

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

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COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Shoreham Village Hall 2 March from 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs J Histed (in the Chair), R Blamey, A Hibbins,
B Jeffery, N Powell and M Sheward

Also Present: 6 members of the public (in part)
Cllr John Edwards-Winsor (District) (in part), Amanda Barlow (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs Cockburn and Hubble, Cllr Roy (District), Cllr Gough (County)

- Cllr Powell commented on the power cuts. Cllr Powell suggested that the power cables should be underground as Shoreham is an ANOB. It was agreed to discuss this under the resilience
- Cllr Jeffrey asked the Clerk to post the road closures on the website and Facebook page.

1. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Cockburn and Hubble.

2. There were no disclosures of interest.

3. **Members resolved to agree the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 2 February 2022 (copies previously distributed).**

4. **District/County Councillor Reports**

County Councillor Roger Gough and District Cllr Irene Roy had given their apologies.

Cllr Edwards-Winsor gave a verbal report to the meeting. A copy of his report is included at Appendix A.

5 To consider, and approve if appropriate, which agenda items are sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the provisions of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Members resolved that Agenda item 14.0 should be confidential.

Members agreed to take the Agenda items in the following order:

8. **Finance**

b) Village hall Audit

It was agreed that the Village Hall should look at appointing an auditor and Members asked the Clerk to get more information on auditors. (Action: Clerk)

6. Chairman's Report
Cllr Histed thanked Ralph for his email following the HNC meeting.
7. Clerk's Report
The Clerk updated Members on various issues which are detailed under the Agenda item headings.
8. **Finance**
 - c) Grant requests
 - St Peter & St Paul Church, Shoreham – new gates
Members resolved to award a grant of £250 towards the new gates for the St Peter & St Paul Church.
15. **Correspondence and Information**
 - a) General Correspondence
Noted.

Members resolved to give permission to the Shoreham Society to use the recreation ground and use the Parish Council gazebo for an event to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee on 5 June 2022.
13. **Working Party Updates**
 - b) To receive an update from Broadband Working Party (if available)

No update.
 - c) To receive an update from the CCTV Working Party (if available)

Members agreed that Cllr Jeffrey and the Clerk would finalise the draft CCTV Policy. (Action: Clerk)

Members resolved to agree to purchase two cameras at a cost of £913.88.
 - d) To receive an update from the Traffic and Parking Working Party
 - Kent Highways have agreed to a reduction of the speed limit to it the 40mph/50mph.
 - Members would be looking at the Highways Improvement Plan for weight limit signs for the village.
Members asked the Clerk to email the Highways Steward to get the signs. (Action: Clerk).
10. **Shoreham Train Station**

To consider access for all to the London bound platform at Shoreham station
Cllr Jeffrey discussed the access to the station about putting a ramp to the station. There were several options of a lift or a ramp. The lift was the preferred option and it was very expensive.

It was agreed that the Clerk should ask about the ramp option at Eynsford Station. (Action: Clerk)
9. **Electric Car Charge Point in Shoreham**

The Clerk advised that the she is completing the application form.

11. **The Parish resilience response**

Cllr Histed thanked the residents that helped in the aftermath of Storm Eunice.

Lesley Spence advised that the resilience team did not open the Village Hall as people were advised not to go out. There are only 2 people who are on the vulnerable list. The team felt that there was an issue with broadband as it was off for 6 hours. The team went around the village knocking on the doors.

Lesley asked if there should be more people on the resilience team. The team were urging people to keep their old phone points and a cheap phone, as well as a good torch and camping gas stove.

Members agreed that there should be an article in the Gazette with details of the response to the storm and the current parish resilience plan.

Members discussed the possibility of putting power lines underground as Shoreham is in an ANOB and asked the Clerk to contact Cllr Gough. (Action: Clerk)

12. **Defibrillators for the Parish**

Members discussed the success of the defibrillator training and the location of the defibrillators. **Members agreed that they would confirm where the defibrillators were located in the Parish.**

Members asked the Clerk to get quotes for a new defibrillator. (Action: Clerk)

13. **Working Party Updates**

- a) To receive an update from the Heat Network Committee

The public meeting has taken place in the Village Hall. Members agreed that the Clerk should advise the Committee to undertake the survey by the door to door drop and could possibly use the Gazette.

Members resolved to extend the meeting.

15. **Correspondence and Information**

- b) Local Landscape Trail Trust

Members discussed the issue over footpaths in the village. Martin gave his concerns over the overuse of footpaths and did not want to encourage huge numbers of people which are now enlarged tracks and the local area is getting damaged

Members discussed the tarmac path by the station and asked the Clerk to find out who owns the land.

