

SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 21 October 2015 at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors K Regan (Chairman), A Barter, M Cobb, B Crush, M Elgar, M Harris, C Pickaver, I Robertson, C White

18 Parishioners

IN ATTENDANCE: S Durbidge (Clerk to the Council)

Dover District Councillor Mog Ovenden

Kent Community Warden Julliette West

119/2015 Apologies: Councillors R Edmond, G Peagram, A Williams

Dover District Councillor Peter Walker

Declaration of other significant interests:

Cllrs M Cobb 125/2015a, 128/2015ab; C Pickaver 128/2015c; C White 128/2015ab

120/2015 Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting:

Minutes of 16 September 2015 were proposed, seconded and approved as a true record.

121/2015 Public Participation:

One member of the public spoke regarding item 124/2015c. One member of the public spoke regarding item 125/2015a. Four members of the public spoke regarding item 126/2015b. One member of the public spoke regarding items 126/2015bcd. One member of the public spoke regarding item 126/2015d.

122/2015 Clerk's Report – on Matters Arising

- Cllrs A Barter and M Cobb are now included as cosignatories to NatWest a/c.
- Reed Meadow cut free of charge by the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church volunteers. A letter of thanks will be sent.
- The Reed Meadow/Network Rail boundary hedge is to be cut on 22 October.
- The village hall steps have been repainted and a professional health and safety inspection carried out (yellow warning decals now displayed as recommended).
- Kissing gate installation in Reed Meadow now underway.
- Shepherdswell Preschool has been advised of revised lease rent calculation and is to respond at the end of the month.
- DDC Conservation Enforcement is to investigate the Bricklayer's Arms and a reply is awaited from Shepherd Neame regarding a clarification of intent.
- Site meeting with Community Warden at mainline station with representatives of Network Rail, Southeastern Trains and Shepherdswell Brownies regarding future improvements and planting.
- The small works contractor states he intends to retire at the end of the year.

123/2015 Finance:

a) Balances as at 21 October 2015	£
Current Account	965.33
Business Account	74,982.34
NS&I Account - Village Hall	2,204.91

b) To approve payments	
AJ Wells (Mole control)	70.00
H C Kennett (Safety work, install waste bins at Coldred, trim shrubs)	186.00
RF Safety Services Ltd (Village hall steps safety report)	140.00
S Durbidge (Expenses from 17/09/15 – 21/10/15)	43.75
S Durbidge (Salary from 01/07/2015 – 30/09/2015)	1,684.30
Post Office Ltd (PAYE)	206.80

- c) **It was resolved that** Remembrance Day donations of £100.00 be agreed for wreaths at Shepherdswell and Coldred memorials.

124/2015 Planning

- a) The Planning Committee Chairman reported on three decisions at the 21 October meeting (see Planning Committee minutes).
- b) A report was received on an Affordable Housing working party meeting held on 8 October. The Rural Housing Enabler at Action with Communities in Rural Kent is to contact the landowners of two plots and approach DDC Planning for comments on each, Parish Plan objective H1.2.
- c) The advantages of setting up a village Community Land Trust (CLT) were discussed. It was reported that a CLT is a community-led method to hold assets such as land for affordable housing and Assets of Community Value in trust so the community benefits forever. It was agreed that the Affordable Housing working party be asked to gather information with the aim of arranging a public presentation and discussion on setting up a CLT.

125/2015 Item brought forward

- a) The meeting was asked to respond to a number of points raised by the Bricklayers' Arms Action Group concerning the Bricklayer's Arms and other village Assets of Community Value, Parish Plan objective C1.3.
- i) **It was resolved that** the Council will alert the village and call an emergency meeting as soon as it is notified if any remaining Assets of Community Value in the parish are to be sold.
- ii) **It was resolved that** the Council will collaborate with community groups and interested parishioners to formulate a future strategy for action in the event of further treats to our Assets of Community Value (see 124/2015c).
- iii) It was reported that the Council had written to DDC to review the current state of the Bricklayer's Arms (grade II listed) and that DDC Conservation are to send an Enforcement Team to investigate.
- iv) It was reported that the Council had written to Shepherd Neame (twice) to seek clarification of its intentions for the building and that only automated email receipts had been received in response so far.

It was resolved that for items iii and iv correspondence will not be published on the Council website, but will be included in the Appendix to meetings.

