

# SHILTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

23rd March 2016

Shilton Old School Village Hall, 7.30 pm

Councillors: Mr D Cuthbertson, Mr J Edwards, Mrs Y Lay,  
Mrs K Robertson, Mrs S Royle,

## Minutes

1. **Apologies** : Cllr K Robertson
2. **Declarations of Interest**: None
3. **Minutes of February Parish Council Meeting** agreed by all as correct and duly signed off
4. **Report from W.O.D.C Councillor Alex Postan**

Cllr A P had no specific issues to report on from W.O.D.C. He showed concern that in the absence of the Local Plan, there was a real threat from developers. There had been an objection made concerning the development at the Quarry and David Wilson homes.

He commented on the buffer zone between Shilton and David Wilson homes and suggested that this should be protected by implementing a Shilton Woodland trust to include a no build zone.

4. **Report from O.C.C. Councillor Neil Owen**

Cllr Neil Owen reported that on the 19<sup>th</sup> March, W.O.D.C. made a bid to the government for the abolition of O.C.C. and would lead to a devolution concept of power. If this is successful, five local authorities will take control of their own area; these would include the districts of Cherwell, West Oxfordshire, Oxford City, South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse. He stressed that this was for the good of the people and not for financial reasons/cuts.

O.C.C. is waiting for a decision from the Secretary of State.

5. **Financial Report**

The closing balance stands at £9062.37

6. **Planning update**

- Cllr DC advised that the query concerning West End House had been referred to WODC and that an objection had been made
- Shillbrook Cottage and Pump Close applications have been withdrawn.
- Cllr Y Lay asked if SPC had been informed of and responded to, the application for the change of use of the wooden barn at Westfield and the intention to rebuild the barn to house a two bedroom property.

7. **Welfare Trust**

Cllr D C reported that there is a considerable sum of money in the Trust, which was originally set up to help alleviate the hardship of the poor of the Parish and to provide education grants.

He considered that as Shilton is now a relatively wealthy community, changes need to be made to the purpose of the Trust.

Cllr D C suggested that the funds could be better put to other uses such as providing affordable housing in the village. Cllr D.C. circulated a report of his findings. (attached)

8. **The Conservation Association**

Cllr D C proposed that Cllr John Edwards to be the Parish Council representative.

This was seconded by Cllr Y L.

9. **Grass Cutting Contract 2016**

Cllr D C proposed that the Grass Cutting contract be awarded to Mc Cracken's on a three year basis. Seconded by Cllr S R

Cllr AP asked whether Mc Cracken's could be instructed to cut back the overgrowth on the common ground, by 2metres, where the footpath turns right by the Ford. Cllr D C agreed.

**10. ORCC**

It was decided that it was unnecessary to subscribe to this Association.

**11. Village Plan**

Cllr D C reported that he had taken free advice from a specialist consultant on how to proceed. Cllr D C will meet with the Welfare Trust and PC to investigate ideas on how to take the plan forward. He proposed that SPC involve residents and form a committee.

**12. A.O.B.**

**12.1** Cllr Y Lay reported that she was dismayed to see littering in local laybys around the Parish and also at Kencot. Cllr A P requested an email from SPC, to both him and Cllr N Owen, regarding the areas highlighted.

**12.2** There is an ongoing problem at the stream crossing at Badgers Green

**12.3** Two residents from Bradwell village informed the meeting that they were concerned that the weekly local bus service, which stops at both Bradwell Village and Shilton, was under threat and asked what could be done. Cllr A P asked that Mrs Brand contact him directly to discuss whether W.O.D.C. may be able to help. Clerk to give Mrs I Brand his contact details and for her to ring him.

**The meeting closed at 8.45pm**

The next SPC meeting will be held at 6pm, at Shilton Old School, May 18<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Followed by the Shilton Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm.

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