

SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 16 September 2015 at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors B Crush (Chairman), A Barter, M Cobb, R Edmond, M Elgar, G Peagram, I Robertson, C White, A Williams
20 Parishioners

IN ATTENDANCE: S Durbidge (Clerk to the Council)
Kent County Councillor Geoff Lymer
Dover District Councillor Mog Ovenden (from item 112/2015)
Kent Community Warden Julliette West
Southeastern Rail Passenger Experience Community Manager Mick Phillips

103/2015 Apologies: Councillors M Harris, C Pickaver, K Regan

Declaration of other significant interests:

Cllrs M Cobb, B Crush, I Robertson, C White 111/2015a

104/2015 Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting:

Minutes of 5 August 2015 were proposed, seconded and approved as a true record.

105/2015 Public Participation:

Two members of the public spoke regarding item 111/2015f. One member of the public spoke regarding item 111/2015h. One member of the public spoke regarding item 112/2015.

106/2015 Item brought forward:

Reports on the poor condition of the environs of the mainline station were considered. The Kent Community Warden informed the meeting of various schemes of improvement to be undertaken by local groups under the supervision of the Southeastern Rail Passenger Experience Community Manager. Questions were asked concerning litter bins, maintenance, other stations and future use of the station building. The Kent Community Warden stated she would welcome further offers of assistance with this project.

107/2015 Clerk's Report – on Matters Arising

- DDC have reinstated the Shepherdswell Heritage Panel.
- The village hall car park has been fenced and entrance bollards installed as requested.
- Fees have been refunded by DDC for the withdrawn allotments application.
- Three litter bins have been delivered for installation on Coldred Green.
- Recreation Ground: weeds and scrub vegetation have been cut back from the upper boundaries; work has started on repositioning the practice goals and reinstating worn grass areas; fourteen slats were renewed in the play area fence; a replacement container has been installed by Spartans FC on the existing concrete pad as authorised.
- The Dover West group representative for the Neighbourhood Forum was agreed.
- NS&I account co-signatories updated as requested.

- The prehistoric monument known as Rubury Butts is now scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, list number 1427315.
- The Wootton Environmental Protection Group is holding a presentation on the Lydden Hill Race Circuit planning application DOV/15/00827 in Wootton village hall on Monday 28 September at 8:00pm.

108/2015 Finance:

a) Balances as at 16 September 2015	£
Current Account	448.94
Business Account	75,978.92
NS&I Account - Village Hall	2,204.91
b) Following payments made since the last meeting	£
Walker Construction (UK) Ltd (White lines at village hall)	300.00
PKF Littlejohn LLP (External Auditor)	360.00
Broxap Ltd (3*Litter bins for Coldred Green)	605.82
W Roberts (Village hall car park works)	1,895.00
English Landscapes (August inc Recreation Ground boundary cut-back)	676.69
c) To approve payments	
English Landscapes (September)	459.08
H C Kennett (Safety work, play area maintenance, graffiti removal etc)	220.00
S Durbidge (Expenses from 05/08/15 – 16/09/15)	38.04
Bourne Amenity Limited (Delivery charge for 3* bags of play bark)	26.49
d) The half-year budget forecast was presented and noted.	

109/2015 Planning

- a) The Planning Committee Chairman reported on one decision at the 16 September meeting (see Planning Committee minutes).

110/2015 Recreation Ground

- a) Possible signage for the drop-down post bordering the car park providing access for maintenance and emergency vehicles was considered. It was agreed that the wording and location of a new sign be considered at the next meeting.

111/2015 Village Hall and Reed Meadow

- a) Shepherdswell Preschool was offered a new 30-year lease on a Ground Rental Value basis on the 22/04/2015 (see 042/2015d). The Council received a letter in reply pointing out certain constraints concerning the Preschool budget. It was agreed to revise the rent calculation including additional land taken by the new extension. **It was resolved that** Shepherdswell Preschool be offered a new 30-year lease on a Ground Rental Value basis at £360.00pa from the end of December 2016, with the new lease having a 5-year review period based on the RPI. **It was resolved that** a charge of £169.00pa be made for the period from July 2015 to the end of December 2016 when the new 30-year lease will commence.
- b) Public access steps off Coxhill: Although it had been agreed to take no action other than refresh the warning signs and marker paint (see 084/2015b), fresh concern had arisen from the public regarding the steps. **It was resolved that a**

suitable professional health and safety report on the steps be commissioned at a cost of £140.00.

- c) **It was resolved that** the Cotoneaster shrubs beside the hairdressers be trimmed.
- d) Refreshing the roadway white lines and lettering was considered. It was agreed that this matter be deferred until a decision be made on the public access steps as a new white line demarking pedestrian access along the roadway may be required.
- e) **It was resolved that** a dead tree at the Coxhill boundary be removed.
- f) The Shepherds Well and Coldred History Society made a number of requests following their geophysical survey (see 137/2014b). **Meeting adjourned for a general discussion regarding item 111/2015f. Meeting reconvened. It was resolved that** the Shepherds Well and Coldred History Society be asked to set-out the location of the features revealed by the survey and provide a timescale to complete a site investigation.
- g) **It was resolved that** the Network Rail boundary hedge be cut back to the existing fence line at a cost of £810.00 +vat (including tree work 137/2015e).
- h) The Reed Meadow Allotment Association has provided draft lease documents for consideration by the working party. It was agreed that the documents be forwarded to the working party and that the members arrange a suitable meeting. **It was resolved that** three quotes be obtained to treat the proposed allotment area of 0.3ha approx with glyphosate (Roundup) herbicide before weed growth slows at an application rate suitable to control perennial broad-leaved weeds and that the lowest quote be accepted. Parish Plan objective C2.4.

