

SHEPHERDSWELL WITH COLDRED PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 20th February 2019 in Shepherdswell Village Hall at 1930hrs.

PRESENT

Councillors: M Harris (Chairman), A Barter, M Cobb, B Crush, R Edmonds, M Elgar, K Regan, C White and C Tearle (Parish Clerk).

Cllr C Johnson joined at Min No.24/2019.

IN ATTENDENCE

Cllr G Lymer (KCC), Cllr M Ovenden (DDC), J West Community Warden and 6 members of the public.

Reports

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

18/2019 Chairman's Report

He informed Members that the Parish Clerk's appraisal had been completed. He also reminded everyone of the forthcoming Council elections and the need for 'fresh blood' on the Council.

19/2019 Apologies

Councillors: J Collier and I Robertson.

20/2019 Declarations of Interest

Cllr M Cobb OSI Min No. 25/2019.

Cllr C White OSI Min Nos. 25/2019 & 26/2019.

21/2019 Clerk's Report

- a) The Cushionfall has been delivered and spread in the children's play area.
- b) The 18th Dover (Shepherdswell) Scout Group will be using the recreation ground on the 22nd June to celebrate 100 years of scouting and having a sleep out event on the 5th July.
- c) The trees have had their bi-annual 'pruning'.
- d) Someone is camping in the wood occasionally next to the football pitch at the recreation ground. This is causing a litter problem. The Small Works Contractor has been tasked with cleaning it up.

22/2019 Finance

- a) The following balances and payments were approved.

Balances as at the 5 th February 2019	£
Current A/C	9,743.32
Business A/C	52,270.17
Income	
Sullivan`s (Undertaker)	560.00
M Wright - Hairdressers (Rent Jan)	230.00
Bank Interest	10.14
Expenditure	
C Tearle (Salary Jan)	555.47
Harmer & Sons (Jan)	475.01
Harmer & Sons (Play Bark)	1,704.00
Harmer & Sons (Tree Surgery)	2,694.00
C Tearle (Jan Expenses)	140.12
Shepherdswell Village Hall Committee (Jan/Feb)	155.00
K Beale (Small Works Contractor (Jan)	383.09

- b) Appointment of an Internal Auditor

The Parish Clerk reminded Members that since the retirement of our previous Internal Auditor last summer we have not found anyone to do this job. This is a job that legally has to be filled shortly, so the Clerk has made an approach to the person that does Bethersden PC as he is Clerk to both Councils.

An update will be given at the next meeting.

23/2019 Planning

Please refer to the minutes of the Planning Committee of the 20th February 2019.

24/2019 Co-option of a Parish Councillor

Mr Colin Johnson being in only applicant, was elected by co-option to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Mr G Peagram.

Mr C Johnson took his seat on the Parish Council and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Chairman welcomed him to the Council.

25/2019 Village Hall Car Park

- It was agreed for a trial period to reposition the car park sign currently on the front wall of the village hall, to its entrance so that it is visible to drivers as cars come into the car park.
- It was resolved to delegate to Cllr B Crush the task of liaising with the Small Works Contractor to repair the road/car park surface outside the village hall.

26/2019 Reed Meadow Parking

Following the presentation of information from Cllr J Collier it was resolved to set-up a Working Party consisting of Cllrs. J Collier, B Crush, R Edmonds and C White to meet and make recommendations on the way forward. This was to report back to the Council on the 20th March 2019 with its recommendations.

27/2019 Children's` Play Area – Recreation Ground

- a) It was resolved to remove the top gate and extend the fence.
- b) It was resolved to obtain quotes to get one slow closing metal gate.

28/2019 Shepherdswell Cemetery Wall

It was resolved to set up a Working Party consisting of Cllrs. M Cobb, B Crush, R Edmonds, C Johnson, and C White to further investigate these proposals and report back to the Council on the 20th March 2019.

29/2019 South and South East in Bloom

It was agreed to circulate this information amongst the local clubs and organisation to see if anyone is interested in entering. Some funding could possibly be made available.

30/2019 Green Infrastructure Levy – Parish Survey

Cllr J Collier was delegated with the task of filling this in.

31/2019 Date of the Next Meeting

This will be on the 20th March 2019 in Shepherdswell Village Hall at 1930hrs.

Appendix A

Cllr G Lymer (KCC)

The Stroke units are to be re-organised with the nearest one to us being the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

The KCC Community Charge increase this year will be 4.99% and they are removing the young persons travel pass.

Central Government is review the time it takes to get a planning appeal determined.

Currently it is about 49 weeks and the plan is to get it down to 26 weeks.

M Ovenden (DDC)

Spoke about the litter on the A2 around the Shepherdswell traffic lights. (It is worth noting that the legal responsibility for all litter belongs to the District Council).

She asked us to fill in the Green Spaces Review Strategy and reminded us of the Local Plan Review meeting on Monday 25th February.

J West (Community Warden)

She has had to deal with the usual problems about bonfire smoke and parking, as well as drawing our attention to the occasional camping in the woods next to the football pitch. She has also said she is available if anyone has any problems over Brexit.

M Danson (N/Watch and Op Shepherds Watch) – Written Report

Neighbourhood Watch

Report received of a vehicle in Coldred having its rear screen smashed.

Metal thieves have been operating in the Dover and surrounding area. One of the alleged vehicles involved was recently photographed and it is alleged that 3 men were entering gardens and stealing metal objects. Currently awaiting a vehicle registration. Police aware.

Vehicle owners in Aylesham and surrounding area have been warned following a number of reports of vandalism. Kent Police received reports of criminal damage to

more than a dozen vehicles. On all occasions the cars have either had their wing mirrors removed or damaged. This is reported to have happened overnight between Friday 25 January and Saturday 26 January 2019. Residents have been urged to remain vigilant whilst officers carry out their enquiries and establish whether any other vehicles have been affected in the local area.

There have also been several incidences of number plates thefts in the area.

In the last 24 hours a vehicle has been reported operating in the village and it is alleged that the occupants have been attempting to steal building materials and tools. The vehicle is believed to be on false plates. Details have been passed to the Police.

Speed Watch

We have conducted **2** sessions since the last PC meeting.

A total of **313** vehicles were observed. Of these **19** vehicles were reported for speeding. **2** 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

Nothing to report for this period.