (RL) M Pomeroy (MP) K Ridout (KR) Unitary Councillor S Murcer, Footpaths Officer G Rains, the Clerk D Green.

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

**1265. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr White.

**1266. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

Cllr Barlow declared an interest in relation to the Gains Cross planning application

**1267. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2024 were approved.

**1268. MATTERS ARISING**

The Chairman provided an update in relation to several matters:

**Vandalism at the Recreation Ground**

It had been reported that damage to guttering and the CCTV camara at the Cricket Pavilion had taken place on the weekend of 4/5th May and again on 16th May in the afternoon. Most of the metal guttering at the front of the Pavilion having been torn down. Cllr Leadbeater had reported this to Dorset Police who had advised that this would be noted; Inspector Turner of the North Dorset Rural Polce Team has been contacted and has now advised that the report will be re-evaluated in terms of how these incidents will be recorded; a Crime Prevention Officer would make contact with the PC. These incidents have also been reported to Dorset Councils Anti-Social Behaviour Team who have expressed a willingness to work with the Police to resolve this recurring problem.

It was **AGREED** that CCTV inside the Pavilion would be trialed to establish whether this would serve to potentially capture evidence of damage occurring outside. The Clerk has received two quotes for replacement plastic guttering; however, it was **AGREED** that the front guttering would not be replaced until the outcome of the CCTV trial and Operation Relentless Grant application was known.

**War Memorial Handrail**

A brick sample has now been chosen and submitted to Dorset Councils Planning Team for approval. It is hoped that the work will take place soon after this is granted.

**1269. PUBLIC SESSION**

The issue of increased flooding along Hine Town Lane was raised by a resident. It was agreed that a report would be submitted to Dorset Highways for further investigation of the issue, which is becoming rather persistent and serious.

A report of trees overgrowing the road near Pepper Hill was received. It was suggested that these are report to Dorset Council via the portal.

Cllr Suter reported that incidents of inconsiderate parking at the Gunn Lane/A357 junction had increased despite the presence of white line ‘access bars’. It was noted that this junction is hazardous for access by emergency & large vehicles if the road is narrowed by parking on the access bars. A flyer has been created for putting on vehicles. The Chairman noted that whilst these are not enforceable road markings the Police will ask drivers to move vehicles if necessary.

**1270. UNITARY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr Steve Murcer introduced himself as the new Unitary Councillor for the Blackmore Vale ward. There is not a great deal to report at present, many Councillors are going through an ‘induction training’ programme. He will be serving on a number of committees including Schools Appeals and People & Health overview committees. He will be producing a contact card to be delivered to all residents of the ward with relevant numbers and useful information.

The issue of pot holes is a widespread local problem and it has been noted that repairs are not assured to last any longer than 6 months.

**1271. FOOTPATHS**

Graham Rains reported that:

* vegetation along the Trailway at the back of Shillingstone Station (on the north side) needs cutting back and Dorset Rangers have been made aware of this.
* there is an issue on the south side of the Trailway near Gains Cross being very rutted. Dorset Rangers plan to put a drainage system which will hopefully alleviate this problem.
* In general, there are many overgrown footpaths. Dorset Rangers are currently training apprentices who will hopefully be able to deal with some of this work

**1272. COUNCILOR REPORTS**

* Allotments – there is currently one vacant plot with no-one on the waiting list.

**1273. SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID) LOCATION REVIEW**

The Chairman noted the latest incident of vandalism to one of the SIDS which had necessitated a location review. The SID Team have suggested a reposition to the the verge near to Augustan Avue as being most suitable. Cllr Leadbeater has consulted residents who may be affected by this but has not received any objections. It was **AGREED** to proceed with re-locating this post which should add to the safety measures already in place at the Augustan Avenue/A357 junction.

**1274. D-DAY 80 COMMEMORATION**

It was noted that there are sensitivities with regard to how this event is best commemorated. The Parish Council after discussion **AGREED** that a ‘best commemoration’ competition with a prize awarded to include a donation to a services charity would be arranged.

**1275. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Applications update:**

**P/FUL/2022/02998 -Land at Old Ox Inn Blandford Road Shillingstone**

It was noted that amended plans have been submitted which only differ to the original application in terms of minor amendments to size of beer garden (and consequential change to the size of the wildflower area) and some design alterations.

It was also noted a Flood Rosk Assessment has now been submitted but Dorset Council have requested clarification of a number of proposals; they are recommending that a holding objection would be made at this stage.

The Parish Council will consider its response to the amended plans.

**P/FUL/2024/00692 - Gains Cross Farm Gains Cross Lane Shillingstone -** Change of use & extension of existing (part refurbished) buildings to 11no. units of Use Class E together with associated infrastructure

It was noted that conditional approval for this application had been granted. The Parish Councils concern regarding the A357 were noted but the Transport Development manager had commented that visibility at the junction was satisfactory; the question of the capacity of the water supply tank was a civil matter and could not be considered by the planning authority.

