

Shipton Parish Council

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Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

Friday 13th May 2022 in the Reading Room at 6.30pm.

Councillors present: Cllrs Chalklin (Chairman), Griffiths, Kealy and McKinna
In attendance: 5 members of the public

- 220513/1 Welcome and Introductions:** Cllr Chalklin welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 220513/2 Apologies:** Received from Cllr Paul Hodgkinson and Cllr Hawley.
- 220513/3 Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 4th May 2021:** Cllr Chalklin asked Council to approve these minutes. APPROVED.
- 220513/4 Annual Report of the Chairman of Shipton Parish Council.** Cllr Chalklin delivered his report. See Appendix 1.
- 220513/5 Reports from County and District Councillors:** The report from County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson can be found in the Appendix.
- 220513/6 Local Community Reports:**
6.1 Reading Room Report - delivered by Susan Livesey, Chair of the Reading Room Trustees. In summary, the renovation works are now complete albeit slightly later than anticipated due to Covid. Thanks were given to the Project Manager, Steve Ratcliffe who ensured the project was completed efficiently and within budget. SL confirmed that there were now three new trustees on the Reading Room Committee. SL explained that the recent application for a premise license was simply to reduce administration time and costs for social events as well as allowing the Village to hold more spontaneous activities. All residents are being encouraged to support and assist with events to ensure that the facilities are fully utilised and it is hoped that an independent Social Committee can be formed as soon as possible. Please note, low level hedging and a plant scheme will be created in due course.
6.2 St Oswald's Church/ Coln River Group– see the Appendix for the reports.
- 220513/7 Open Forum:**
7.1 A member of the Public asked if the PC would financially contribute to the Village Jubilee Picnic on Saturday, 4th June 2022. The request was for the provision of tea, coffee, and cake in addition bunting/stickers etc. Council agreed to contribute £200.00 for the items requested and also covering the hire of the Reading Room on the day.
7.2 Planning application 22/01363/FUL – 3-5 The Rise, Shipton Oliffe and change of use from C3 (residential) to C2 (residential institutions). Residents felt that the application was factually incorrect and misleading. Council commented that they were neutral on this application, but encouraged residents to submit their own comments in support or objection.
- 220513/8 Closing Comments from the Chairman:** Cllr Kealy thanked everyone for attending and brought the meeting to a close at 19.56pm
- 220513/9 Date of next meeting** – TBC May 2023 **Meeting closed at 19:20**
- Signed: *Harry Chalklin* **Date: 21.5.23**

APPENDIX 1 Annual Report of the Chairman of Shipton Parish Council 2022

My thanks to all residents of Shipton Parish for continuing to make ours a warm, welcoming community.

Key points of the last year.

The make-up of the Parish council continues as was and I'd like to thank all members for their work and efforts. My thanks also go to Cllr Hughes of Cotswold District and Cllr Hodgkinson of Gloucestershire.

We have welcomed new members to the community over the last 12 months and I do hope that they are finding the villages (Oliffe, Solars and Hampen) to be a friendly environment.

About the environment, there have been concerns raised about grass clippings and other green waste in the streams. I politely ask that landowners connecting with the stream consider this when tidying their land.

Dog fouling continues to be a key issue in our parish. The issue has been raised several times by many residents with North farm raising concern over fouling in the yard and on their land. The parish spends a considerable amount of taxpayer money on poo bags and several dedicated bins. It is the responsibility of a dog owner/walker to clean up after their dog or could face a fine. Please bag it and bin it.

This year we can look forward to a fun filled Jubilee weekend, in celebration of HRH The Queen's platinum jubilee. This will see the parish come together in celebrations as the key social event in the calendar. Thank you to Jayne Spiller and her team with their efforts in laying this event on.

For the team that sorted our Christmas tree this year, thank you again for your efforts and I'd like to show my appreciation to Kate Hathaway and her team on toad patrol and to Harvey as snow warden. Please can both teams continue to do your work as I know it's appreciated by the community. Special thanks go to Nigel McKay for restoring the notice board outside the Reading Room.

Highways have been called into Shipton and installed or repaired several areas, including the wardens who have been active across the parish this year maintaining crossing and gates. If a member of the community sees an issue on the highways/byways, you should report it to Gloucestershire County council. If they don't know about it, nothing can be done. Parking in specific areas continues to be an issue. I'd like to remind drivers that HGVs use the road in the parish and must be afforded space to move, remember, we never know when a fire engine needs to get through. Pedestrians are reminded to use footpaths where they're available to keep the carriageway clear for your own safety.

