

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

Remotely via Zoom 7th April 2021 from 7:30pm

Present: Jonathan Histed (in the Chair)
R Blamey, M Cockburn, S Hubble, B Jeffery, N Powell and M Sheward

Also Present: 8 members of the public

County Councillor Roger Gough
District Councillor John Edwards-Winser

Clerk: Sarah Moon

A member of the public made the council aware of 'smart bins', which contact SDC automatically when they need emptying. The Clerk was asked to contact Eynsford PC, who apparently already have one of these, to find out how we can go about obtaining one for the Village Green.

1. Apologies for absence were received from District Councillor Irene Roy.
2. There were no disclosures of interest.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 (copies previously distributed) were agreed and the Clerk was authorised to sign them on behalf of the Chairman.
4. **District/County Councillor Reports**

County Councillor Roger Gough

County Councillor Roger Gough confirmed the comments received from KCC in regard to the reduction in the speed limit on the A225. The fact that a reduction to 40mph has been agreed is good news, even if it is not for the whole of the length originally requested. County Councillor Roger Gough advised Shoreham Parish Council to accept this compromise in order that the reduction can be progressed. Funding for the reduction remains a problem. KCC may be able to fund some of it, as might the Member Fund but Shoreham Parish Council would have to find the remainder.

The County Councillor also spoken about the new Bus Strategy, which has recently been launched by the Prime Minister. The strategy sees a reversal of many of the policies from the past thirty years. There will likely be more partnerships between local authorities and bus operators as well as demand for responsive transport, such as the Go Coach scheme, which is explicitly mentioned in the report.

Cllr Jeffery enquired about the new driveway in Hills Lane which has been installed without planning permission. County Councillor Roger Gough confirmed that he would look into this and also into the fact that KCC are diverting traffic through Magpie Bottom during road closures. This is a very narrow lane and totally unsuitable as a diverted route.

Cllr Jeffery also asked if there was a timetable for fully re-opening the tips as there has been an increase in fly tipping in the area. County Councillor Roger Gough did not know of any immediate plans to fully re-open the facilities or to revise the booking system, which many people are actually happy with.

District Councillor's Report

- District Councillor John Edwards-Winser confirmed that smart bins have recently been introduced and that a £25k grant had been made available for them. He advised the Clerk to contact Eynsford PC however as he was unsure how they are obtained.
- Enforcement at SDC have been contacted in regard to the Macandy site in Romney Street. There are too many caravans on the site, hedges have been removed and pillars built, all without planning permission.
- Remote meetings and the ending of the legislation on 6th May remains a major issue. As it stands, no remote meetings will be allowed after May 6th but as people are not allowed to meet in groups of more than six until after 21st June, there is no clarity as to what to do in the interim.

5. Chairman's Report

- Walnut Tree Trust – following the last Parish Council meeting the Chair confirmed that he had written to trustees and has since received confirmation that they are abandoning plans for the barn conversion, evictions and disposal of properties. They have also advertised in the Gazette for more trustees. The Chair stated that he would be putting himself forward to volunteer to become a trustee so that he can liaise with councillors and act as a conduit between the Trust and the PC. He also thanked all those who contacted both him and the Clerk about the WTT and whose comments were extremely useful.
- The Chair reported that he and several other members of the council had met with Simon Greenwood at the George to look at the site and to view it internally.
- The Chair reported that he had received an email from a local resident complaining about the large advertising boards, which certain companies appear to be displaying around the village lately. Advertisement planning permission is required for such boards and if this has not been obtained, they can be removed.

Cllr Jeffery volunteered to contact the company in the first instance and ask them to remove them.

6. Clerk's Report

- The new website is live www.shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk.
- Following the financial year end, preparations are being made for the internal audit and annual return.
- Allotments rent letters have been sent out and monies are being collected.
- The tennis courts re-opened on 29th March in accordance with government guidance and is being well used already. Several more annual membership subscriptions have been sold.

