

SHOREHAM

Parish Clerk:

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COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES of a MEETING of SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

at Shoreham Village Hall on 4th October 2017 from 7:30pm

Present: J Histed (in the Chair), R Blamey, A Collins, A Hibbins, B Jeffery, and L Spence

Also Present: 12 members of the public
District Councillor John Edwards-Winser

Clerk: Sarah Moon

Question Time: No questions were raised by members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs McDonnell and Parkes (holiday) and from and from County Cllr Gough.
2. There were no disclosures of interest from members.
3. Cllr Dodd's resignation from the Parish Council was formally received and he gave his thanks to fellow members, the Clerk as well as the District Councillors and County Councillor. Cllr Histed was nominated as Chairman and Cllr Hibbins was nominated by Cllr Dodd. Cllr Histed received was elected new Chairman of the Parish Council by four votes to three.

It was agreed that a Vice Chair would be elected the next Parish Council meeting when all councillors would be present to vote.
4. The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th September (copies previously distributed) were received and signed by the Chairman.
5. The actions arising from the meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 2017 were reviewed.
6. District/County Councillor Reports
There were no reports from the District Council or from the County Councillor.
7. Chairman's Report
There was no report from the Chairman.
8. Report from the Clerk.
 - (a) I met with Harry Wade of Pinden Quarry and showed him the cross in order that he could advise on quantities of chalk required and the logistics necessary to deliver it.
 - (b) Burslem were instructed to carry out the repointing work on the war memorial at a cost of £250 and this work has now been completed.

- (c) The internal audit has been completed by Kathryn Mallet. From now on this will occur on a quarterly basis. Several actions have arisen from the audit and I am in the process of resolving these.
- (d) I shall be attending the KALC Finance Conference on October 12th.
- (e) The October edition of the Shoreham Post has been written and circulated (including to Well Hill)
- (f) Gen2, the property arm of KCC, have been advised that their offer of £465 in respect of the annual rent for the Filston Lane car park has been accepted.

9. Community Payback

Having been briefed about the kind of work undertaken by Community Payback at the Amenities Meeting held on 20th September, it was agreed that the Clerk should inform the Scheme that we wish to use their services. All members of the Council agreed that using Community Payback would be beneficial and gave authority to the Amenities Committee to specify an initial batch of work (one week's worth) with which to start. This should involve clearing the scrub at the top of the Recreation Ground as identified by the Clerk and Cllr Parkes at their meeting with Community Payback back in July.

10. Timberden Farm

The documents relating to the sale and development of Timberden Farm as received via an FOI request to Sevenoaks District Council were discussed.

The Clerk read out the main points, summarised as follows:

- Pre-application advice has been sought regarding planning permission for one or two Dwellings at Timberden Bottom. The advice given by the District Council was that any such application would be unlikely to be successful, proof that the farm was operating successfully being required first. This means that the farm would need to be fully up and running for three years before any permission for dwellings would be granted. Realising that farm workers may need to live on site, SDC advised the applicant to request permission for a temporary mobile home, with a further application for a permanent dwelling to be considered after three years. Despite this advice however, it would appear that the applicant still wishes to pursue his application for a dwelling house(es) on the site.
- The documents received via the FOI also state different requirements for farm buildings on the site. Some documents refer to the need for two buildings, whereas others mention six.
- There is also mention of woodland management and a line which states 'if the owner is fortunate enough to purchase the woodland'....This infers that the woodland, currently owned by Sevenoaks District Council, is also at risk of being sold off.

None of these documents appear to show the calculations which should have been made to justify the creation of any new agricultural buildings. Normally this would be the case. The Clerk was therefore asked to send an FOI request to Sevenoaks District Council asking for this information to be provided.

Regarding the existing farm buildings, no documentation relating to the planned development of these has been received to date. However, the refusal to sell these buildings to a farmer, who would have a need for such buildings and to elect to redevelop them for residential use instead, is contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework. Previous owners of the buildings have confirmed that they are fit for purpose and could easily be renovated to fulfil the requirements of the new farmer. They should not therefore be considered as being 'redundant'.

Finally, the Clerk read out the letter she had drafted. This is intended to be sent out to numerous organisations asking for any information they may have regarding the sale of the Timberden Farm as well as requesting support from these organisations. The list of

addressees (see Planning Minutes from 20th September 2017) was also discussed and the following organisations added:

Public Rights of Way Officer
Natural England
Old Chalk New Downs
Ramblers Association

It was agreed to add a line including 'Samuel Palmer's iconic landscape and then the letter could go.

11. Shoreham Woods

The benefits of registering Shoreham Woods (Meenfield and Pilot Woods) as a Community Asset were discussed and it was agreed that measures to protect them were required to be taken. A motion was passed to register the wish to nominate Meenfield and Pilot Woods as a Community Asset and that the Clerk should initiate the process.

A motion was passed to extend the meeting past 10pm.

12. Shoreham Cross

It was agreed to wait until the close of the meeting to view the film made by Cllr Histed which showed how the Cross could be re-chalked. It was also agreed that before ordering any new chalk, the entire surface area of the Cross should be treated with weed killer. This may make a huge difference to the colour of the existing chalk and negate the need for any digging out and re-chalking. Assurances were given that the treatment would not run off onto the surrounding meadowland.

13. Correspondence/Information

- (a) A request for a grant for the sum of £339 had been received from Shoreham Village School in respect of the purchase of a 'Reading Shed', an outdoor library designed to improve pupils' opportunities to develop their English. Further information regarding the shed was provided but a motion was passed to refuse a grant on this occasion.
- (b) A request for a grant for the sum of £370 had been received from the Village Hall Committee in respect of boarding the loft area of the Hall in order to house village archives. Cllr Jeffery had volunteered to see if the materials could be sourced more cheaply elsewhere and confirmed he could do so for £126. The Parish Council also felt that this job could be undertaken by Community Payback and that Cllr Collins should suggest this to the Village Hall Committee at their next meeting.
- (c) The September 2017 edition of 'The Clerk' magazine has been received.

14. Financial Matters

- (a) Accounts/Payments: The Schedule of Payments was authorised.

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

- (a) Planning Committee and Amenities Meeting: Wednesday 18th October 2017, Shoreham Village Hall
- (b) Planning Committee and Council Meeting: Wednesday 1st November 2017, Shoreham Village Hall
- (c) Planning Committee Meeting (if required): Wednesday 15th November 2017, Shoreham Village Hall

The meeting closed at 10.02 pm

Sarah Moon, Clerk to Shoreham Parish Council