The last 12 months saw the easing and scrapping of government restrictions for Covid-19. My praise goes to all members of the community for coming together and supporting one another over the course of the pandemic. I thank residents for not attending drinks parties over this time.

Lastly, this year saw the opening of the refurbished Reading Room. The team worked hard to deliver this project and my thanks goes to those who made this possible. The Parish Council looks forward to working with the new committee in place and in assisting them to lay on their excellent social calendar, which has already been well populated. Thank you to those residents who utilise this resource and community asset. If someone has an idea for an event or would like to book the room for personal use, then please do contact the committee. Recently, Richard Bromwich organised a clean-up effort for the surrounding area of the Reading Room, I thank him for that, and it came as a nice conclusion to the project. Thank you all.

Shipton Parish Councillors are active in the community and look forward to meeting the residents, in person. Please do feel free to stop us and have a chat.

Best wishes,

Harry Chalklin,

Chairman of the Shipton Parish Council.

APPENDIX 2

County Council Update reported by Paul Hodgkinson

Covid

Covid - the latest figures show cases across the country dropping again following the very large totals last month. At the time of writing Gloucestershire hospitals continue to have a large number of patients with Covid 19 – a total of approx 120 patients. This is due to waning booster effectiveness for those who had the third jab early and also the large circulation of cases. The county council is giving no stats at all on local cases now, so I am totally reliant on national figures.

Having now been laid low with the virus myself for the first-time last month I can attest for the fact this is in no way 'just a cold'.

The key message is to take care in crowded spaces and to make sure you are fully vaccinated. The over 75s and those who are extremely vulnerable have already started getting the call for the 4th jab to give them extra protection. Cotswolds residents have one of the highest rates of full vaccination in the whole country (80% are tripled vaxxed).

River pollution

A topic close to my heart. As I reported previously, I called for action by the County Council to stop the dumping of raw sewage in our rivers. Water companies are discharging harmful pollutants regularly into local waterways and people are rightly outraged about it. The Windrush has been impacted by this.

The County Council has set up a task group looking at this – I am part of that. So far, we have taken evidence from the water companies, OFWAT, farmers, lobby groups, the Environment Agency and other councils across the UK.

We have come up with a set of recommendations which will be published soon once they've been ratified by the whole council. These will include local and national actions which we believe will help halt the never-ending increase in polluted rivers.

Roads/parking

I have had lots of casework on roads and parking in the last year as usual.

The No Crash meeting took place in March, and you've had the actions from that.

The A417 Missing Link project (Air Balloon) continues as planned. The contractor to undertake the work to join up the dual carriageways has been appointed and construction work is due to start next year.

Grants

I'm happy to support village projects via grant money - take a look at the Build Back Better Fund on the GCC website to see if you have any ideas which might qualify.

Ukraine

I'm sure we have all been appalled and hugely saddened at the war in Ukraine. If you are interested in providing a home to a refugee fleeing the conflict the Government has set up a process to do this.

The best place to look is in fact the CDC website here. It provides up to date links to the national processes and the way in which you can help:

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/communities-and-leisure/support-for-communities/ukraine-support/>

As always, if there's something I can help you with please get in touch.

APPENDIX 3

Coln River Group -Reflections on the last year

Covid has continued to greatly impact Church life. In common with Churches across the country there has been a decline in attendance, partly because of death and infirmity, partly because of nervousness, and partly because of habits being broken. All these factors play their part. On the other hand, meeting online for services and courses has continued to be much appreciated.

All the regular things like our Sunday Services, Home Groups, Study Groups, and Holiday Clubs are now back regularly. We particularly want to highlight the Open-Air Carols at Shipton which really brought the whole community there together, and many thanks to Al Hogg and his team for initiating that.

St Oswald's Church

Services now take place regularly in the church and are reasonably well supported. These complement the services held elsewhere in our benefice and online. We have a holy communion and a more relaxed service each month.

The food bank collection point in the church porch continues to be very well supported by the village and we take a very generous donation to the foodbank twice a month.

We have had the village book swap in the church for the past two years. This will now be moved onto a local charity shop as it is not used much anymore.

We thank the Bonds gardener and Sue Locke for keeping the church grounds tidy and our many helpers for helping us with various maintenance and building issues.