

Shurdington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30th August 2022 at 7pm in the Meeting Room at St Paul's Church, School Lane, Shurdington.

IN ATTENDANCE

- Cllr George Porter (Chair)
- Cllr Derwen Hinds (Vice-Chair)
- Cllr Clare Stewart
- Cllr Graham Allen
- John Kay, Parish Clerk
- Cllr Phil Hunt
- Cllr Richard Allen
- Cllr Sandra Sowerbutts
- 3 members of the public.

Absent: Cllr Phil Surman

144/22 APOLOGIES

Councillor Chloe Gunn provided her apologies for absence.

145/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

146/22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

An email had been received regarding comments of the threatening behaviour of a landowner on the ASH 4 Public Right of Way. It was noted that such instances should be reported to the police, and this had been the reply from the PROW team. **IT WAS AGREED** that Cllr Porter would draft and submit a question to Gloucestershire County Council on the lack of action from the PROW team on several issues.

A member of the public reported that the decision on the planning application 22/00676/FUL Retention of treehouse (retrospective application) at Chy Roscoe, Leckhampton Lane, Shurdington was being investigated by Cllr Surman. The Clerk confirmed that the objection by Shurdington Parish Council had not been received by the planning authority via the portal.

A member of the public reported that subsidence, litter and speeding traffic on Leckhampton Lane were ongoing issues. Fly tipping was not being helped by non-Cheltenham Borough residents not being able to use the nearest recycling centre and having to travel to Hempstead or Stoke Orchard.

It was noted that the Gloucestershire Way remains blocked near Little Shurdington, although this is not within Shurdington parish boundaries.

A member of the public thanked the Council for considering a grit bin at Brizen View. It was confirmed that the Parish Council were not able to obtain permission to provide a grit bin at the requested location due to the street not being adopted by Gloucestershire County Council. **IT WAS AGREED** to contact the developer to enquire what winter provision they have in place.

147/22 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings of Council held on the 11th July and 8th August 2022 were confirmed as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

148/22 MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk provided a summary of the update of matters arising issued with the agenda. It was noted that the bench had been repaired by a member of the public and they were to receive a letter of thanks.

149/22 REPORTS FROM PARISH, BOROUGH AND COUNTY CLLRS

In the absence of Cllrs Vines and Surman, there were no County or Borough Council reports.

Cllr Sowerbutts reported that Badgeworth Parish had recently had white gateway signs installed and they had a positive impact on traffic entering the parish. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would contact the Badgeworth Clerk to enquire how this was achieved.

Cllr Stewart reported that the pedestrian access between the Post Office and Bishop Road on Yarnolds is being obstructed by overhanging self-seeded trees, buddleia, and brambles. There is also a depression in the footway all of which is restricting the pedestrians.

Cllr Stewart also reported that currently we have no taxi company who will accept the vouchers. It was agreed that the taxi voucher scheme would be reviewed at the October meeting of Council.

Cllr Hinds reported that some residents have concerns about the loss of the verge on school lane with the recent "PIP" development receiving approval by the appeal system.

The Clerk was requested to contact Cllr Surman to enquire what Tewkesbury Borough Council services remain "in-house".

150/22 HIGHWAY & FOOTPATH MATTERS

Cllr Hinds has installed the new footpath sign at the playing fields. Due to the inactivity of the PROW team, **IT WAS AGREED** that Cllr Hinds will order a new gate for the Cotswold Wardens to install.

A resident had reported to Cllr Hinds that the gate on ASH 5 had been padlocked.

IT WAS AGREED to contact the current owner of the land neighbouring the church to request permission to replace the existing stile with a kissing gate.

It was noted that GCC Highways had refused to replace or repair the highlighted drain on School Lane.

151/22 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- i) The bank reconciliation up to 22nd August 2022 was noted.
- ii) The Council **APPROVED** the following payments:

HMRC (PAYE)	£ 148.72
John Kay (salary)	£ 594.88
John Kay (expenses)	£ 7.60
PKF Littlejohn	£ 240.00
Shurdington Community Centre	£ 40.00
Smart Alex Windows	£ 20.00

152/22 PLANNING MATTERS: APPLICATIONS

22/00686/FUL: Land North of Leckhampton Lane, Shurdington: The construction of 25 dwellings.

The Clerk confirmed that despite Cllr Surman speaking to the Head of Planning and the Chief Executive at Tewkesbury Borough Council the Parish Council were still to have any direct notice of the application and had no response to the requests for an extension to the deadline.

IT WAS AGREED that Cllr Porter would revise the draft response and submit to the planning authority after attending the Leckhampton with Warden Hill Parish Council meeting.

153/22 PLANNING MATTERS: DECISIONS

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

154/22 ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATION

There was one new enforcement decision by Tewkesbury Borough Council at 4 Lawn Crescent, Shurdington: Alleged erection of 4-foot fence adjacent to a highway: Status No breach.

IT WAS AGREED to request why it had been decided there was no breach.

155/22 ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Hunt reported that the first annual best kept allotments had been judged and the trophies had been given to the winners.

Cllr Hunt had been investigating various complaints about: sub-letting allotments, structures, chickens and aggressive behaviour. The tenant of Plot No. 24 has not responded to the breach notice and there had been no payment received from Plot No. 28.

156/22 KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Sowerbutts had shared the minutes of the recent Charity Committee minutes.

Following the last Council meeting, the Council had received conclusive advice on the matter of reclaiming VAT on the S106 funded project and improvements.

The advice states "HMRC do not regard a custodian trustee as the owner of the site for VAT purposes and this is addressed in VAT Notice 749 section 6.5. A council that is a custodian trustee has no right to reclaim VAT on behalf of the charity. If the S106 funds have been awarded to the charity, then the council will not be entitled to reclaim VAT."

The playground inspection has been arranged as this had not been carried out during the pandemic.

157/22 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The Council considered the quotes available and decided to concentrate on the tree planting element with flower beds to be considered next year. The Clerk to enquire from the preferred supplier whether the first 6-month maintenance includes regular watering. **IT WAS AGREED** that the Council would accept costs up to £750 for this vital element of the tree planting project.

158/22 SPEEDWATCH

Cllr R Allen reported that over 3000 vehicles have been recoded excessively speeding in the 132 sessions to date. The Deputy Police Crime Commissioner recently attended and witnessed some of the abuse received from drivers.

In a recent event not linked to the Parish Council or Speedwatch, two homemade "speed cameras" were installed on the A46 with the Speedwatch group noticing a definite reduction on speeds during the session the "cameras" were in place. This was reported in the local news and very quickly received national and global coverage by various news outlets.

Cllr R Allen attended a meeting of several Speedwatch groups at Gloucester Police Station to share information and research on Speedwatch.

IT WAS AGREED that the non-Council volunteers should receive a voucher to thank them for their time and efforts over the last 12 months.

596/22 NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for 7pm on Monday 10th October 2022 at the Community Centre, Shurdington.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8:45pm.

Signed:

Dated: