

MEETING OF SHALDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 26th June 2023 at 4pm in Shalden Village Hall

Minutes

Present: Cllr Taylor, Cllr Holliday, Cllr Wod, Cllr Jones, Cllr Orme (Chair)

Also in attendance: K Horton (Clerk) and 3 residents

- 1) **Welcome.** Introductions made
- 2) **Apologies for Absence.** None received
- 3) **Acceptance of Office.** Further to the 2023 Parish Council elections, to confirm that the Councillors for Shalden Parish Council have completed the required paperwork: Acceptance of Office and Register of Interests. Two Declarations of Interest are outstanding and Cllrs were reminded of the requirement to complete this paperwork for EHDC
- 4) **Declarations of Interest.** None made in relation to the agenda.
- 5) **Approval of Minutes**
 - a) Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd May 2023. Proposed by Cllr Orme as a fair record of the meeting. Seconded by Cllr Taylor and approved. Minutes signed by Cllr Orme.
- 6) **Appointment to Committee roles**
 - a) Appointment of Vice Chair and verbal declarations of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Orme Proposed Cllr Wood for the role. Proposal was seconded by Cllr Jones and approved by all attending Cllrs. Cllr Wood confirmed his acceptance of the role.
- 7) **Public forum: Adjournment of the meeting for 10 minutes to allow the public to raise matters**
 - Resident asked the new Council to consider how it would engage with residents living on the Old Odiham Road. Resident advised that there is an interest in getting involved in parish events such as the Fete and getting a better understanding of the PC's role. Cllr Holliday asked whether communication was of particular concern and the resident informed the meeting that it is not clear how to raise questions to the PC. Cllr Wood recognised there is a disconnect between the two parts of parish. Resident commented that the position of the PC noticeboard is not ideal and asked what other communication methods could be used to help share information. Resident asked whether the PC could seek feedback from residents on how communication might be improved.
 - Resident wished to share concerns about the Planning Application on the meeting agenda. Believes the development is too crowded and the width of the plot is not suitable for such a building. Resident also drew the Cllrs attention to the fact that Utilities require access to the field as there are both a manhole cover and telegraph poles in the field. Access to the field is only possible through the existing driveway that is the proposed building site. There is no other access point – Godds End might provide an alternative but unlikely to be approved by Highways Agency. Resident confirmed the field is approx 6 acres and is pasture and supports wildlife.

It was proposed by Cllr Orme that the Public consultation be extended by 5mins and this was approved by the other Cllrs.

- Resident was asked what access was required by the Utilities company when the telegraph poles were recently replaced. Resident confirmed the field was accessed through the driveway currently being proposed for development. Resident also noted that the works vehicles had to park down the driveway as it was not safe to park on Old Odiham Road.
- Resident advised that the driveway also provides access to the neighbouring properties when they wish to get into the back of their gardens.

8) Parish Council Finances/Administration

a) **Financial summary** for May to June 2023 and in addition:

- i) Notification/authorisation of payments. Cllr Taylor proposed and Cllr Holiday seconded the payments. All Cllrs approved
- ii) Approval for transfer of £4,000 from Savings account to Current account to cover future payments. Proposed by Cllr Orme and Cllr Jones seconded with all Cllrs approving.
- iii) Status report on update of signatories on SPC bank account. Two of the Cllrs need to be added to the banking approvals.

b) **HALC membership.** It was confirmed that membership access has been set up for the Councillors and they have received activation emails.

c) **PC email accounts.**

- i) **To confirm PC accounts have been set up for the new Councillors and to agree what contact details will be publicised to residents on the parish noticeboards and website.** Clerk confirmed that PC email accounts have been set up for all the Cllrs. It was proposed that information sheet in the parish noticeboard provide the Clerk's email address and phone number and the Councillor central email address. Agreed unanimously by the Cllrs. It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk introduce the new Council through an article in The Villager and on the PC website.
- ii) **To remind Councillors of the requirement for PC email accounts to be used for communicating on council business.** Cllr Orme reminded Cllrs on the requirement that the central email accounts be used for conducting PC business. Cllr Orme advised that the accounts are linked to the central Cllr email account that will feed enquiries to the individual Cllrs. Cllr Orme advised that GDPR requirements and Freedom of Information requests would allow for personal accounts to be screened if the PC accounts are not used solely for PC work. Cllr Orme offered to help any Cllrs who were having difficulties accessing their accounts. Cllr Orme confirmed that Cllrs can change the password for their own when logging on but reminded Cllrs the account remains that of the PC and will be closed as and when Cllrs move on from their role.

d) **Recreation Ground and Alton Football Club.** Report from Clerk on contract renewal and mowing. Clerk confirmed that contract has been signed by ATC. ATC will be responsible for maintaining the pitch through the year and Clerk is seeking quotes for mowing the remainder of the field. It was discussed that there might be more interest in such a job if there were additional responsibilities such as strimming footpaths and hedgerows.

e) **Potholes.** To confirm how Highways issues should be raised by residents.

- i) Cllrs recognised potholes were a national issue but there are holes that need attention in the parish. Cllr Wood was able to give some background on how HCC stratify and classify the potholes and assess which potholes need to be dealt with.
- ii) Clerk noted that both Cllr Costigan and Cllr Kemp-Gee had commented on the matter at the Annual Parish Meeting and that it was essential for matters to be logged on the HCC website. There was acknowledgement that the onus is on residents to report matters as and when they are spotted (Repairs to vehicle can be claimed if pothole has been flagged). Clerk was tasked with

confirming with Cllr Kemp-Gee on the escalation process and time-frame for using this. It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk circulate a “how to” advice on the matter to residents.

9) Correspondence:

a) Drains on Shalden Lane. To agree any action in relation to the localised flooding in this location.

- i) Car park of Church was previously a pond and is unregistered land (separate issue). Highway floods and excess water (not channelled by drains) continues down road and ends up where village pond was. Drain is cleared by resident after each flash flood – water carries silt and gravel and causes blockages. Cllrs were in agreement that residents can’t be relied on to keep clearing the drain.
- ii) Some anecdotal information suggests there have been attempts to ease the situation but it has not solved problem. Cllrs discussed whether grips (cuts in verge that funnel water) could be reinstated. Historically there were two grips at Shalden Lodge and one at Manor Farm. The two at Shalden Lodge have silted up and Cllrs would like to understand whether these could be cleared along with the one at Manor Farm.
- iii) Cllrs noted this might be one step to address the situation but additional work could well be required. Cllr Wood advised that Highways or Environment was reviewing situation (pre Covid). Understand where water was meant to go and how to address grips etc.

Proposed: Cllr Holliday to follow up with residents and provide an update at next meeting.

10) To consider a response to the following planning application(s):

a) Ref: 50101 FUL. Land South of Mile End, Old Odiham Road, Shalden

Proposal: Detached dwelling with associated landscaping

- Residents have commented on EHDC planning website and this has helped inform Parish Council
- Cllrs discussed and considered the following points:
 - Change of use approval may be required from Agri to C3
 - Does the owner of field has a legal right to access
 - Have the Utility companies been consulted on the access they require for repairs - electricity and sewerage.
 - Sight lines are not clear and as such not a safe entrance/exit. Highways need to be consulted – developing an entrance would be cutting into land on each side.
 - Density of infill and character of building. Layout and design need to contribute to the sense of place
 - Proximity to neighbouring properties. The application appears to be infill
 - Contrary to CP14 (affordable housing), CP19 (Development in the countryside) and CP29 (Design) part D replaces density. These are significant principles which control development and unpin EHDC plan
 - Not identified as part of plan. Consensus among Cllrs that the application appears opportunistic
- Proposed by Cllr Holliday to lodge an Objection, Seconded by Cllr Orme and all Cllrs in agreement. Wording to be finalised
- Noted that Cllrs are able to put personal comments on EHDC website should they wish

11) Items for next agenda

- a)** Footpaths report
- b)** Communication and engagement
- c)** Village Hall update

- d) CIL monies
- e) Report on flooding

12) Date of next meeting. Clerk to confirm whether a meeting is required ahead of scheduled September date

Meeting closed 5: 30pm

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Signed: D Orme, Chair of SPC

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Dated