7. Green Energy

A talk was given by a member of the public about the concept of a 'District Heating Scheme' for Shoreham.

Such a scheme would involve heating water underground at central location. Heated water would then run to homes through pipes under the roads. This would supply hot water as well as powering central heating systems, dispensing with the need for gas and oil. A working group comprising four local residents has already been formed and they have been looking in to this. The first stage would be to undertake a feasibility study. Grants are available to fund such studies and these are more easily obtained if there is a lot of public support for the project. The Parish Council were asked whether they could give their support to engaging in such a feasibility study.

It was therefore RESOLVED to support, in principle, exploring the feasibility of installing a Green Heating System in Shoreham.

A copy of the minutes should be sent to Bill Lattimer/Peter Kasch for attaching to the grant as supporting documentation.

8. **Amenities**

The following recommendations made by the Amenities Meeting at their meeting held on 17th March 2021 were AGREED:

- a) That permission be granted for the installation of way markers for the new Samuel Palmer Trail at the Village Green and at the Cross. The Committee did not want a disc fixed to the bridge but an acceptable alternative would be the pole near the war memorial. All members who voted, voted in favour. There was one abstention.
- b) That the quote for tree works for £490 be accepted on the basis that this work is required in order to prevent further damage to the tennis court.
- c) That the quote for tree works for £70 be accepted on the basis that the work is required in order to prevent damage to the summer house in one of the gardens backing on to the Recreation Ground.
- d) That allotment rents for 2022 will not be increased.

9. **Traffic and Parking**

- a) KCC's comments regarding the proposal to reduce the speed limit on the A225 were considered. In summary, KCC have agreed to a reduction to 40mph but only to just past Shoreham Station northbound. It was the wish of Shoreham Parish Council for this to extend until the bridge at Preston Farm. As there are two footpaths just a few hundred metres past the station, the limit should at least be extended to there even if it cannot be extended the whole way to Preston Farm. KCC's initial thoughts regarding a pedestrian island were that it was not viable although they have planned to undertake a pedestrian survey to determine the number of people crossing the road. It was agreed that the Parish Council should continue to push for a traffic island. It was therefore RESOLVED that the Working Party draft a response to Whitney Gwillim and forward this to the Clerk to send.
- b) Regarding the Highways Improvement Plan, KCC have added comments and agreed to prioritise Item 1 (A225 speed limit reduction). Item 2 (20mph limit in village) will be actioned on completion of Item 1 although this may not occur until the following financial year. They have also agreed to progress and fund Item 4 (extra car park sign at northern end of village) and to ensure adequate signage in relation to Item 3 (width restrictions). The Parish Council was also advised to sign up to 'Lorry Watch', a scheme aiming to empower local residents to records the details of HGVs, which are inappropriately using the road. Finally, regarding the George Bend, the Parish Council will be liaising with Simon Greenwood in order to send a coordinated response to Whitney. The preference is a change to the surface of the road as well as to introduce some changes to the frontage of the George in order that traffic be much better managed.

10. **Working Party Updates**

- a) Confirmation has been received that Openreach should be starting the upgrade in October with a view to services becoming available in November. A second company, Trooli, are planning to embark on a separate project to install fibre this summer and Cllr Hubble plans to contact KCC about this.
- b) An article explaining the CCTV network went out in the last Gazette. Only two responses were received as a result of this. Consequently, Cllr Jeffery personally visited homes in Well Hill and East Hill to explain the scheme. Around 10 homes have now signed up to the

network. Fly tipping does appear to be increasing at the moment but SDC are very active in our area and have four prosecutions pending. Cameras have been installed at various locations around the area but their exact whereabouts is of course confidential.

- c) The newly formed Business Forum Working Party had a short meeting, the outcome of which, was to write an article in the Gazette, explaining that the Parish Council would like to engage with businesses in the parish whose activities affect the parish. Businesses should be encouraged to contact the group if they have new ideas or anything they wish to discuss.