Members asked the Clerk to ask Reece Evans from KCC to come to a meeting to discuss the topic further. **(Action: Clerk)**

- c) Timberden Farm

Members advised that it would be a nice idea and thought it would be received favourably.

8. **Finance**

- a) To agree items payable and paid

Members resolved to agree the Appendix A.

Members resolved to agree that the Clerk should purchase new laptop.

14. **Personnel**
 - a) **Members resolved to agree that the Cllr Histed should sign the Clerk's contract.**

15. **Correspondence and Information**
 - a) General Correspondence
Noted at Appendix C.

16. **Next meetings** (all starting at 7:30pm in Shoreham Village Hall unless otherwise stated)
 - a) Planning (if required) Meeting – Wednesday 16 March 2022
 - b) Planning (if required) and Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 6 April 2022
 - c) To agree arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting 13 April 2022

Amanda Barlow, Clerk to Shoreham Parish Council

Appendix A

Housing & Health

Council Housing Register Allocation Scheme Review

The Govt has stated that "Every local housing authority shall have a scheme for determining priorities and for the procedure to be followed in allocating housing accommodation"

SDC current scheme, adopted in 2019, directs applications of around 6,500 social housing properties for rent across the district

Key Aims

- To make the best use of social housing in the District;
- To manage home seekers expectations – the scheme cannot assist everyone who asks for our help
- To deliver a Scheme which remains current and applicable for 5 years

In Nov 21 there were almost 700 people looking for 1 or 2 bed accommodation

Everyone who wants to be able to access social housing has to be on the Sevenoaks District Council's housing register. All applicants **must complete an on-line application form** and provide documents to verify the information. This caused a bit of consternation amongst some of the members. I will come back to that later

Proposed changes (to bring us into line with other authorities)

There will be a change in the length of time required with local connection **from 6 months to 3 years** continuous residency or employment. This will reduce the 700 to somewhere IRO 100

In exceptional circumstances applicants will not need to demonstrate a local connection.

For example:-

- Applicants who need to move into the District to provide or receive significant care or support
- Applicants who are at risk of violence or harassment (including domestic abuse)
- Applicants who are over 55 years of old and have been assessed as suitable for housing within one of the district's older persons' housing schemes
- Applicants who are travellers and pursue a nomadic lifestyle in line with their cultural traditions
- Applicants eligible for housing delivered on Rural Exception Sites

Income caps are to be increased to realistic levels - again in line with adjacent local authorities

- Without dependant children – gross annual income up to £40,000
- With dependant children – gross annual income up to £56,000
- Everybody is allowed total capital assets or savings of up to £16,000

The bidding cycle allows applicants to place up to 3 bids at any one time on homes they are eligible for

As there is a limited stock of social housing we need to acknowledge that the scheme is there to help address housing **need** rather than **aspiration or want**

Timetable

- Cabinet – 10 February 2022 (approval for Public Consultation)
- **Public Consultation – 14 February to 18 April 2022**
- Housing & Health Advisory Committee – 7 June 2022 (consideration of consultation responses and suggested revisions to draft documents)
- Cabinet – 7 July 2022 (finalised scheme to be considered)
- Full Council – 19 July (Scheme Adoption)

People & Places

I said I would come back re the on-line application requirement - In the last People & Places meeting it was stated that 25% of SDC residents are digitally excluded

- they are either too old and don't see the need for computers
- or they don't understand computers and are frightened by them
- or they are at the bottom of the food chain and simply cannot afford either the capital cost or the monthly fees.

To overcome some of these problems SDC are working with KCC, who have been awarded funding to deliver Government's 'Project Gigabit' Programme. KCC are carrying out a trial scheme in one of the Swanley wards, where WiFi will be placed in every street-light in that ward and access will be free to those that meet the log-on criteria and who register with KCC. I'm not sure if this includes assistance with suitable hardware.

How this is going to enable residents to complete their housing registration on-line I really don't know

Licensing

- Hackney carriage application fees are to be increased above inflation rates – no change since 2019
- The number of drivers has dropped over the past 5 years – along with custom
- The DBS checks are more stringent and expensive than eg teachers as they cover a wider range of requirements
- A petition from the licenced drivers has been received to a view to increasing their charges. It was supported by 44 licence holders to assist the trade for losses incurred due to Covid lockdowns, and reflect that driving costs were increasing with fuel and service charges becoming increasingly more expensive

The proposed changes will be the subject of a public consultation

Housing strategy survey

We want to hear your views on a new Housing Strategy that we are drafting for the Sevenoaks District.

