

SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held in Shepherdswell Village Hall on Wednesday 16 November 2016 at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Councillors K Regan (Chairman), M Cobb, R Edmond, M Elgar, M Harris, G Peagram, C Pickaver, I Robertson, C White, A Williams
7 Parishioners

IN ATTENDANCE: S Durbidge (Clerk to the Council)
Kent County Councillor Geoff Lymer (arrived after item 137/2016)

130/2016 Apologies: Councillors A Barter and B Crush,

Declaration of other significant interests:

M Cobb, R Edmond, C White 137/2016a; C Pickaver 134/2016efgh&139/2016b

131/2016 Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting:

Minutes of 19 October 2016 were proposed, seconded and approved as a true record.

132/2016 Public Participation:

One member of the public spoke regarding item 134/2016d

One member of the public spoke regarding item 139/2016b

133/2016 Clerk's Report – on Matters Arising

- Herbicide has been applied to the allotment area and temporary corner posts installed for initial ploughing.
- A number of the bollards on the grass verge at The Glen entrance have been reinstated.
- A reply from BT is awaited regarding adoption of the phone kiosk at Siberts Close (the £1 generously given for payment of the kiosk has been returned).
- The boundary trees around the football pitch have been cut back as requested by Shepherdswell Spartans FC.
- The British Heart Foundation has delivered a cardiopulmonary resuscitation training kit awarded as part of the defibrillator grant.
- DDC are looking to relocate the litter bin removed from Westcourt Lane.
- The replacement kissing gate has been installed at Meadow View land.
- The Council will be sad to hear that the coordinator of Shepherdswell Speed Watch has resigned.

Correspondence and verbal update

134/2016 Finance:

a) Balances as at 16 November 2016	£
Current Account	486.50
Business Account	54,270.20
NS&I Account - Village Hall	1,918.87
b) To note the following payment made since the last meeting	
Philip Court (hedge cutting)	360.00

c) To approve payments	
Idverde (formerly English Landscapes/The Landscape Group) October	465.96
Information Commissioner (Annual registration fee)	35.00
All Clear Services (Safety work, waste removal, bollard reinstatement)	288.37
S Durbidge (Expenses from 19/10/16 – 16/11/16)	27.64

- d) **It was resolved that** three signs ‘Children Playing’ be purchased for Approach Road and Hill Avenue for £443.00 +vat.
- e) **It was resolved that** a glass K6 ‘Defibrillator’ sign be purchased for Coldred kiosk at £25.00 +vat, delivery and installation.
- f) Finance Committee: The Committee Chairman informed the meeting that the contractor given the task of installing external lighting at the hall car park is now unable to start until the New Year. **It was resolved that** the contractor submitting next lowest quote be asked to proceed at a cost of £1,774.36 +vat. A report concerning the Finance Committee meeting held on the 9 November was given.
- g) The following Finance Committee Minutes recommendations were considered: -
 - i) **It was resolved that** a sum of £500.00 be given to the Shepherdswell and Coldred History Society towards future analysis and interpretation of the Council archaeological finds discovered at Reed Meadow.
 - ii) **It was resolved that** a fresh tender for grounds maintenance for 2017 season be sought to include combined and separate quotations for Coldred and Shepherdswell; the hall car park be added to the tender document and the shrubbery between the hall and Reed Meadow be added to the small works contractor tasks.
 - iii) **It was resolved that** insurance cover is considered adequate and sufficient.
- h) **It was resolved that** the ‘minded to’ precept for the year 2017/18 be £36,155.00.

135/2016 Planning:

- a) The Planning Committee Chairman reported on two decisions at the 9 November meeting (see Planning Committee minutes).

136/2016 Recreation Ground

- a) **It was resolved that** the play area surfaces be topped-up with 12 dumpy bags of Cushionfall at a cost of £25.00 per bag +delivery +vat.

137/2016 Village Hall and Reed Meadow

- a) It was noted that the Preschool and Village Hall draft leases are with their respective solicitors. It was agreed that Preschool be asked to respond via their solicitor (the Council will not respond to a Preschool letter recently received). It was reported that the Village Hall solicitor may have a conflict of interest. It was noted that the three remaining village hall trustees are to retire and that the Village Hall lease is to be vested in the Official Custodian.
- b) Two requests for rights of way over Council land were considered. It was agreed that Cllrs K Regan and R Edmond consider producing formal agreements.
- c) It was reported that the Land Registry consulted the Council concerning the sale of land adjacent to Reed Meadow.

