

# Shurdington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held virtually on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.30 p.m. using ZOOM

## IN ATTENDANCE

- Cllr George Porter (Chair)
- Cllr Clare Stewart (Vice Chair)
- Cllr Chloe Gunn
- Cllr Derwen Hinds
- Cllr Graham Allen
- Cllr Phil Hunt
- Cllr Richard Allen
- Cllr Phil Surman
- Three members of the public
- John Kay [Acting Parish Clerk]

## 055/21 APOLOGIES

Cllr Sowerbutts provided her apologies (personal).

## 056/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

## 056/21 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A member of the public provided his comments on Chargrove Lane being nominated as a Quiet Lane due to its rural setting and the number of different users including walkers, cyclists, equestrian modes of transport. The member of the public had received positive comments from other users and residents about the initiative. The Clerk provided comments on the criteria received from Gloucestershire County Council Highways. **IT WAS AGREED** that Shurdington Parish Council would support any application to Gloucestershire County Council for Chargrove Lane to become a Quiet Lane.

A member of the public highlighted the anomaly over highway status of Greenway Lane, with some of it registered as restricted byway despite being in better condition than the section considered highway. Drainage problems continue in Greenway lane and GCC Highways have not returned to complete the necessary works. **IT WAS AGREED** for the Clerk to contact GCC Highways regarding drainage.

## 057/21 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were confirmed with one amendment as a true record and signed by the Chair. On page 3 it was Cllr Hunt not Cllr Hinds who had cleaned the shelter.

## 058/21 MATTERS ARISING

The Council reviewed the Matters Arising Log that had been circulated with the agenda. Progress was noted and those matters that remained outstanding were discussed and carried forward.

Cllr Hunt provided an update on the ongoing tree inspection. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would contact the Council's tree surgeon regarding the inspection of tree whose condition was causing concern. Cllr Hunt and the Clerk would agree the trees to be inspected.

It was not known who had carried out the recent safety work on trees in Lawn Crescent.

## **059/21        REPORTS FROM PARISH, BOROUGH AND COUNTY CLLRS**

Cllr Surman reported that Tewkesbury Borough Council were planning to return to face to face meetings in March

Cllr G Allen reported that a hearing loop was being installed in the Community Centre with grant funding being obtained from Tewkesbury Borough Council.

It was reported that a vehicle had started parking on the grass island in Blenheim Orchard. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would write to the owner and request that they refrain from parking on the island.

Cllr Hinds reported that the Betty Roberts Lane was continuing to deteriorate.

Cllr Stewart reported that recent pothole repairs in Leckhampton Lane had failed and had broken up almost immediately. Potholes remained in Yarnolds despite a recent visit by GCC Highways. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would report these issues.

Cllr Stewart reported that the Church had applied for planning permission to carry out routine maintenance on the yew and lime trees.

Cllr R Allen reported that the local neighbourhood team had agreed to monitor speeds on the A46 at the request of a resident.

Cllr Hunt commented on the arboricultural works at Cotswold Cottages and the large development at the Star Centre.

Cllr Porter attended a meeting of parish councils regarding development along the A46 and would continue to keep the Council up to date on any further meetings.

Cllr Porter commented that the remaining trees saplings were now "going past" and it had not been possible to agree any locations for planting.

Cllr Surman had received concerns from residents relating to the number of animal deaths on the A46 between Shurdington and the Brockworth. **IT WAS AGREED** the Clerk would contact GCC highways to enquire about signage.

## **060/21        WEBSITE: PHASE 2 DEVELOPMENT**

Cllr Hinds updated Councillors on progress of the website requesting volunteers to fill in the data for the A to Z and for any local organisation to supply up to date contact details/information.

## **061/21 TREE PROTECTION ORDERS (TPO)**

The Chair reported that he had instructed the Clerk to write to three properties on Main Road, Shurdington about the planting of additional trees at the strip of land under the Cedar tree. The responses had not been favourable and the question of the Parish Council selling the land was raised. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Council did not wish to consider selling the land at this time.

The Clerk confirmed that a TPO application had been submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council for the horse chestnut near Brickfield Farm.

## **061/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS: PAYMENTS REQUIRING AUTHORISATION**

The Council **APPROVED** the following payments:

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| John Kay (February)        | £ 672.00 |
| John Kay (expenses)        | £ 10.00  |
| Zoom (subscription )       | £ 14.39  |
| Smart Alex Window Cleaning | £ 20.00  |
| GAPTC                      | £ 532.84 |
| GCC                        | £ 337.50 |

## **062/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS: PAYMENTS MADE**

There were no payments made since the last meeting.

## **063/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS: BANK RECONCILIATION**

The Council **NOTED** the bank reconciliation for the period 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

## **064/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS: COVID & YOUTH FUNDS**

There were no updates.

## **065/21 INTERNAL AUDITOR**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to appoint Iain Selkirk as the internal auditor for the 2020/21 accounts.

## **065/21 GRASS CUTTING 2021**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the annual quote from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance of £82.50 + vat per cut. Cllr Hinds requested a copy of the maps.

## **066/21 PLANNING MATTERS: APPLICATIONS**

It was noted that Shurdington PC supported the planning application: 21/00344/FUL - Hillcrest Crippetts Lane: Semi-subterranean kitchen extension and 2 storey extension to entrance (re-submission of 15/01219/FUL).

## **067/21 PLANNING MATTERS: DECISIONS**

The Council **NOTED** the decisions made by Tewkesbury Borough Council since the last meeting.

## **068/21 ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATION**

There had been no update received on enforcement investigations from the planning authority. The Clerk acknowledged that he had been unable to speak directly with members of the planning team and would attempt to contact them.

## **069/21 ALLOTMENTS**

Cllr Hunt provided an update on vacant plots and confirmed the notice board had been installed. Cllr Hunt to ensure the water meter has not been omitted from the quote regarding improving the supply and will get confirmation the planned works will improve the water flow. Cllr Hunt will contact neighbouring landowner to ensure they are aware of the planned works.

Cllr Hunt thanked the volunteers who had cleared wood from a now vacant plot. There remains rubble in the plot and the new tenant will have quite a lot of work to do.

Cllr Hunt to contact Plot 17 tenant to enquire if they would like to reduce the size.

The Council did not think it practical to further investigate ideas from a tenant about obtaining water from nearby stream, springs etc.

Cllr Hunt and the Clerk to apply to the grant funding opportunity for match funding for capital projects re water supply.

The next meeting of the allotment committee is at 7:30pm on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

## **070/21 APPOINTMENT OF CLERK**

The Council expressed that they wanted to appoint Mr John Kay on a permanent basis. **IT WAS AGREED** Cllr Porter and Hinds would agree a contract with Mr Kay prior to the next meeting.

It was resolved to exclude the members of the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

## **071/21 CHURCHYARD EXTENSION**

**IT WAS AGREED** to carry out a land registry search to establish ownership.

**072/20      DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**IT WAS AGREED** to bring forward the next meeting from the scheduled date of the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 due to the legalisation permitting online meetings expiring on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021. The Clerk reported that NALC had submitted a legal challenge regarding Parish/Town Councils continuing to host online meetings.

The new date would be advertised on the website, social media and noticeboard.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

**Signed:**

**Dated:**