Motion to extend to 10.00pm.

11. **Countryside Code**

To consider any comments to be submitted in response to Natural England's updated Countryside Code.

Due to the lack of time it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

12. **Annual Parish Meeting**

Ideas for the Annual Parish Meeting, due to be held on Wednesday 28th April 2021 were briefly discussed. Suggestions were to invite local businesses to come and speak about their future plans, a talk on fly tipping and CCTV and the Green Heating Scheme. The Chair agreed that he would contact the Clerk to discuss an agenda in greater detail.

13. **Daffodils**

To grant permission for daffodils to be planted at various locations around the village using funds donated by the Shoreham Garden Safari.

Due to the lack of time it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

14. **Correspondence/Information**

- a) Notification of the intention to apply for Club Premises Licence to serve soft drinks and alcohol has been received from the Shoreham & Otford Cricket Club.
- b) A letter has been received from the West Kent Badger Group asking if the Parish Council can write to KCC requesting that wildlife warning signs be erected in Filston Lane and Shacklands Road.
The Parish Council did not consider that wildlife signs would make any difference to the way in which motorists drive and did not think they would encourage drivers to slow down. On that basis they did not agree to writing to KCC to request these signs.
- c) The Spring/Summer edition of CPRE's Kent Voice magazine has been received.

15. **Financial Matters**

Accounts/Payments: Payments, as per the schedule (Appendix A), were agreed.

16. **Next meetings** (all starting at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated)

- a) Planning (if required) – Wednesday 21st April 2021
b) Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 28th April 2021
c) Planning/Annual Council Meeting – Wednesday 5th May 2021

Note that current legislation to allow meetings to be held remotely expires on 6th May 2021. No physical meetings of more than 6 people are allowed until 21st June.

The meeting closed at 10.21pm

Appendix A – Schedule of Payments

7 April 2021 (2021-2022)

Shoreham Parish Council
PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
3	01/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Business Rates	Sevenoaks District Council	X	79.83	0.00	79.83
15	07/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Office telephone	02	S	10.65	2.13	12.78
16	07/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Broadband	Sarah Moon	X	10.00	0.00	10.00
17	07/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Office Allowance	Sarah Moon	X	30.00	0.00	30.00
18	07/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Water charges	Castle Water	X	34.17	0.00	34.17
19	07/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Electricity	EDF Energy	X	92.00	0.00	92.00
20	07/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Water charges	Castle Water	X	3.00	0.00	3.00
21	07/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Subscription	Zoom	S	11.99	2.40	14.39
22	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Website	Hugo Fox	S	29.99	6.00	35.99
4	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Empty dog waste bins	Sevenoaks District Council	S	330.20	66.04	396.24
5	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Printing & Laminating	Silver Pines Services	X	37.90	0.00	37.90
6	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Strim and spray Cross	Jeremy Toolley	X	45.00	0.00	45.00
7	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Lengthsman wages	Mrs A Hollands-Parsons	X	261.60	0.00	261.60
8	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Lengthsman wages	N McDonnell	X	34.88	0.00	34.88
9	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Clerk's salary	Sarah Moon	X	1,061.03	0.00	1,061.03
10	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		PAYE & NI	HM Revenue & Customs	X	63.73	0.00	63.73
11	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Fencing	GF Garden Maintenance	X	150.00	0.00	150.00
12	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Grass cutting	GF Garden Maintenance	X	190.00	0.00	190.00
13	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Subscription	KALC	S	543.50	108.70	652.20
14	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Hall hire	Shoreham Village Hall	X	54.00	0.00	54.00
1	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Grant	Sevenoaks Volunteer Transpr	X	50.00	0.00	50.00
2	08/04/2021		NatWest current accor		Hall hire	Shoreham Village Hall	X	54.00	0.00	54.00
Total								3,177.47	185.27	3,362.74