112/2015 Item brought forward:

The meeting was asked to consider supporting the Bricklayers' Arms Action Group in maintaining the building as a village hub and opposing any change of use. Parish Plan objective C1.3. **Meeting adjourned for a general discussion regarding item 112/2015. Meeting reconvened. It was resolved that** letters be sent to the Conservation Officer at DDC reporting that the structural integrity of the Grade II listed building may be threatened by neglect and to the Estate Manager at Shepherd Neame seeking clarification of intent.

113/2015 Village Greens

- a) It was reported that Coldred Forum are content for the pond on Coldred Green to be dredged this October, ground conditions permitting. Landtech SE remains willing to undertake this task although due to an increase in machinery hire costs they have raised their quote by £300.00 to £2,160.00 +vat. **It was resolved that** the revised quote be accepted.

114/2015 Highways

- a) **It was resolved that** two new potential roadside nature reserves in the Parish of Coldred and Shepherds Well identified by the Roadside Verge Officer, Kent Wildlife Trust, be supported.
- b) HGV width restriction: **Meeting adjourned to hear DDC Councillor Mog Ovenden speak regarding item 114/2015b. Meeting reconvened. It was resolved that** to reduce HGV traffic through the villages, the expenditure of £1,000.00 be agreed in principle, as a contribution towards the total cost of signage etc for a 6'6" width limit from Coxhill through to Pike Road, Eythorne

(with exemptions for emergency services, rail replacement services and delivery vehicles etc). Parish Plan objective T2.1.

115/2015 Former Shepherdswell & Coldred Parish Plan Association

- a) A report of an informal discussion with a representative of St Margaret's Parish Council regarding the production and benefit of a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish of Shepherdswell with Coldred was given. **It was resolved that** a Neighbourhood Plan would not be proceeded with for the following reasons: -
- i) A Neighbourhood Plan is a planning tool to give a community a say in the location and design of development and cannot be used to prevent it.
 - ii) The village confines for Shepherdswell are tight around the existing village limiting speculative expansion.
 - iii) Coldred is designated a hamlet and development would not be justified on sustainability grounds.
- It was thought that the Council might consider adding a Community Strategy for the economic, social and environmental well-being of the parish to the existing Shepherdswell & Coldred Parish Plan 2012-2016.

116/2015 Other Items

- a) **It was resolved that** hedge cutting previously carried out in the spring at the Cemetery and Meadow View Road be brought forward to the autumn to take advantage of drier ground conditions.
- b) It was reported that the history pages on the Council website are to be transferred to the Shepherdswell and Coldred History Society website. A link to the History Society website will be provided.

117/2015 Date of next scheduled meeting

Wednesday 21 October 2015 7:30pm in Shepherdswell Village Hall.

Public and press are cordially invited. An agenda will be displayed three clear days before the meeting.

118/2015 Closure of meeting: The meeting closed at 9:30pm

Note: Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting

Reports and Parishioners' Question Time at the Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 16 September 2015 at 7:30pm

Kent Community Warden Julliette West

Julliette has dealt with the following issues over the past month: -

Multiple cases of fly tipping – some investigated by Environmental Health. Road and traffic obstructions, HGV problems, speeding and a road traffic accident requiring Police attendance. Suspicious persons requiring Police attendance, door step sellers, air gun damage to window, damage to cars and damage to other property. Hay bale fire. Abandoned vehicle reported to DVLA.

Other issue included a missing person requiring Police attendance, litter and dog fouling and resident welfare issues.

Julliette has been involved with the station improvement project with Southeastern Rail, Brownies, Cubs and a local artist.

Julliette has been working with a domestic abuse shelter, restorative justice training and involved with training new recruits.

Contact Julliette on 07969 584174

KCC Councillor Geoff Lymer

Geoff reported on Operation Stack and the use of Manston Airport: -

Dover-bound freight coming from the West will use the M20 to J7 (Maidstone), where it will be diverted via the A249, M2, A299 to Manston. Dover-bound freight coming from the North (Dartford Crossing) will use the A2, M2, A299 to Manston. From Manston, freight will use the A256, A2 to Dover restricted to 20 vehicles at a time.

Geoff reported that KCC are continuing to look elsewhere for temporary lorry parking and that due to budget cuts, members grant funding may be reduced.

Contact Geoff on 03000 411009, Mobile: 07960 490929, Email: geoff.lymer@kent.gov.uk

Parishioner Matters

A representative of the 18th Dover (Shepherdswell) Scout Group reported that the Scout Group had not withdrawn Scout Hut facilities from Shepherdswell Spartans Football Club as reported to the Council on 05/08/2015 and shown in the Council minutes as item 097/2015a.