

# ***SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL***

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in Shepherdswell Village Hall at 1930hrs.

## **PRESENT**

Councillors: M Harris (Chairman), A Barter, M Cobb, J Collier, B Crush, M Elgar, K Regan, I Robertson, C White and C Tearle (Parish Clerk).

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Cllr G Lymer (KCC), Cllr M Ovenden (DDC), J West (Community Warden) and 4 members of the public.

## **Reports**

These were given by Cllr G Lymer (KCC), Cllr M Ovenden (DDC) and J West (Community Warden). Please see Appendix A.

### **01/2019 Chairman`s Report**

During the last two months the Chairman attended a meeting about the proposed new Lower Thames Crossing and attended a KALC Chairman`s Conference (Guidance Course).

He reminded everyone of the forthcoming Parish Council elections in May and the need for new blood on the Council as some are retiring and will not be seeking re-election.

He also drew to Members attention of the recent resignation of Mr G Peagram from the Parish Council and proposed that the Parish Council send him a letter of thanks for the service he has given.

### **02/2019 Apologies**

Councillors R Edmond and A Williams.

### **03/2019 Minutes**

The Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018 were approved and signed.

### **04/2019 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr C White OSI Min Nos.

### **05/2019 Public Participation Limited to items on the Agenda**

A member of the public drew Members attention to a KCC Consultancy Report which identified sites for a lorry park. Both the County and District Councillor are to investigate as they have no knowledge of this.

## 06/2019 Clerk's Report

- a) Aggregate has been purchased for Approach Rd and Hill Ave.
- b) A Casual Vacancy has been declared owing to the resignation of former Cllr G Peagram. Due to the fact that this vacancy is within six months of the Parish Council elections in May, no normal election will take place, but instead after 14 days the Parish Council may chose to fill the vacancy by co-option.

## 07/2019 Finance

- a) The schedule of Payments and bank balances were approved.

Balances as at the 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	£
Current A/C	1,396.23
Business A/C	62,260.03

### Income

Shepherdswell Pre-school (Rent 2018)	360.00
M Wright - Hairdressers (Rent Dec/Jan)	460.00
S E Power Networks	11.52

### Expenditure

*C Tearle (Salary Nov)	555.27
*K Beale (Small Works Contractor – Nov)	371.36
*Harmer & Sons (Nov/Dec)	950.02
*Coldred Plant Nurseries	215.00
*I Medgett (Tree Survey)	210.00
*M Harris (Expenses)	45.76
Ewart Clough (SVGA Christmas tree)	204.00
Shepherdswell Village Green Association	113.19
C Tearle (Salary Dec)	555.47
HMRC – PAYE	416.60
C Tearle (Expenses)	108.00
Shepherdswell Village Hall Committee (Dec)	50.00
Coldred Forum (Mowing Grass Verges)	290.85
Approach Rd & Hill Rd Residents Association (Road repairs)	100.39
K Beale (Small Works Contractor – Dec)	313.00

- Cheques paid in December
- b) Precept Demand Notice  
It was resolved that the Chairman and Parish Clerk sign the Notice.
  - c) Tree Survey Report 2018.  
Following the tendering process it was resolved to award the contract to Harmer & Sons Ground Maintenance Ltd.
  - d) Mode Hair & Beauty Salon  
The Annual rent has become due for its five yearly review. It was resolved that the Chairman and the Parish Clerk meet with the tenant to discuss the issue.

**08/2019 Planning**

Please refer to the Minutes of the Planning Committee of the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**09/2019 Lorry Park Consultation – A2 Operation Stack/Brock**

Until such time as anything firm develops the Parish Council will maintain a watching brief, and in the meantime ask Highways England to keep us informed of any developments.

**10/2019 Eythorne Parish Council – A2 Traffic Lights**

To note the contents of their email.

**11/2019 Shepherdsweil Village Hall Parking**

Following an email from the village hall committee about who has the right to use the car park, the Parish Council has reminded everyone that it is a public car park which is available on a first come first served basis.

It was resolved that the Chairman and the Parish Clerk design and have a new sign erected at the entrance to the car park.

**12/2019 Reed Meadow Parking**

The item was deferred to the next meeting when Cllr Collier will research and come back with some worked up proposals.

**13/2019 Small Works Contractor**

It was resolved to add the servicing the Speed Indicator Device to the contract and that Cllr J Collier would handle the data collected from it.