126/2015 Recreation Ground

- a) **It was resolved that** a request from the Shepherdswell Scout Group to run a fund raising community event on Saturday 14 November be agreed.
- b) **It was resolved that** a request from the Spartans FC to display a sponsor's advertising banner on the catch-fencing behind the Hill Avenue goal (facing the pitch) be agreed, but only when a match is in progress.
- c) **It was resolved that** a request from Spartans FC to display a banner on the storage container be agreed.
- d) **It was resolved that** a request from Spartans FC to clear vegetation from site of proposed extension to Scout Hut and to plant a screening hedge along Hill Avenue boundary be agreed in consultation with the Recreation Ground Forum. It was requested that the planning consent for the Scout Hut be checked as regards hedge screening planting (DOV/05/01237).
- e) Annual inspection of play equipment: The inspection took place on the 1 October. It was reported that only low risk or minor risk items requiring attention. **It was resolved that** the small works contractor be asked to deal with the necessary repairs. It was noted that a risk assessment was called for to justify the use of mixed seats in one bay (Wicksteed Playscapes 1 bay 2 seat swing).
- f) Signage for the drop-down post and emergency key arrangements was considered. **It was resolved that** no action be taken.

127/2015 Village Hall and Reed Meadow

- a) A report was received on an Allotment working party meeting held on 13 October. The draft lease and sub-lease documents provided by the Allotment Association had been considered and various amendments suggested. It was agreed that the working party meet with the Allotment Association and finalise the lease documents before submitting them for Council approval.
- b) An update from the Shepherdswell and Coldred History Society regarding possible archaeological exploration was considered. It was reported it is hoped to start an investigation of a possible banjo enclosure in early November and to complete by the end of the year. It was agreed that preparations for temporary allotments on the site need not be hampered by this work, providing the land is put back in an acceptable state. A possible unknown circular feature almost wholly outside the proposed allotment area could be investigated in the spring of 2016. A possible irrigation pipe trench run along the hedgerow boundary would not affect archaeology. It was agreed that the History Society provide a programme of the investigation work and evidence of public liability insurance.
- c) Two quotes to apply glyphosate herbicide to the proposed allotment area of 0.3ha were received. **It was resolved that** a quote of £124.00 +vat from Landtech SE Ltd be accepted. (Herbicide to be applied once the proposed area is marked out and all cut grass removed).

128/2015 Village Greens

- a) **It was resolved that** a request from the Village Green Association for permission to locate a Christmas tree with solar powered lights on Shepherdswell Green over the festive period be agreed.

- b) **It was resolved that** a request from the Village Green Association to add another picnic table to Shepherdswell Green be agreed, providing it is located near the existing table.
- c) It was noted that the Council has taken ownership of the telephone kiosk at Coldred Green in which to locate a defibrillator. It was agreed that suitable public access defibrillators and continuity of kiosk electricity supply be investigated by Cllr C Pickaver. It was also agreed that consideration be given to locating a public access defibrillator at the Recreation Ground (Scout Hut).

129/2015 Highways

- a) **It was resolved that** KCC Highways offer of a free salt bag be accepted (to be stored at Landtech SE Ltd as agreed).
- b) A report was given on recent meeting at DDC regarding Operation Stack. Attendees included Highways England, Kent Police, Dover Harbour Board, KCC and Thanet District Council.

130/2015 Other Items

- a) Village Hall Steps (see 122/2015 Clerks Report): At the request of the Council, the flight of steps from Coxhill to the hairdressers and village hall were subject to a recent professional health and safety inspection and report. It was agreed that due to Health & Safety concerns raised by the inspection report, access to the steps should be prevented by the provision of a physical barrier as soon as possible. The existing disability access route at the side of the road leading to the hairdressers and village hall will be the sole pedestrian access route.

131/2015 Date of next scheduled meeting

Wednesday 18 November 2015 7:30pm in Shepherdswell Village Hall.

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

132/2015 Closure of meeting: The meeting closed at 9:20pm

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 21 October 2015 at 7:30pm

Kent Community Warden Julliette West

Julliette has dealt with the following issues over the past month: -
Door-step sellers, scrap metal collectors, stray animals, phone scams, HGV traffic obstructions, dog fouling, litter, noise nuisance and fly tipping.
Julliette has been involved with Emergency Planning, Trading Standards and Environment Agency.

Contact Julliette on 07969 584174

DDC Councillor Mog Ovenden

Mog reported that DDC has elected to take 12 Syrian families and provide them with private (not social) housing. The Planning Inspector has dismissed appeals for a wind turbine at Barville Farm, Tilmanstone and a proposed development at Monkton Court Lane, Eythorne. Mog pointed out that Kent Highways have taken no action regarding HGV traffic through the villages since the various site meetings held at Shepherdswell and Eythorne in 2007. Proposed 6' 6'' width restrictions for Shepherdswell and Coldred, if approved, will require expenditure from the parishes and County members' funds. A fine has been imposed on an HGV which transgressed the company routing code. The fine is to be paid to Coldred Forum.

Contact Mog on 07775 193462 or cllrmogovenden@dover.gov.uk

Parishioner Matters

A question was asked of Cllr Mog Ovenden regarding Highways England and a breakdown of cost to provide HGV signage on the A2.

A parishioner requested that the Rubury Butts bowl barrows recently listed by Historic England (no. 1427315) be put forward for inclusion on the Heritage at Risk Register.