The strategy will set out our vision and ambitions for housing for the next five years. It covers a range of themes and these include:

- Delivering new housing to meet our residents' needs
- Increasing the supply of affordable homes
- Preventing homelessness
- Funding home adaptations to help older and disabled people
- Promoting home energy efficiency to help tackle climate change.

The survey will remain open until **5pm on Monday 18 April 2022**.

We intend to publish the Housing Strategy in the summer.

Social housing allocation survey

We are asking for your views on how social housing should be allocated in the future.

Social housing (sometimes referred to as 'council housing') is owned and managed by housing associations. Locally these include West Kent, Moat, Places for People and others. The demand for social housing is always higher than the number of homes available.

We manage the Housing Register, which is the waiting list of people who qualify for social housing. To ensure social housing is allocated fairly, our 'Housing Register Allocations Scheme' sets out who is eligible to join the Housing Register.

We are proposing a number of changes to our existing scheme to give local people the best chance of securing social housing. These include giving priority to:

- People who have lived or worked in the District for three years
- Social housing tenants who want to downsize
- Carers who receive 'Carer's Allowance' or equivalent.

We are keen to hear what you think of our revised scheme.

The survey will remain open until **5pm on Monday 18 April 2022**.

Air Quality

Our role is to monitor the air quality in the District and to draw up a plan to improve air quality. However, we cannot improve air quality on our own. We need to work with partners, such as Kent County Council, that looks after roads, cycle paths and public transport, and residents and businesses to encourage them to use cleaner forms of transport.

We have produced a draft Air Quality Action Plan. The plan includes our work to improve air quality and the work of our partners. It also includes measures to encourage and support residents and businesses to adopt cleaner forms of transport, such as electric vehicles, walking, cycling and reducing the need to travel.

Covid

The case rate continues to decline, and Sevenoaks is now only marginally above the all England Average, within Sevenoaks, the most marked decline is amongst the younger age groups even though they are behind in the vaccinations. Older age groups whilst below that of all ages remains static

Deaths purely attributable to Covid are in slight decline.

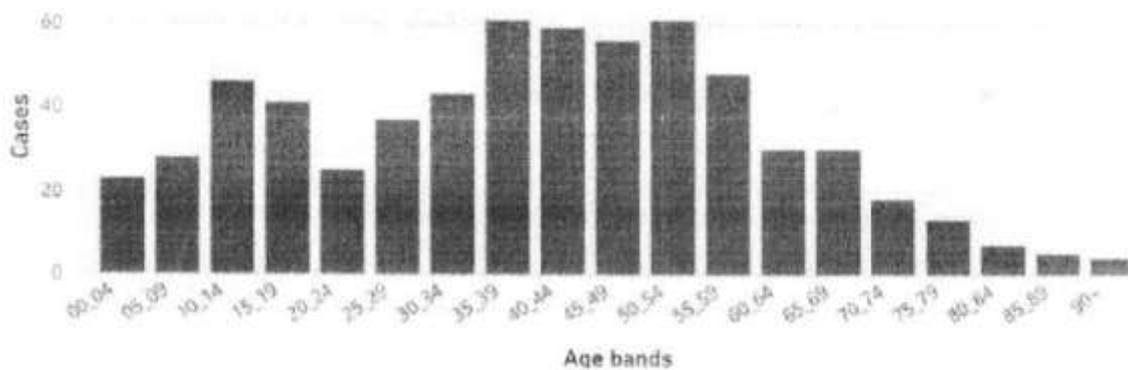
Hospitalisation continues in slow decline, but not for Maidstone and Tun Wells where it remains constant 30-35

Cases within Sevenoaks have declined across all areas, except for the towns

The UK case rate is now the lowest in most of Western Europe

There are still two peaks – school children and parents – now spreading into grand-parents. The

Covid cases by age, past 14 days - Sevenoaks



Appendix B

Items to be paid:

2 March 2022 (2021-2022)

**Shoreham Parish Council
PAYMENTS LIST**

Voucher	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
247	Dog waste bins	04/03/2022		NatWest current account		Dog waste bin	Sevenoaks District Counc	S	470.60	94.12	564.72
245	Printing Gazette/Shorehe	04/03/2022		NatWest current account		Printing Shoreham Post	Silver Pines Services	X	60.45		60.45
246	Hall/Emergency Room Hi	04/03/2022		NatWest current account		Hall hire	Shoreham Village Hall	X	81.00		81.00
Total									612.05	94.12	706.17

