

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

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COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

at Shoreham Village Hall on 6th November 2019 from 7:30pm

- Present: Jonathan Histed (in the Chair)
R Blamey, A Collins, S Hubble, B Jeffery, N Powell and M Sheward
- Also Present: 11 members of the public
County Councillor Roger Gough
District Councillor Irene Roy
- Clerk: Sarah Moon
- Question Time: There were no questions from members of the public other than those raised during the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cockburn and Hibbins and from District Councillor John Edwards-Winser.
2. There were no disclosures of interest.
3. The minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 (copies previously distributed) were received and signed by the Chairman.
4. **District/County Councillor Reports**

District Councillor

The proposed redevelopment of the Fort Halstead site was discussed at the Planning Meeting as were recent events at the former Romney Street Caravan Park.

Cllr Roy advised that SPC undertake a public consultation for any proposed traffic and parking measures. This should be done by way of a survey or questionnaire.

If any funding is to be applied for, then support for measures involving changes to roads need to be demonstrated. It is also vital to ensure that there will be tangible benefits to the community such as improvements to the safety of school children or commuters walking to the station.

Kent Highways will provide funding if there is a compelling case although the best option is to apply for a share of District CIL.

Any consultations/surveys should aim for a 50% response rate from residents.

County Councillor

5. Cllr Gough confirmed that George Chandler, Project Manager for Broadband implementation at KCC, would be coming to the Parish Council meeting in December to talk about upgrading

broadband throughout the village. Cllr Gough also confirmed that he is trying to nail a date down for Well Hill.

Following recent events at Romney Street, Cllr Gough confirmed that he had been in touch with Highways who have confirmed that the work undertaken by the developers there will need to be made good. The water run-off will also need to be checked to ensure it does not cause issues to neighbouring properties

Consultation on the creation of a new boys grammar school at the Wildernesses site is currently underway and will run until 5th December. As Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar is under Local Authority Control, KCC will have the final say on whether this satellite will go ahead.

6. Report from the Clerk

- Installation of the new playground should be finished this week.
- A community table tennis table tournament between the Over 60s Club and the village school children will be held on Wednesday 14th November.
- 18 more trees have been ordered for the Centenary Wood and these will be planted over the weekend.
- George Chandler, Broadband Project Manager at KCC will be attending the December Parish Council meeting to discuss a scheme to improve broadband infrastructure throughout the village.
- It is hoped that a footpath from the train station in to the village will be created next summer. The owners of the church field, through which the footpath will run, are in the process of finalising the sale of other parts of their estate and when this has been completed, will be in a position to allow the footpath to be created.
- Numerous projects which will benefit Shoreham are currently being undertaken by the Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme. The Clerk reported that she had met with the DVLP who had provided her with the following update:
 - The Samuel Palmer walking trail (with audio) will be launched spring 2020.
 - A Samuel Palmer exhibition is also planned for next year. This will see the return of many of Palmer's paintings from galleries/museums around the country to be displayed in the Darent Valley alongside works from local artists.
 - Undergrounding the overhead wires at Preston Hill will be undertaken Autumn 2020.
 - A LIDAR survey of the valley has been completed and results of this will be available on the DVLP portal next year.
 - Improvements to the surfacing, steps and signage at Shoreham Woods are due to be undertaken shortly.
 - Money is available for groups to produce leaflets for circular walks. KCC have agreed to provide waymarkers, kissing gates etc to support such leaflets.
 - Improvements to Preston Hill will commence soon. These will include the creation of a circular route, improved way marking, scrub clearance to improve the chalk land and the introduction of a grazing herd to facilitate this.
 - Scrub removal and introduction is also planned for White Hill, an SSSI managed by the Butterfly Conservation Group.
 - DVLP have been supporting local organisations such as the Quadrangle Trust and the Shoreham Aircraft Museum.
 - Money is available for training for local groups, who feel there could be a certain type of training from which they would benefit (conservation, heritage, art etc)
 - Grants for heritage/community projects are now available directly from the DVLP. The Parish Council's Village Sign project would qualify for such funding.

