

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHOSCOMBE HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST JULY 2015

Present: Pat Bunton (Chair), Andrew Wilding, Angela Smith, Ian Cannock (Vice-Chair), Joy Schneidermann, Linda Lethbridge and Jean Fossaceco (Clerk)

Also present: Mr Pike and Ms Corbin – residents of 1, White Hill Cottages

Apologies: Dave Cradock and Carolyn Keating

Minutes of the last meeting: These were found to a true record with the following amendment: The addition of 'Woodborough' to the lists of places the questionnaire would be delivered to. This then reflects the same distribution areas as the village newsletter.

Matters Arising	Action	Timeline
CCTV – There seemed to a general consensus that the cost of installing CCTV would be prohibitive. The police, who have been consulted, also feel that this is a slight overkill as any drugs being used in the car-park are 'legal highs'. It was therefore decided to proceed with a heavy duty padlock and chain with a combination lock and this would be used to lock the gate at night. The PC,VH and the school would have the combination as would residents who want to use the village hall car-park as a car-park during periods of bad weather. It was felt this would prove to be a disincentive to anyone wishing to use the car park for any anti social behaviour.	PB	
Planning notifications – it was noted that, on inquiry, Mrs Fossaceco was told only immediate neighbours were told of any planning applications.		
Cinder path – There is some barbed wire lying amongst the grass along the path. After reporting this to Sheila Petheridge at B&NES we were told to deal with this ourselves. Mrs Fossaceco will contact Martin Young and ask him to look at it for us.	JF	ASAP
Footpath to the rear of St Julian's Farm – Both Mrs Fossaceco and Mr Wilding have been in email communication with Sheila Petheridge regarding the posts to the rear of Mr Wilding's land. Ms Petheridge eventually agreed to contact the landowner, Chris Smith, but as yet we have not heard anything further. Mrs Fossaceco will chase this up.	JF	ASAP
Village Hall		
With regard to the village accounts, Pat Bunton is concerned that transparency and openness are seen to be displayed. This is in no way suggesting a lack of trust or a need for control, it merely is good practice and governance for the PC to have accurate Profit and Loss accounts and a Balance Sheet. It is understood the Treasurer uses Quick Books and sends a copy of the accounts to the Charities Commission. Pat Bunton asked if a copy of these could also be submitted to the PC for their records and this was agreed. There has been some confusion over the cutting of the playing field. The PC have always organised the cutting of the verges and the play area but it is unclear who has organised the cutting of the field. Mrs Fossaceco has agreed to talk to Mr Cradock about this and clarify his charge per cut. The Hall would like this done very 2 weeks from April to September. The cost will be split between the Hall and the PC with Cricket Club contributing if subs allow.	Treasurer of the Village hall Committee JF	