Items Paid 1 to 28 February 2022

2 March 2022 (2021-2022)

Shoreham Parish Council
PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
222	Broadband	03/02/2022		NatWest current account		Broadband	Sarah Moon	X	10.00		10.00
223	Street lighting	03/02/2022		NatWest current account		Electricity	E-on	X	41.11		41.11
224	Car Park	03/02/2022		NatWest current account		Business Rates	Sevenoaks District Council	X	84.00		84.00
225	Toilets	03/02/2022		NatWest current account		Electricity	EDF Energy	X	145.00		145.00
221	Office telephone	03/02/2022		NatWest current account		Office telephone	O2	S	10.72	2.14	12.86
226	Subscriptions - KALC/SLU	03/02/2022		NatWest current account		Subscription	Zoom	S	11.99	2.40	14.39
227	Computer/Printer Consumables	03/02/2022		NatWest current account		Website	Hugo Fox	S	29.99	6.00	35.99
231	Heat Energy Project	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Hall hire	St Peter & St Paul Church	X	25.00		25.00
232	Printing Gazette/Shoreham	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Printing Shoreham Post	Silver Pines Services	X	60.45		60.45
233	Toilets	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Electrical inspection	7Oaks Electrical Ltd	X	190.00		190.00
234	Clerk's salary	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Clerk's salary	Mrs A C Barlow	X	849.00		849.00
235	Clerk's mileage	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Mileage	Mrs A C Barlow	X	91.80		91.80
228	Lengthsmen	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Lengthsman wages	N McDonnell	X	35.64		35.64
229	Lengthsmen	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Lengthsman wages	Mrs A Hollands-Parsons	X	267.30		267.30
230	Hall/Emergency Room Hire	04/02/2022		NatWest current account		Hall hire	Shoreham Village Hall	X	54.00		54.00
239	Office telephone	07/02/2022		NatWest current account		Office telephone	O2	S	10.72	2.14	12.86
237	Office telephone	10/02/2022		NatWest current account		Office telephone	O2	S	10.72	2.14	12.86
238	Computer/Printer Consumables	10/02/2022		NatWest current account		Website	Hugo Fox	S	29.99	6.00	35.99
244	Clerk's salary	21/02/2022		NatWest current account		Clerk's salary	Mrs A C Barlow	X	772.67		772.67
240	Lengthsmen	21/02/2022		NatWest current account		Lengthsman wages	Mrs A Hollands-Parsons	X	267.30		267.30
241	Lengthsmen	21/02/2022		NatWest current account		Lengthsman wages	N McDonnell	X	35.64		35.64
242	Toilets	28/02/2022		NatWest current account		Water charges	Castle Water	X	8.16		8.16
236	Allotments	28/02/2022		NatWest current account		Water charges	Castle Water	X	148.94		148.94
243	Postage	28/02/2022		NatWest current account		PO Box	Post Office Limited	S	300.00	60.00	360.00
Total									3,490.14	80.82	3,570.96

Appendix C

General Correspondence:

1. SDC - Easter & Summer Family Fun Days 2022
2. NALC CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN
3. NALC NEWSLETTER
4. KALC CONFERENCES IN MARCH! LAUNCHED AND READY TO BOOK!
5. KALC NEWS JANUARY 2022
6. Sevenoaks District celebrates apprentices!
7. SDC - Solar Together Kent
8. Sevenoaks District Council: Dementia-friendly dance sessions
9. Gatwick to reopen its South Terminal
10. Local Government Bulletin 11 February
11. Great British Spring Clean 2022: Will You Take Part?
12. NALC Policing Online Event - 30th March 2022
13. NALC CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN
14. M20 Moveable Barrier: overnight closure notification
15. SDC - Draft themes of the Housing Strategy 2022/2027 - public consultation
16. Sevenoaks District Council: Social housing allocations
17. Council Tax precepts 2022/23
18. Sevenoaks District Council: New Swanley Leisure Centre
19. Sevenoaks District Council: Help improve air quality
20. Sevenoaks District Council Air Quality Action Plan Consultation
21. FW: KENT UNDERSTANDING PLASTICS RECYCLING IN KENT LEAFLETS - KENT COMMS GROUP AND PARISH
22. Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees sevenoakswelcomesrefugees@gmail.com Ukraine
23. NALC CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN
24. Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership Newsletter - Feb 2022