7. Transport

a) Shoreham Station

The Clerk confirmed that an email from Patrick Ladbury at GTR had been received stating that an accessibility feasibility study will be commissioned within a few week's time and that Shoreham Parish Council would be informed once a date has been set.

b) 421 Bus Service

The Clerk confirmed that she had been in touch with Go once again who had in turn confirmed that the 421 bus service would cease to run from 16th November. It will be replaced by the number 2 service which will stop on the A225 opposite Shoreham Station. Timetables for the new service can be accessed at <http://go-coach.co.uk/Timetable?routeId=106>

The Clerk read out the following statement from Go Coach:

1. The 421 will change into the 2 on Monday 18th November as planned. This date was chosen as it was the earliest date that complied with our regulators notice periods to amend a registered local bus route.
2. There is still considerable risk in manoeuvring a bus at the village car park. We are doing it at peak times to serve the demand that exists in the school passengers / commuters. During the day it is possible that the turning circle may be blocked off by works vehicles, privately parked vehicles and other issues. Off-peak we know it to be more workable.
3. Smaller vehicles, Mercedes Sprinter have not been well received in the past by passengers. For us, they are unreliable and costly to maintain. We generally do try to use the smallest of our Optare Solo fleet to provide the 421 service.
4. Our taxi bus is going ahead. It will be phased in during 2020. The existing Taxi Bus from West Kingsdown (route 405 replacement) could be used to help fill the gap but that's not my place to confirm that. That's KCC. That said, the passenger numbers off peak are low from Shoreham.
5. It is likely Shoreham would be allocated a day of use where an ENCTS pass could be used. Outside of that allocated day, a fare to be confirmed would be charged. It will be bookable in person, over the phone, internet or via an app. We want to offer as many platforms as possible. We also propose extending the bus station hours to offer a warm and dry place to wait for a bus or taxi.

8. Traffic and Parking

a) The following recommendations made by the Traffic and Parking Working Party following the publication of the 'Shoreham Village Parking Review' in 2016 were reconsidered.

- Implementation of a 20mph speed limit throughout the village and replacement of associated signage;
- Large lorry restrictions throughout the village (except for access);
- Safe footpath to avoid the George Bend - SM
- Change of environment road surface to improve safety for pedestrians (George bend, bridge, junction of Filston Lane and High Street);
- Provision of additional parking along High Street at western end of the Allotments;
- Provision of additional signage;
- Creation of T markings on various roads to encourage drivers to park considerately and to discourage drivers from parking in unmarked spaces;
- Cross hatched parking bays outside Old Post Office and outside The Herons/Eyot House;
- Extension of primrose line at Crown Road corner along the High Street towards the allotments and the creation of primrose lines at the junction of Mill Lane and the High Street;
- To consider whether to implement single yellow double yellow or white T markings on the George bend.
- Residents permits

It was RESOLVED that all these measures need to be prioritised and the appetite for implementation gauged. In order to do this, a survey should be created. This would help obtain a feel for what local people consider to be most important – for example, reduction in speed limits, parking restrictions, residents parking, more parking. Once this has been determined, then a second survey containing more detailed measures can be circulated.

It was RESOLVED that a working party, the terms of reference of which would be to consider issues relating to traffic, parking and cars in the village of Shoreham, be created to come up with the initial survey. Cllrs Hubble, Histed, Sheward Powell, Jeffery, Hibbins, Blamey and Collins all agreed to join this group.

It was RESOLVED that the first meeting would take place on Wednesday 13th November and that the Clerk should book a venue.

Finally, it was RESOLVED that a target for the number of responses received be set as this was not done at previous consultations, which resulted in decisions being implemented based on very little input.

- b) Consideration was given to a reduction in the speed limit on the A225 around the area of Shoreham Station (possibly from Otford to Preston Farm). Vehicles travel very fast on this stretch of road making it extremely dangerous. The fact that the 421 bus route through the village is being discontinued, will mean an increase in pedestrians crossing the A225 to catch the new number 2 service which will stop opposite the station. Cllr Gough agreed that he would take this up with KCC and also speak with them regarding the trees on the A225 which often make for poor visibility, exacerbating the problem.

9. **Shoreham Cricket Club**

Members of Shoreham Cricket Club attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of a merger with Otford. This would have implications on the current lease between SCC and SPC in that the club should:

‘Not to use the Premises or permit the same to be used otherwise than as a cricket ground and cricket club for the use of the Club and to procure that the Club be kept open for the use of residents of Shoreham Parish, or for such other use (consistent with the terms of any grant received by the Landlord) as the Landlord shall approve in writing’.

Shoreham Cricket Club requested the consent of Shoreham Parish Council to go ahead with the merger and to update the lease to reflect this.

It was RESOLVED to agree to the merger and that the lease be updated accordingly. Shoreham Cricket Club agreed to draft the wording for the new lease and to run it by a solicitor to check it over.

10. **Correspondence/Information**

- a) The Autumn/Winter edition of CPRE’s ‘Kent Voice’ has been received.
- b) The KALC AGM will be held on Saturday 30th November 2019. Cllr Blamey to attend.

11. **Financial Matters**

Accounts/Payments: The schedule of payments was authorised.

12. **Dates of next meetings** (all starting at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated)

- a) Planning Meeting : Wednesday 20th November 2019 (if required)
- b) Planning/Council Meeting : Wednesday 4th December 2019
- c) Planning/Finance Meeting : Wednesday 18th December 2019