**13/2019 Shepherdsweil Cemetery Memorial Wall**

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

**14/2019 Recreation Ground – Children`s Play Area**

It was resolved after the tendering process to award the contract to spread and purchase the Cushionfall to Harmer & Sons Grounds Maintenance Ltd.

**15/2019 Coldred Village Green**

The Parish Council had received a request from a resident of Coldred to have a memorial bench or plaque put on the Green. The Chairman was given delegated authority to resolve the matter.

**16/2019 A History of Shepherdsweil with Coldred Parishes**

It was resolved to give written authority for Mr S Durbidge to take the old Council Minutes from the County Archives to assist in writing a history of the parishes.

**17/2019 Date of the Next Meeting**

This will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Shepherdsweil Village Hall at 1930hrs.

## Appendix A

Cllr G Lymer (KCC)

Enquiries with KCC Highways has not elicited any information. They, like me, had no knowledge of such a development.

I have enquired with Highways England and this is probably where "rumour control" on social media has taken over.

Highways England is surveilling the whole of the M2/A2 and M20/A20 looking for potential sites that at some stage in the future might just be considered for HGV over night parks.

In looking at all potential sites, they are also conducting other enquiries in relation to those potential sites to eliminate any site at a very early stage as opposed to going through considerable initial expense only to have the site thrown out at the planning stage, as was seen last year on the M20 near Sellindge, to the cost of the tax payer.

As a result, any areas identified on the two main trunk roads, then Highways England is commissioning an environmental and ecological impact assessment of not only the land being considered, but lands further beyond the site, to ensure there would be no disruption to scarce habitat or flora fauna as an example.

Thus, it is highly probable residents living on the A2 periphery side of Shepherdswell may receive correspondence from Highways England, requesting an ecological assessment be made of their grounds if it happened to be near a proposed site. This in itself will not indicate this is where the HGV park will go, but may indicate it is a potential site for the future. However, if an ecological survey found a scarce species of wildlife or flora existed there, then that site would be excluded from their list of potential sites.

Cllr M Oviden (DDC)

There is an increasing problem with homelessness in Dover. DDC will attempt to buy back houses that had previously been sold under the 'right to buy scheme'.

An upgrading of shops paid for by S106 monies is underway in Aylesham.

A resume was done on what she knows of the speculation surrounding a lorry park at Coxhill.

J West (Community Warden)

There has been the usual problem of damage to the youth shelter in the recreation ground, parking concerns and thefts from vehicles.

Also there have been the usual neighbour disputes, welfare issues and smoky bonfires.

M Danson ( N/Watch and Op Shepherds Watch)

Reports of mail order parcels being stolen from door steps and gardens in the local and immediate area in the lead up to Christmas. No arrests as far as I aware.

A number of suspicious 4 x 4 vehicles have been reported late at night in the vicinity of farms buildings and surrounding fields in and around Wootton, Woolage Green and

Densole, and also further afield around Canterbury. Police suspect these vehicles to be engaged in theft and or poaching/coursing. I have advised and asked residents to report any vehicles that are seen late at night in suspicious circumstances.

Reports from the Police in respect of on line (via email) and telephone scams involving TV licence payments/demands for non payment. Social media updated with details.

More recently (5 January) there was a burglary at Elvington where the residents were threatened and a number of items including cash was stolen. It is believed the suspects have local accents, one of them was wearing a black padded jacket and the other had a tan-coloured jacket. They were both wearing hooded tops that covered their faces. Vehicles in the vicinity were also broken into the same evening although it is not known if the incidences are linked.

### **Speed Watch**

We have conducted 7 sessions since the last PC meeting.

A total of **1492** vehicles were observed. Of these **84** vehicles were reported for speeding. **18** received warning letters from the Police.

We have not had any interest in respect of new volunteers. At present we have **7** operators of which only **4** are regularly attending roadside sessions and declaring their availability on line.

### **Op Shepherds Watch**

Due to a prolonged period of illness and difficulty in securing covert observation points I have been unable to conduct any sessions of note.

The weather and lack of day light hours has also impacted upon deployment. Sessions will resume as soon as conditions allow.

In my capacity as NHW / Speed Watch / Op Shepherds Watch co ordinator I have made a Freedom of Information Act application to Kent Police. I have asked for information in respect of 'speed enforcement action' that has taken place along Cox Hill / Eythorne Road since 2010 when the road speed was reduced from 40mph to 30mph. I will update further in due course.