

GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall,
Woollards Lane, Great Shelford on Wednesday 21st November 2012

Present: Councillors Mr Nightingale (chairman) Mrs Hodge (vice-chairman) Mrs Amis, Mrs Bennee, Mr Coggins, Mr Seeking, Mr Shelton, and Mr Smith. Also in attendance: County Councillor Dr Kenney, Mr Orgee and District Councillors Mr Nightingale, Mr Shelton and Mr Whiteman-Downes. Two members of the public were also in attendance.

Apologies: were received from Councillors Mrs Harwood, Mrs Hinsby, Mr Johnson, Mr Knowles, Mrs Milson and Mr Watson.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2012 were **confirmed** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

The meeting closed to give members of the public the opportunity to raise issues:

Mr Moule said he would like to publicise the forthcoming Carol Service which will take place as usual outside the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 19th December at 7pm, and hoped members of the council would support this event.

Mr Chisholm referring to the introduction of reduced traffic speed in the village said he thought the three villages should combine their efforts which would help to reduce some of the costs. The Chairman said speed limits was on the agenda and would be discussed later in the proceedings.

There being no further topics the meeting resumed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

a) *Village Seats* (minute 2b) Cllr: Smith pointed out that the oldest seat in the village had not been part of the refurbishment. This will be rectified.

b) *Grange Field* (minute 11) The Chairman said so far there has been no response from the executors.

c) *Planning* (minute 4) Cllr: Smith said due to the lack of yellow restriction lines vehicles park right up to the corner at Woollards

Lane junction, making it dangerous for motorists turning into High Street. The Chairman said the lines on the High Street should be re-painted by the end of the week.

3. NOMINATIVE & ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

County Council

Cllr: Kenney talked about the upgrading of the A14, which may be brought forward to 2017 or even 2016. She said school funding is becoming more problematic for all schools; the by pass crossing at Sawston has been approved. Sawston library is on the verge of finding temporary accommodation; the mobile service will close at the end of December but may open again if a temporary library site is not found. In the meantime Sawston residents are using the library at Great Shelford.

Cllr: Orgee said an important Government statement is due in early December when an announcement will be made about the A14. He is meeting with the management on Friday to discuss Sawston library. He reminded the council that a £50,000 Minor Improvement Scheme is now in operation with the possibility of up to £10,000 for individual schemes of which the parish council should contribute at least 10%; the closing date for applications is 20th December. The winter gritting program has been agreed; the same roads as last year will be treated with one or two added in some areas. Last year only cycle ways within the city were gritted, whereas this year those between the villages and the city will also be treated.

Cllr: Kenney was amazed when Cllr: Smith told her the damaged fence on the railway bridge still has not been repaired; on contacting highways she was assured the repairs would be carried out immediately.

Plastic fencing panels, part of the recent work at Granhams junction also need to be removed.

Cllr: Seekings talked about the large number of fallen leaves on the footways throughout the village and asked if they would be cleared.

Cllr: Orgee agreed to follow up on these outstanding items.

District Council

Cllr: Whiteman-Downes said the Government has offered the same cut in council tax as last year for 2013/14, to meet the criteria reductions in the budget will be necessary, a decision will be taken in the

New Year. It is proposed to reduce Capital Grants funding from £800,000 to £500,000; as a result grants will not be available for every future project, and there will also be reductions in funding to the Citizens Advice Bureau. Plans are in hand to make better use of South Cambridgeshire Hall, furniture and IT equipment is being renewed to create office and conference centre facilities for outsiders to use. The new Police and Crime Commissioner will be based at the hall and will be paying rent.

Cllr: Shelton said he had met the new Police and Crime Commissioner and felt it would be good for South Cambridgeshire to have the new Commissioner at South Cambridgeshire Hall. He also talked about his concern over the proposed boundary changes for parliamentary and constituencies which have the Shelfords and Stapleford moving to the South East, where they would have to work with three different local authorities.

Community Association

Cllr: Smith said it had been agreed that the installation of new windows in the village hall should go ahead. The Chairman of the Community Association Mr Sparrow said it had taken nine months to get approval. The windows are aluminum, double glazed and in appearance exactly the same as the existing ones.

Parochial Charities

Cllr: Amis said due to the recent death of a long standing tenant a bungalow will shortly be available.

Police Liaison

Cllr: Shelton said catalytic converters are being stolen during daylight hours from cars parked at the Railway Tavern and advised people to be extra vigilant during the coming festive season when burglaries and thefts seem to increase.

4. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Recreation Ground

Talking about the regular week-end sporting activities on the recreation ground Cllr: Smith commented on how well it is used. Due to constant use by heavy vehicles the area at the entrance to the recreation ground is very worn, as this is the only way in it can only get worse. The *please close the gate* signs at the play area seem to be working, as do the wood chips on the muddy area by the gate. .

Highways

Cllr: Nightingale said County Council highways is still putting up objections over the parking bays opposite the post office. The bays were originally installed by the County Council when changes at the junction by Lloyds Bank were carried out. Cllr: Orgee said he would speak to Mr Lines

Planning

Cllr: Hodge went through her report

5. SPEED LIMITS

As requested Cllr: Orgee had looked into the cost of lowering the speed restriction to 30mph along the whole length of Cambridge Road and what this would involve. The biggest cost is advertising however the county council is looking to use the website to publicise such occurrences. The key points to submitting a scheme is that the parish council needs to hold a consultation for local residents, possibly using the *Village News* and the *Messenger*, posting notices on lamp posts, particularly along Cambridge Road and on the Parish Council website. The result of the consultation is then sent to the County Council, who has to be assured that the Parish Council has consulted widely and properly, for consideration. The council should also contact Brian Stinton Area Traffic Manager at Shire Hall and Clair Robson Communications Manager telling them of its intention to submit this scheme.

6. NEW PAVILION

Tendering for the new pavilion is now in progress.

7. FOOTBALL FOUNDATION

The Football Foundation had required the Chairman and Secretary of Great Shelford Football Club to sign a grant acceptance form for the £50,000 grant from the Football Stadia Improvement Fund. As a necessary formality the parish council recognises that this should not impose a responsibility on the Football Club for the construction or maintenance of the new pavilion.

Cllr: Hodge proposed, seconded by Cllr: Shelton that an official letter reneging responsibility be sent to Great Shelford Football Club - **agreed.**

8. ROUNDABOUT

The Chairman confirmed that work has started on the Hinton Road roundabout, existing shrubs have been trimmed and thinned where necessary and top soil is being spread in readiness for planting.

9. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Chairman talked about the disappointing service on Remembrance Sunday. The British Legion usually liaise with the churches, unfortunately this did not happen this year. Following some discussion it was proposed that in future the parish council should confirm a few weeks before the service that arrangements are in place. The meeting was informed that stopping of the traffic for the duration of the service is not now permitted.

10. PARISH ENERGY

The Parish Council supported the proposal that Angela Milson take over as the Parish Energy Champion from Helen Harwood.

11. LIBRARY

Cllr: Orgee reporting on the meeting with the Portfolio Officer and Friends of Great Shelford Library which indicated that no additional hours would be granted. In response to a request from the friends that the parish council support its campaign to get more opening hours with paid staff it was agreed that the parish council should write to the Portfolio Officer.

12. EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr: Whiteman-Downes said he had been contacted by the Plymouth Brethren offering help.

13. FINANCE

It was **resolved** that 24 accounts totalling £18,626.84, as presented by the Clerk, be approved for payment.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

A reply from SSYI regarding financial assistance arrived too late for the agenda and will be transferred to the F & GP meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.02pm

Chairman.....