

## SHILTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

15th December 2015  
The Old School, Shilton 7.30 pm

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

### Minutes

**Apologies:** SPC Cllr Y Lay, WODC Cllr Mr A Postan

**Declaration of Interest:** None

**The Minutes of the November meeting** were duly agreed by all and signed by the Chairman

#### **Agreement of 2016/2017 Budget and Precept requirement**

Cllr D C discussed the proposed 2016/2017 budget requirements which include the closing of the SPC Office and its associated costs in doing so. It was proposed that the Office will close as soon as reasonably possible. It was noted that there is a required three month notice period to be given to Covenant Management

All records would then be transferred to the Oxford Repository, with the exception of planning records as these will be available on the WODC website. The movement of the records is being organised by Mrs Helena Wright and SPC thanked her for her efforts.

Also included in the budget was a provision of a grant, towards a graveyard extension for the parish. Cllr D commented that Shilton required a graveyard extension and that the P.C.C. had approached Mr J Colson who wishes to sell a plot of land. The total cost would be circa £13000 and that SPC should consider granting a sum of £2000 in 2016/2017 towards the cost. Any other future grants to be discussed and settled on merit.

Cllr DC reported that it would be possible, even with above associated costs, to reduce the annual precept to a more acceptable level than the last two previous budgets and a sum of £3692 would be the 2016/2017 Precept requirement.

The budget was agreed and proposed by Cllr KR and seconded by Cllr S J R

#### **OCC update: Cllr Neil Owen**

Cllr Owen apologised for the tardiness of OCC Highways in the cutting of hedges identified as their responsibility. This was due to cutbacks in staff.

He commented on the cuts recently made by OCC and that a further 15,000 houses required by Oxford City Council is an ongoing problem for villages.

He agreed to email the Clerk a full report of the recent meeting.

## **Planning update**

### **Ecotricity.**

The Councillors recently met with Mr H Metcalf and looked at the proposed alterations to the application. It was concluded that the application may be granted at the appeal stage and that Shilton may lose the appeal against this application.

At the meeting it was discussed that should this be the case, then a potential benefit scheme for Shilton residents should be put in place. Ecotricity agreed to pay an annual sum of £5000, index linked, during the life time of the site (25 years).

Comments from the floor included that although this was the least obtrusive site of the three solar farms the residents of Shilton will still fight and oppose the plan.

SPC responded that although they are mindful of the views of local people they are concerned that should the plan go ahead, then a plan to be put in place to secure benefits to the community and certain conditions to be lodged e.g.:

1. Look at alternative access
2. Appropriate planting of mature trees and landscaping
3. Hours of access for Heavy plant to be restricted
4. Repair of the roads once the installation is completed especially Ladburn Lane and Hen n Chick Lane
5. Also discussed that a trust fund to be set up to receive any monies from the scheme.

### **85 Houses Swinbrook Road**

This was discussed with the recently formed SPC Planning subcommittee, who agreed a formal objection to be raised by SPC. Cllr D Cuthbertson recently met with WODC planning committee who are also against the proposal. However it was noted that if the plan was passed, Section 106 would apply and monies could be available for the benefit of the community including the implementation of a roundabout and a buffer zone.

### **Agreement of 2016 SPC Diary Dates**

The Clerk has drawn up a list for 2016 and will circulate. Once agreed by all then the diary can be placed on notice boards and the website

### **A.O.B.**

Cllr DC proposed that a projector would be prove invaluable for public meetings and suggested that a note should be placed in the Parish Pump to see if anyone is willing to donate an item they are not using. Neil Owen commented that SPC should approach the Community fund as monies may be available if one cannot be donated.

A member of the public commented that the notice boards in the village are in a state of disrepair and would SPC consider replacing them?

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

The next Shilton Parish Meeting to be confirmed in January

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