

GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Hall,
Woollards Lane, Great Shelford on Wednesday 19th February 2014

Present: Councillors Mr Nightingale (chairman) Mrs Hodge (vice-chairman) Mrs Amis, Mr Coggins, Mrs Harwood, Mr Seeking, Mr Shelton, Mr Smith, Mr Watson and Mr Winter. Also in attendance County Councillor Mr Orgee, District Councillors Mr Nightingale and Mr Shelton.

Apologies: were received from Councillors Mrs Hinsby, Mr Knowles and Revd: Talbott.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2014 were **confirmed** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- a) *Annual Precept* (minute 3) Cllr: Harwood said there was some confusion and doubt regarding the inclusion of a detailed report of the accounts being published in the village news. At the last meeting it was agreed that a report would be compiled to explain the annual budget, what expenditure this involves and how the precept for the coming financial year is set. A copy of the report was duly circulated for council member's comments. Following a full discussion it was proposed that the report would not go in the village news but would be posted on the website. There will also be a power point presentation explaining how the new pavilion was financed.
- b) *Festival of Wheels* (minute 9) Cllr: Shelton said he is concerned whether conditions on recreation ground will be fully recovered for this event.

3. NOMINATIVE & ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

County Council

Cllr: Orgee said he had attended a meeting to consider a request for extending the excavations at Dernford Farm for a further two years. His main concern is that the route for lorry movements is not altered.

Internet connection at the library is poor and has been added to the priority list.

The County Councils is proposing a 1.99% increase on the council tax; £20.00 for a band D property.

Referring to the proposed reduction of the speed limit on Cambridge Road and Hinton Way he said he was shocked to hear that the information sent by the Parish Council had been lost for the second time.

In response to a question regarding Energy Companies Community Schemes he said he would look into this and report back at the next meeting.

District Council

Cllr: Shelton said the District Councils proposed increase is also 1.99%. He then talked about the Community Chest Grant Scheme; usually under subscribed it is being increased in April from £1,000 to £1,500.

Cllr: Nightingale said 'Hilltrees' is going back to committee as a loop hole has come to light in the paper work.

4. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Recreation Ground

Talking about the new pavilion Cllr: Watson said although building work has finished there are some problems both inside and out that need attention. Until these have been rectified an additional £9,000 is being held on top of the original 12 month 2.5 % retention. The yew hedging is due to be installed early in March.

Hiring fees and a raft of other issues are work in progress; a full report will be available at the next meeting.

Cllr: Smith confirmed that a safety officer had spoken with Village Man and is compiling a safety manual to suit the situation.

He then raised the Tennis Clubs proposal to install a path across the front of the skateboard ramp. An extensive discussion followed regarding the type and maintenance of a path in this location; concerned that it could get damaged more easily at the front the council would prefer it to go behind the ramp.

Highways

Cllr: Shelton said he is waiting to see the potholes on Cambridge Road filled in and the road resurfaced before tackling the footways.

Planning

Cllr: Hodge went through her report. The Rugby Club lighting is on going. Cllr: Shelton said the club is doing a fantastic job encouraging young children and it is important to get it right.

5. FLOWER BEDS MEMORIAL HALL

Sterling Plants and Gardens Limited have offered to take over the maintenance of the flower beds in front of the village hall. Daniel said he used to live in the village and would like to make a contribution towards its appearance. He talked about what is proposed and explained the planting plan, distributed to the councils prior to the meeting. It was agreed that a small advertising board should be displayed on the railings at the back of the boarder.

6. TREE CAMBRIDGE ROAD

Several years ago the Parish Council asked the owner of a house on Cambridge Road if a tree could be planted in the grass verge outside her property. Unfortunately the tree was not staked correctly and is now growing at an angle, causing problems when driving in and out of the property; the owner would like the tree removed. As the parish council planted the tree it was proposed that it should arrange to have it removed.

7. ABBERLEY WOOD

The chairman said he had been contacted by residents at Abberley Wood concerned that water and sewage gushing out at the pumping station was fast approaching their houses. Fortunately with the aid of sandbags, supplied by the District Council and six tankers pumping the waste away, it was kept under control. The problem occurred after two pumps at the pumping station broke down. Although they were eventually repaired the tankers were still being used to clear the area many days later.

The chairman said the slow response from Anglian Water was appalling and he is calling for an enquiry.

8. TREE WORK RECREATION GROUND

The work involves dead trees in the coppice and attention to the hedge behind the bank and houses. Cllr: Hodge said she thought the quote was too much for what actually needs doing and suggested that Andrew Grimmer at the District Council should be asked to take a look.

9. PARKING ISSUES

Concern was expressed that drivers are parking in the village then walking to the station to use the train. Several years ago the same observation was raised and members of the council carried out a survey; it was suggested that this might be repeated.

10. TOUR DE FRANCE

The chairman informed the meeting that £600 has been allocated from the Community Chest fund towards this event.

11. FINANCE

It was **resolved** that 11 accounts totalling £55,641.07, as presented by the Clerk, be approved for payment.

The clerk explained that due to an oversight the parish council's contribution to the village mans pension scheme had not been increased correctly, resulting in a short fall. The Chairman proposed, seconded by Cllr: Coggins that a back dated employer contribution of £850 should be paid – **agreed**.

12. ANY OTHER BUSSINESS

The ordinary election for local councillors in 2014 will be moved to the date of the European Parliamentary general election on 22nd May 2014. As a result the parish council meeting will be held a week later on Wednesday 28th May 2014.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman.....