**1276. FINANCES**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Payee Name** | **£ Total** | **Reason** |
| 02/04/2024 | Shillingstone Cricket Club | £ 416.66 | Mowing |
| 11/04/2024 | HM Revenue & Customs | £ 231.40 | PAYE Q4 2023/2024 |
| 12/04/2024 | Dorset Council | £ 472.68 | Bin contracts |
| 15/04/2024 | Azet Holdings Limited | £ 240.00 | 2023/2024 Payroll |
| 15/04/2024 | DAPTC | £ 441.54 | Annual subscription |
| 15/04/2024 | Elizabeth Brecknock | £ 161.64 | Pavilion cleaning |
| 15/04/2024 | Rialtas Business Systems Ltd | £ 230.40 | Alpha Software support |
| 15/04/2024 | Fireline Ltd | £ 79.56 | Fire Extinguisher Service |
| 15/04/2024 | Elite.Playground Inspections | £ 63.00 | Play area inspections |
| 15/04/2024 | David Green | £ 37.50 | March 2024 expenses |
| 15/04/2024 | Water2business | £ 47.12 | Recreation Ground Water |
| 16/04/2024 | SSE | £ 81.74 | Pavilion electricity |
| 17/04/2024 | Edens Landscapes Limited | £ 252.00 | Mowing/strimming |
| 22/04/2024 | Fireline Ltd | £ 390.00 | Fire risk assessment |
| 29/04/2024 | Water2business | £ 33.61 | Allotments water |
| 29/04/2024 | David Green | £ 729.85 | April 2024 pay |

**1277. PLAY AREAS, RECREATION GROUND AND PROPERTY CHECK**

The Clerk reported that:

* The kitchen ceiling repair and repainting had been completed. A replacement microwave will be provided.
* The 5 yearly electrical and fire safety inspections have been completed. The main pavilion fuse-box will require replacement.
* Work to replace the rubber tyres on the seesaw and the swing bushes at Augustan Avenue should now proceed as essential maintenance. These costs will be funded from the s106 reserve account.
* Replacement defibrillator pads have been obtained for the School and Recreation Ground devices.

**1278. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk confirmed that the following correspondence had been circulated:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **FROM** | **DESCRIPTION** |
| 11/04/2024 | Fowler Fortescue | Re Gains Cross Farm change of use |
| 16/04/2024 | Dorset Council, Map Modification Team | APPLICATION FOR DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER |
| 17/04/2024 | Dorset Council, Community SID Team | Shillingstone SID vandalism |
| 25/04/2024 | Dorset CAN | 🌷Dorset CAN's Spring Newsletter 🌷 |
| 16/05/2024 | Dorset Police | Speedwatch stats - April |

The Chairman noted that the Speedwatch statistics were encouraging, with only 1 letter needed from the last session in April 2024, the check taking place at the Cross.

**1279. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

* Approval of Internal Audit report/Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements

**1280. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 6st June 2024 at 7:00 pm**, at the Portman Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.20

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES**

**21st May 2024 at the Portman Hall, Shillingstone**

1. **AGREEMENT OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 2023 were approved & signed by the Chairman.

1. **CHAIRMANS REPORT 2023-2024**

Cllr Rachel McNamara provided a presentation of the finances and main achievements of the last year:



Summary of main items of non-routine expenditure:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| New Speed Indicator device & post | Community | £ 2,660.00 |
| Old Ox survey costs donation | Community | £ 1,240.00 |
| Consultancy Fees (old Ox) | Governance | £ 1,000.00 |
| New defibrillator (school) | Community | £ 780.00 |
| Speed Surveys | Community | £ 475.00 |
| First Aid Course | Governance | £ 508.00 |
| New multiplay boarding | Play Equipment | £ 2,700.00 |
| Tree work at the Recreation Ground | Recreation Ground | £ 1,278.00 |
| War Memorial handrail | War Memorial | £ 3,825.00 |
| White Pit mowing (new contract) | White Pit | £ 1,260.00 |

**The principal successes of 2023/2024 were noted as :**

* The recruitment of new Councillors, the Council being at one stage having a full complement of 9 Councillors was a success. The Chairman noted that there is still one Council vacancy and efforts will be made to fill this place.
* Planning application reviews; very effective procedures within the Council including the use of non-PC experts had been demonstrated when dealing with complex applications

**The outstanding items for 2023/2024 were noted as:**

* Need to see the extension of 30 mph speed limit west of the village fully implemented
* Ensure the installation of the War Memorial handrails

1. **FUTURE PROJECT IDEAS**

**The Chairman noted the priorities for 2024/2025 as being:**

* Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour
* Projects involve the Youth of the village, and encouragement for Council participation
* Resolution of long standing roads issues including flooding near the Garage & in Honeysuckle Gardens
* Completion of War Memorial handrail project

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20:40.

**David Green Parish Clerk 22/05/2024**