138/2016 Highways

- a) It was noted that following attendance at a recent Kent Highways seminar, a letter regarding HGV traffic using narrow village roads was sent to the KCC Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport. A response to the KCC reply will be sent.
- b) It was agreed that a working party (Cllrs A Barter, B Crush, M Elgar, M Harris, G Peagram, K Regan) meet to consider transport topics from the Shepherdswell & Coldred Parish Plan for 2016-2020, see 115/2016(b).
- c) It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to the retiring coordinator of Shepherdswell Speed Watch and that a new coordinator be sought.

139/2016 Other Items

- a) The 'Tree Condition Survey Report 2016' circulated previously was considered. **It was resolved that** the Tree Surveyor be commissioned to escort three suitable contractors around the work in order that three quotes be obtained.
- b) A report of a recent public meeting regarding the possible relocation of Shepherdswell Post Office was given. A parishioner steering group has been formed.
- c) **It was resolved that** Cllr B Crush attend a DDC Planning meeting on 30/11/16 in support of the Wootton Environment Protection Group to speak regarding application DOV/15/00827, Lydden Hill Race Circuit development.
- d) New Parish Clerk: It was reported that the working party held four interviews and that the best candidate has been offered the position of Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, subject to Council approval and references. **It was resolved that** subject to satisfactory references, the appointment be approved.
- e) A vote of thanks was offered to the retiring Parish Clerk.

140/2016 Date of next scheduled meeting

Wednesday 18 January 2017 7:30pm in Shepherdswell Village Hall.

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

141/2016 Closure of meeting: The meeting closed at 8:35pm

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 November 2016 at 7:30pm

Kent Community Warden Julliette West

Juliette submitted a written report on the following issues dealt with recently: -
Off road motorbikes/quad bikes; Noise nuisance motorbikes; Noise nuisance dogs barking.
Repeat littering; Traffic obstructions; Parking obstructions; Bonfire smoke.
Public footpath obstructions (footpaths officer KCC partner work); Fly tips; Blocked drains.
Scam mail, calls, emails. (Trading standards partner work); Individual welfare issues and Restorative Justice.

Contact Julliette on 07969 584174

NHW Lead Coordinator Shepherdswell & Coldred Adam Hunter

Adam reported on certain Halloween and Bonfire night incidents which were relatively peaceful occasions. Following a number of burglaries within Shepherdswell, a suspect has been arrested. It remains important to look after security, keeping windows and doors locked. Matthew Scott, the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner visited Eythorne recently to hear reports of speeding traffic and anti-social behaviour. He was very complimentary regarding the work of Shepherdswell Speed Watch. Matthew wishes to reduce the time taken for police to respond to calls from rural areas and will speak to the District Commander Chief Inspector Mitchell Fox regarding additional police resources.

Any info please call Kent Police on 101 or in confidence to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Contact Adam by email: shepcoldnhw@gmail.com

KCC Councillor Geoff Lymer

Geoff reported on the benefit of the flu jab as flu can be more serious for certain people, such as: people aged 65 or over, people who have a serious medical condition, pregnant women.

The KCC Highways pothole blitz program is still on-going, report potholes to: -

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel>

The road lighting at Whitfield Hill was to be turned off. Geoff objected to this proposal on safety grounds and the lights will remain on (and be replaced with LED fittings).

HGV signage and the proposed Traffic Regulation Order at Eythorne: Geoff considers that Highways England made be reluctant to install Advance Direction Signs before the A2 Shepherdswell and Coldred turnings due to regulations regarding signage clutter.

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

Parishioner Questions

Questions were asked about rationalising the signs on the A2 (by adding overlays or replacing existing signs with new which include HGV restrictions) rather than adding new signs. It was suggested that Highways England are not obeying the national signs manual.

KCC Councillor Geoff Lymer agreed to contact the KCC Cabinet Member to inform Highways England of the above points.

Geoff also mentioned that certain HGV drivers still use car Sat Nav rather than HGV systems.

Although HGV Sat Nav is expensive, it navigates HGV vehicles off unsuitable routes. Geoff is to ask our local MP to consider making the use of incorrect Sat Nav an offence.