

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHOSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 6TH APRIL 2017

Present: Jackie Withers (Chair), Mary Upton, Lee-Crowther-Russell, Ian Cannock (Vice-Chair), Rosie Cradock, Jean Fossaceco (Clerk) and Andrew Wilding

Also Present: Chris Upton and Nick Glass

1. **Apologies:** Grant Thomas
2. **Declaration of Interests for this meeting:** None
3. **10 Minutes for Public Participation:** None
4. **Minutes of the last Meeting:** These were found to be correct.

5. Casual Vacancy	ACTION	TIMELINE
Following the advertisement for the Casual Vacancy, there has been no request for an election. We can therefore co-opt. Vacancies on the council, which number 4, will be mentioned in the village newsletter with a summary of where current councillors live.	JF	By next Newsletter
6. HELAA Sites		
No further information is available. The clerk has been informed there is a delay with the publication of these. Mrs Upton and Mrs Withers will both attend a Local Plan meeting at the Guildhall on Monday 24 th April.	JW/MU	
7. Planning		
The Weeks planning application has been approved. We have received two further applications: Vale House in St Julian's Road for an extension – Application Number 17/01347/FUL . The council does not have any objection to this. Mr Wilding has visited one set of direct neighbours who have no objection and will keep trying to contact the other. Shoscombe Primary School for replacement fencing – Application Number 17/01464/LBA . The council does not have any objection to this application.	AW	
8. Vacancy for Clerk to the Burial Board		
This has been advertised both in Shoscombe and in Wellow but no-one has come forward as yet.		
9. Parish Plan Steering Committee		
This meeting has been earmarked for detailed discussions on Action Plans for areas highlighted in the questionnaire as being of particular importance to the Community. Proformas for specific areas have been circulated. Discussion points, following analysis of the questionnaire, included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parishioners would like a more 'user friendly' financial report on the council's expenditure for the previous year (as opposed to the Receipts and Payments and Bank Reconciliation documents which are available for the audit). This could be written following the Annual Meeting and published on the website. • There is now a new format for the PC's report on the newsletter; a more bullet pointed, factual precis of items discussed and decided upon with sub-headings as opposed to 	JF	

<p>the more chatty, informal one previously submitted. This has already begun and will continue. The clerk will also add that members of the community are <i>always</i> welcome at meetings together with the date of the next meeting and a reiteration of the fact that agendas are on notice boards 7 days before the meeting so people can decide if they wish to attend. This will be written at the end of the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most villagers were against the raising of the precept to fund projects. They would rather grants or funding be acquired from other sources. Perhaps this could be mentioned in the newsletter in the hope someone will volunteer to take this on. • It was generally felt there is no need for a village caretaker. • Additional Litter Bins – this was something the village feel strongly about due partly to the amount of dogs in the area (approximately 90). There is an issue with dog owners not picking up dog waste. The council has attempted to have 2 further bins installed along Single Hill and near Paglynych on the cycle path but these have been unsuccessful. B&NES having conducted a comprehensive survey on footfall and costs and turned us down. There is a suggestion we purchase bins and either ask B&NES to empty them or empty them ourselves . The clerk will check if B&NES will undertake this. Another suggestion is there to be a fenced off area on the playing field to contain dog waste but this was not felt to be practical. • Some people suggested Shoscombe have allotments. These could be placed on area on the Recreation field or as part of a ‘shared garden’ initiative. We could try and assess interest through the newsletter together with ascertaining who would be open to sharing their gardens. • The idea of a Welcome Pack for new residents was mentioned and this was thought to be a very good proposal so will be put together. • Recreation Field – the play-area is well-used and it is hoped this could be improved but since the demise of the cricket team, the field itself is not used other than by dog walkers. Suggestions for improvements included, an area for the allotments , goal nets, a running track or a nature/wild flower area. • There were many proposals for improvements to the play-area itself including some that could cause insurance liability problems but, it was felt, providing any new equipment is relatively feasible in terms of safety and cost, we should look into this more closely. A coating could be added to the slide to improve it and the cricket net could be repaired. • Information on planning applications was also mentioned by a number of residents who wish to be more informed on planning applications. It was thought this could be added to the website under a separate heading? • Picnic tables and more benches were also suggested and the council and the SG will look into possibly asking for sponsors for these. 	<p>JF</p> <p>JF</p> <p>JF</p>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It should be noted all improvements to the play-area and the Recreation Field are 'funds dependant' so estimates will be acquired. There is a gentleman who worked with Kilmersdown PC on their play-area who could help with this. • Roads, Parking and Transport- the lorry warning signs are in hand. There has been some mention of hedgerows and visibility issues. The clerk will check if B&NES are still in charge (via a contractor) of the cutting back of these but it is thought this could be out of our control and they may not be able to cut back until September. • Pot-holes and raised drainage holes are the responsibility of B&NES. If the clerk or a member of the PC is informed they will report any issues to B&NES. Alternatively, any resident is able to contact Council Connect directly and report issues. The number is 01225 477000 which will put onto the newsletter. • Issues with gritting have been raised. Presently, the gritting lorry goes down Single Hill and along St Julian's Road to enable school traffic and those residents to travel in and out of the village during cold weather. It also goes down White Hill and past the Apple Tree Inn (providing access is available) and reverses into Montague Road and back out again. The clerk will ask George Bottin if there is possibility the route could be extended to further down Single Hill and possibly Green St. • Housing and Planning comments included a general agreement that appropriate extensions/building works would help local people with the proviso that this 'location dependant'. 	<p>JF</p> <p>JF</p> <p>JF</p>	
10. Financial matters		
<p>Cheques were issued to the clerk for her quarterly salary - £532.00, to HMRC - £133.00, to Derek Withers in reimbursement for the History Boards -£192.50 (B&NES has already credited the PC with this) and Diana Aiken for the website domain renewal - £14.39</p>		
DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS 27th April – Parish Council Meeting 23rd May – Parish Council Annual Meeting 25th May – ALCA 8th June – Parish Council 28th June – Parish Liaisons 13th July – Parish Council 14th September – Parish Council 28th September – ALCA 12th October – Parish Council 26th October – Parish Liaisons 9th November – Parish Council 14th December – Parish Council 25th January 2018 – ALCA 28th February 2018 – Parish Liaisons		