

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

Sarah Moon

PO Box 618

Sevenoaks

TN13 9TW

PARISH

07912 611048

clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

at Shoreham Village Hall on 4th December 2019 from 7:30pm

- Present: Jonathan Histed (in the Chair)
R Blamey, M Cockburn, A Collins, A Hibbins, S Hubble, B Jeffery, N Powell
and M Sheward
- Also Present: 21 members of the public
County Councillor Roger Gough
George Chandler, Broadband Project Manager KCC
- Clerk: No Clerk was present but the Chair took notes on her behalf
- 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 District Councillors John Edwards-Winser and Irene Roy and from the Clerk, Sarah Moon due to an unforeseen flight delay.
2. There were no disclosures of interest.
3. The minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 6th November 2019 (copies previously distributed) were agreed with unanimity by way of a voted motion.

4. **District/County Councillor Reports**

District Councillor

No District Councillors were present.

County Councillor

County Councillor Roger Gough confirmed that he has had ongoing correspondence in regards the bus service, which the Clerk had also received. The existing scheme of the Big Conversation could be diverted although that does not work with the existing timetable. Officers are currently following up with Go Coach the possibility of finding one service a week to come into the village. The taxi bus option is still being considered although there is still no timescale for a permanent solution.

The County Councillor also stated that he has requested an inspector to come and look at the potholes around the George Bend and some large scale patching on the road surface will be carried out.

Speed checks are due to take place on the A225. The exact locations of these have been communicated to the Clerk for verification although they will be between the Otford boundary and Preston Farm. These checks should be conducted within the next couple of months.

As a reference point, there have been changes to the speed limit on the A20 near Farningham from the national speed limit to 40mph. This was implemented despite the lack of fatalities on this stretch of road and the reduction has been perceived a success.

Finally, Roger Gough confirmed that he and George Chandler, Broadband Project Manager at KCC had visited Well Hill to talk about the broadband there, which is now working well.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing specific to report other than those items included on the agenda.

6. Report from the Clerk

There was no report from the Clerk.

7. Presentation by George Chandler, Broadband Project Manager at KCC

A presentation was given by George Chandler of KCC outlining the various schemes on offer, which would enable broadband services to be upgraded throughout the village. The presentation lasted for around 30 minutes and was immediately followed by a question and answer session from the public, which lasted a further 20 minutes. The presentation was extremely well received by all those present. Copies of the presentation can be requested from the Clerk.

8. Traffic and Parking

The questionnaire devised by the Traffic and Parking working party at their meeting held on Wednesday 13th November was approved with a few minor amendments. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Hubble would accommodate the amendments including a question asking people from the village to state in which road they lived.

Cllr Jeffery agreed that he would provide a ballot box for completed questionnaires so that views could be collected on election day without the need for the stand to be manned.

A similar, smaller box will also be produced for Well Hill.

9. Walnut Tree Trust

The Chair stated that the majority of councillors had recently met with all trustees of the Walnut Tree Trust and the background and outcome of this informal meeting was given.

It was then RESOLVED that the Clerk write to the trustees on behalf of the Parish Council stating its position ie :

- That it believes that the trustees have failed and continue to fail to protect the assets of the trust and to deliver in line with the trust's 1966 scheme, which should guide their actions;
- That it disagrees with the trust's way of moving forward and does not feel that the full facts have been presented to the Charity Commission as their stated aims are contrary to those of the trust;
- That there are people in the village who can offer and have offered expertise in the areas the trustees have had difficulty with, and these offers of help should be accepted;
- That it requests that the trustees agree to desist from their current plan and instead revert to the existing objectives and that they confirm that they will be doing so;
- That the trustees be informed that the Parish Council will be raising the matter immediately with the Charity Commission;
- That the Parish Council does not believe that the trustees' approach is reflective of the wishes of the village;

- That the Parish Council notes an on-line petition entitled 'Save the Walnut Tree Cottages from being sold', which, as of 6/12/2019 had received 378 signatures of support.

It was also RESOLVED to send a second letter to the Charity Commission, requesting dialogue given that the Parish Council is a statutory body. This letter should state, in addition, the failures of management of the trustees both from a financial point of view and from the lack of diligence of the trustees to pursue the original aims of the trust.

10. Reports

- a) Cllr Collins reported that both she and Cllr Powell had attended the KCC Highways Parish Seminar. Geoff Bineham from KCC confirmed that he had sent a 'HIP' pack to the Clerk which contains information about modelling software for modelling traffic impact. This could be made available to us if we wish in order to model the impact of extra traffic from Knockholt on Shoreham for example. There is also the possibility to have moveable traffic measuring equipment for different times of the day such as that used by Hartley Parish Council. Finally KCC Highways have a road safety team who come out to speak at public places (eg at schools, WI) to give guidance to elderly drivers.
- b) Cllr Collins reported that she had attended the Shoreham Village Hall AGM and gave the following update:
 - All phase 1 electrical works have been completed
 - Match funding from KCC has been promised for phase 2 of the electrical works
 - Finances are available for a new floor
 - Financial position much healthier than this time last year. Bookings are looking good and the new on-line booking system is up and running.
 - Donations have been received from several village societies.
- c) Cllr Blamey reported that he had attended the KALC AGM and had picked up a few leaflets on traffic management. He reported that following the government's 'twenty is plenty scheme, more parishes are now implementing 20mph speed limits.

11. New Logo

At the request of the Clerk, who felt that the current SPC logo of three trees did not adequately represent the parish, Cllr Powell produced several ideas for new designs. All members were very positive about these designs however it was RESOLVED that the designs be put to a public vote to be added to the traffic questionnaire on polling day.

Notwithstanding, a quick straw poll amongst councillors and members of the public present revealed that ten people preferred the 'church and cross' design, four preferred the more 'modern' design and none preferred the 'butterfly' design.

12. Community Award

It was agreed that consideration of potential nominees for the annual KALC Community Award be deferred until the next meeting.

13. Correspondence/Information

- a) Ralph Abbott has kindly volunteered to look after maintenance of the tennis court. He has offered to donate a bench to be placed inside the court.
- b) Issue 4 2019 of the Allotment & Leisure Gardener has been received.
- c) The November 2019 edition of Clerks and Councils Direct has been received.

14. Financial Matters

The schedule of payments was approved.

15. **Dates of next meetings** (all starting at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated)
- a) Planning/Finance Meeting : Wednesday 18th December 2019
 - b) Planning/Council Meeting : Wednesday 8th January 2019
 - c) Planning/Amenities Meeting : Wednesday 22nd January 2019

The meeting closed at 10.05pm

Sarah Moon, Clerk to Shoreham Parish Council