

Shilton Parish Council Meeting
7.30 pm Wednesday 29th November 2017
Shilton Old School, Shilton

Minutes

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Present: Cllr David Cuthbertson, Cllr John Edwards, Cllr Chris Parker, Cllr Sarah Royle

Cllr Alex Postan W.O.D.C. and Cllr Nick Field Johnson O.C.C.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Yvonne Lay
2. **Declarations of Interests:** Cllr C P uses Cllr Y L Dog Grooming Parlour
3. **The minutes** of the previous meeting, September 2017, were agreed by all and duly signed by the Chairman
4. **Matters arising from the above :** None
5. **Speed watch Report** PC Darren Moulding & Cllr J E

Thames Valley Police is currently working with local villages and parish councils to monitor speeding throughout West Oxfordshire. PC D M explained that this was generally carried out by volunteers, at random times, supported by the Police.

By utilising radar guns, the observers can send the results to the police. A strongly worded letter would be sent by the Police to the offender. If an offence is committed again it may generate a visit from the traffic police. On the third warning, penalties would be issued. Cllr J E is organising a speed watch group for Shilton.

6. Reports from WODC Councillor and OCC County Councillor

Cllr Alex Postan WODC

Cllr A P reported that high speed broadband would be implemented, to the door of houses in the parish, during the second half of 2018 and that the preferred contractor was Gigaclear.

He also explained that the WODC Local Plan was not popular. A consequence of this being a rush of planning applications before it is finalised.

Signed

David Cuthbertson, Chairman

CLlr Nick Field Johnson OCC

CLlr N F J reported that he had been in post for six months and recognised there were many challenging problems to be resolved.

His main concerns:

- HGV Traffic using Burford High Street
- Investment required in Infrastructure including a spur road from Carterton to Burford.
- Potholes were a considerable problem throughout the County and he encouraged residents to use FIX my Street, on the O.C.C. website, to report Potholes etc.
- Traffic using the A40 had increased substantially causing it to grind to a halt and anticipated this would not improve with the addition of more housing.
- Waste collections, by Ubico, the new contractor, had many caused problems. This was being dealt with.

He commented that the proposal of a Unitary Council by OCC will not go ahead.

CLlr C P asked to be updated as to the status of white line footpath he had discussed with CLlr N F J at an earlier meeting. CLlr N F J stated that in his opinion, it could give a false sense of security. CLlr C P and CLlr NFJ agreed to continue to explore the proposal.

7. Planning applications new and updates

7.1 Bridge House – the application was withdrawn and a new application submitted.

The new application indicated that the roof will be constructed of stone, not slate, and will be lower than originally proposed.

7.2 Swinbrook Cottage – Once again problems and issues had been raised concerning contractors vehicles and roadside parking. Several complaints had been made, by local residents, concerning the inconvenience and obstructions caused by contractor's vehicles despite an agreement already in place for them to use the rear Rose & Crown Car Park.

CLlr D C and CLlr A P agreed that Shilton PC require a clear planning policy stating that parked vehicles should not cause an obstruction and comply with street parking regulations. This would be applied to each new planning application.

7.3 Burford Quarry

CLlr AP and CLlr DC met with planners of Burford Quarry, concerning an application to extend the current license for the site, from 2024 to 2034. Discussions were had on how to manage restoration of the site at the end of the license period. It was agreed that it cannot be used for landfill nor be filled with water to form a lake.

Currently there are two attenuation ponds for drainage and it was agreed that the land would eventually revert to agricultural land.

Smith's, the owners of the quarry, hold regular meetings with local residents, 2 - 3 times a year and who appear happy with the proposals.

At the meeting CLlr AP enquired whether there would be any benefit to the local communities e.g. a monetary settlement to improve both footpaths and the T Junction.

Signed
David Cuthbertson, Chairman

8.0 Finance Report

8.1 Precept/Budget

The PC had reviewed the 2017/2018 expenditure of the Council and Cllr D C stated that the budget for 2018/112091 would be maintained at the same level as 2017/2018 @ £11,000 pa. Cllr D C proposed and Cllr C P seconded the proposal and it was agreed unanimously.

9 Neighbourhood Plan Progress

Cllr D C informed the floor that the Plan is due to complete at the end of March 2018.

He reported that the financing of the Affordable Housing project was proving problematic.

A grant had been awarded; however, the government would not agree to release funds unless a secure tenure of land was in place. Solicitors are working on developing a suitable lease for the PC, to overcome the problem, with a clause that if the plan should go ahead, it will be assigned to the Community Land Trust.

Questions were asked about proposed footpaths included in the Neighbourhood plan going through private land. Cllr DC confirmed that the proposed paths shown on the plan were a wish list only.

10. Shill Maintenance

A meeting took place recently between the existing local Contractor, Cllr D C and two residents. It was agreed that the banks of the river had not been maintained properly by the Riparian owners who each owned responsibility.

It was proposed that a Trust fund could be set up in order to provide for future maintenance and where the Riparian owners would contribute to.

Cllr DC agreed that funds could be transferred from the Flood Defence Fund, but once this was used up, it would revert to the responsibility of the Trust to maintain the banks and flow of water through the river and provide for the costs involved.

The Parish Council expressed its thanks to Matthew Edwards, who had spent his own time in clearing the pond, which is now flowing better.

11. Date of next meeting: Wednesday January 25th 2018

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 9.00pm

Signed

David Cuthbertson, Chairman

Ann Tyldesley
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