<p style="text-align: center;">Village Day – 12th September</p> <p>Arrangements will replicate what has happened in previous years. There will be stalls, displays and representations by the Wildlife Group, the Village Plan, the Village Hall, Fracking and Truespeed . Pat Bunton is unable to attend and present on that day and there was no one else within the PC that was able to deputise. Pat stressed the need for collaborative working within the community and not a partisan, or silo'd approach. Pat Bunton and Ms Smith pointed out that the Village Plan has been driven and instigated by the PC after issues with planning, social housing etc two years ago and it was in everyone's interest to see cohesion and openness. It was agreed the day itself will be opened by the Village Hall Committee. With regard to financial support from the Parish Council, after much discussion, £150 will be made available towards the staging costs and this should be seen as a tangible way the PC can show its appreciation of all the work involved in making this day such a success. We all want to work together for the benefit of the whole community. This contribution, however, is agreed on a 'year by year' basis and does not set a precedent for other years.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Village Plan</p> <p>A progress report and draft questionnaire have been circulated to all PC members. Unfortunately, the Plan Committee has just been told the Quartet organisation cannot issue a grant. Pat Bunton has therefore offered the services of his company to copy the questionnaire to allow its distribution on schedule in September. Volunteers are required to both deliver and collect the completed (and uncompleted) copies. The committee would like to distribute all copies manually to the households covered by the newsletter and then collect them a week to two weeks later. This is to encourage the best possible response as asking people to fill them in online might not always be possible. Even if they have not been filled in, the committee would like them returned which will require people to be in to both receive and return their forms. It is hoped there will be plenty of volunteers as this could take some time. The results will then be uploaded onto Survey Monkey and analysed by Sara Dixon and Martin Phillips. A local graphic designer is providing a prize for the photo and logo competition. The council would like to applaud the time and effort that has gone into this. The Plan should be well into the formulation stage by 2016. <i>In the meantime, an idea will have been gathered as to what the village would like to see improved, enhanced, changed etc and this could then be noted so that our precept could be increased if need be to take into account any additional expenditure this might incur. For January agenda ***</i></p> <p>With regard to the questions on the questionnaire itself, members of the council felt that in the section about the school, a question regarding the school's pro-activeness in respect of parking by parents be specifically addressed. This is to ensure that the school understands its responsibilities to local residents. Also, in the section about gritting/emergency vehicle access, particularly during times of bad weather, a question should be posed regarding parking in general and obstruction yo highways in the village which could restrict access for emergency services as well as the gritter. The council then unanimously agreed the questionnaire was appropriately worded and the tone was open and fair.</p>	<p>CK/LL</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;">Planning</p> <p>The refusal of the planning application for an extension to 1, White Hill Cottages was discussed within the council and the residents who attended. This is not the first refusal and they are trying very hard to reason with the planning department. They are asking for the Parish Council's support, which was agreed and are hoping their next application/appeal will be successful as they can prove, through an archive document, that the footprint of the house was larger in 1931 and they are merely asking to re-instate that. The footprint and the green belt issue are the 2 matters that have resulted in the refusals. Mrs Fossaceco will also ring the planning department and ask who the case officer is now (Mr Alex Watson has left) and reiterate our support.</p>	JF	ASAP
<p style="text-align: center;">Financial Matters</p> <p>Cheques were issued to the clerk for her salary - £484.00, expenses - £50.00 and HMRC - £121.00 To Lee Cloutman - £11.98 for key cutting for the village hall To Sue Baillie - £15.00 for reimbursement for the newsletter advertisement To Dunkleys, the accountants - £98.00 for their services in relation to the clerk's salary etc 2014/15</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Councillors Contact Details on the Website</p> <p>All councillors felt they should be accessible to the village and community so are happy for their telephone numbers to be included on the website but not necessarily their email addresses as some of these are work ones. Pat Bunton will liase with Lisa Price about this.</p>	PB	
<p style="text-align: center;">Notice Board near The Apple Tree Inn</p> <p>The location of the existing notice board outside the Apple Tree is very awkward so Mrs Keating has spoken to Mandy and Mark, landlords at the pub, and they are happy for a notice board to be put on their land. It is just a question of where. Mrs Fossaceco will talk again the Liam Martin about making this and councillors living near the Apple Tree will discuss location.</p>	JF plus councillors	
<p style="text-align: center;">Truespeed Broadband</p> <p>The village have already been actively encouraged via the Newsletter to register an interest but Pat Bunton will talk to other PC Chairs to try and garner as much support for this as possible and a presentation will place on the Village Day.</p>	PB	
<p style="text-align: center;">Newsletter</p> <p>When Mrs Fossaceco writes our Newsletter piece, she will mention the 3 vacancies still open and also try and clarify what the council would like to do for the community in terms of working together with the village hall and the village plan and also listening to the concerns and needs of the parish. We want to highlight the desire for a cohesive approach and the wish to work collectively rather than independently with the minimum of bureaucracy. If we can socialise this objective, we are hoping the community will see we want to work as a team.</p>		

