

GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall,
Woollards Lane, Great Shelford on Wednesday 17th October 2012

Present: Councillors Mr Nightingale (chairman) Mrs Hodge (vice-chairman) Mrs Amis, Mrs Bennee, Mr Coggins, Mrs Harwood, Mr Johnson, Mr Knowles, Mr Seeking, Mr Shelton, and Mr Wilkinson. Also in attendance: County Councillor 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 Hinsby and Mr Smith.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September, following amendment, 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 Unsworth said he had recently sent a petition to the County Council asking for the lowering of the speed restriction to 30mph along the whole length of Cambridge Road; forty miles an hour is too high for this urban residential area. Residents leaving their driveway have difficulty entering the fast flow of traffic and pupils cycling to Sawston College find it tortuous and at times dangerous getting across the road.

Traffic speed on Cambridge Road had been discussed at the last meeting when Cllr: Orgee was asked to look into the cost of implementing a speed reduction. He said although speed reduction was not at the top of the priorities list the County Council would be happy to work with the Parish Council. The advantage of a scheme instigated and paid for by the Parish Council is that it would not be subject to such strong measures. In the past advertising costs have been excessive, this is now being done via the web site. The only other cost would be the removal and re-siting of some speed limit signs on Cambridge Road. Before proceeding further local residents would need to be consulted; the result would then be considered by the County Council.

Following further discussion it was proposed that Cllr: Orgee would look into what is involved and report back to the next meeting.

There being no further topics the meeting resumed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- a) *Granhams Road* (minute 2) The Chairman confirmed that lining work in the village is in hand.
- b) *Village Seats* (minute 6) Refurbishment of the seats is going well.
- c) *Repair Barrier* (minute 7) Further prices awaited.
- d) *Roundabout* (minute 9) Planning work should be completed by the end of the month.
- e) *Grange Field* (minute 11) The Chairman said he had spoken to a member of the Bevan family who has promised to come back to him shortly.

3. NOMINATIVE & ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

County Council

Cllr: Orgee confirmed that in responding to the consultation on the Local Development Plan he had emphasized the importance of retaining the green belt and endorsed the rejection of each and every objection site in Great Shelford. A £50,000 Minor Improvement Scheme is now in operation with the possibility of up to £10,000 for individual councils, the closing date for applications is 20th December.

Cllr: Kenney said the guided bus scooped the National Transport Award as the most innovative transport project of the year. A new Community Special School serving children with special educational needs has been opened. The multi-site school with centres on Wisbech, Hartford and Foxton will provide the children with a much wider curriculum. There are still problems over access to the Bell School development site which is not wide enough, so far no solution can be found and approval has again been refused. The Police have launched an initiative to enforce cycle lights. A cyclist caught without alights will be given a ticket which they have to take to the police within 30 days with a valid receipt for cycle lights to avoid being fined.

District Council

Cllr: Shelton said the District Council has started to sell off council house garages, with the land being sold for development. He reminded the meeting about the forthcoming Police and Crime Commissioner elections will be held on 15th November.

Cllr: Whitman-Downs said the redundant adverting and house sale signs have at last been removed from the Abberley Wood, the next target is to remove the signs at Old School Court.

Cllr: Nightingale talked about the proposed development at Welch's in Stapleford and Great Shelford and potential section 106 payments.

Police Liaison

Cllr: Shelton said he was not at the last Neighborhood Watch but understands the problem of speeding, particularly in the villages is still under review. At present PCSO's are covered by a protective funding pool until 2013, but will then be moved into general funds.

4. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Recreation Ground

Nothing has happened about the dead trees in the Coppice; the skateboard ramp has been repaired but still needs some minor adjustments and the hedge between the goalpost pound and Woodlands Road needs cutting.

The playground fencing gates are constantly left open allowing dogs to enter the play area. 'Please Close the Gate' and 'No Dog' signs will be ordered.

Planning

Cllr: Hodges went through her report. Cllr: Seekings said he is still of the opinion that the corner at Old School Court is dangerous. Cllr: Hodge said the changes were approved by County Council Highways and suggested that once the white lining is in place the situation should improve.

Highways

Cllr: Shelton said he is making every effort to have a time display unit installed at the bus stop opposite the post office.

5. NEW PAVILION

Cllr: Knowles explained what has happened since the last meeting, it is hoped to install new drains this month. The first claim against the Football Foundation grant needs to be submitted within six months of the offer; however commencement of the project is dependant on all monies being in place. It was agreed at the January meeting that the council "agreed in principle to the use of loan facilities if deemed necessary" although fund raising is on going there is still a shortfall.

Cllr: Nightingale informed the meeting that an anonymous donation of £50,000 has been offered.

Cllr: Bennee proposed, seconded by Cllr: Shelton in order to comply with the grant conditions the parish council is prepared, if necessary, to borrow sufficient funds to complete the project – **agreed unanimously**.

6. RAILWAY STATION

Talking about how attractive the railway station looks since Mr and Mrs Gouch took over its welfare the Chairman suggested that the parish council might offer a donation towards the plants. Everyone praised the improvements but doubts were raised; as the railway station is a commercial business it would not be appropriate for the parish council to offer financial assistance.

7. EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr: Whiteman-Downes said there is nothing further to report, although volunteers with particular skills that they could use in an emergency are still needed.

8. FINANCE

It was **resolved** that 20 accounts totalling £15,875.53, as presented by the Clerk, be approved for payment.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Great Shelford Sports and Social Club (GSS&SC) is having to consider its future due to lack of income and are seeking financial assistance – the parish council would need to know how the club is run and see a financial statement before progressing further.

b) Shelford and Stapleford Youth Initiative (SSYI) is looking to help the GSS&SC by considering potential new projects that would use the Social Club facilities and is also looking for financial support. The parish council understands that the SSYI is used by young people from many other villages and wonders whether other parish councils have also been approached.

The meeting closed at 8.52pm

Chairman.....