

## SHALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Shalford Village Hall on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2007

### **PRESENT:**

#### **COUNCILLORS:**

**A K Oates (Chairman)**

**A P Bedding**

**J Harrison**

**J Phipps**

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

**A Tee (Clerk)**

**C Carlisle**

#### **71. WELCOME:**

Councillor Oates welcomed everyone and explained that Cathryn was attending as an observer before taking over as Clerk.

#### **72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None

#### **73. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillor Eversden (family commitment) and Councillor Fowler (business commitment).

#### **74. MINUTES:**

The November meeting was cancelled following the resignation of the new Clerk. The minutes for October were signed after minor alterations.

#### **75. MATTERS ARISING:**

65.4 The Clerk had contacted B D C. regarding sacks for litter bins. The Council require names of those emptying bins to enable sacks to be collected separate from wheeled bins. Grey sacks will later be issued to those concerned. Councillor Oates will find out who empties the Shalford Green bin, the clerk to collate the information and pass to Braintree District Council.

65.5 A new supply of sand bags has not yet been ordered. The Clerk will contact Mr. Tanner re storage.

65.6 The Clerk will contact the Village Hall Chairman concerning the Parish Council room.

#### **76. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**76.1.** Details of a Community Initiative Fund – the letter will be passed to the Village Hall Committee

**76.2.** The training schedule for Clerks and Councillors issued by E.A.L.C. Cathryn's training costs will be shared between Great Saling and Shalford

**76.3.** A questionnaire about the mobile library service. Changes to the present route have been proposed, but this would cause problems as the stops are already widespread

**76.4.** A Parish Clerk's Forum is being held in February. Cathryn is to attend

- 76.5.** Details of the Community Wardens have been issued. The warden for the Shalford area is Paul Richards. Councillor Oates will invite him to attend the February meeting
- 77. FINANCE:**
- 77.1.** It was agreed that the £500 awarded for the Shalford web site should be used to provide Cathryn with a laptop package. Cathryn to bring proposed specification for the laptop to the February meeting
- 77.2.** Councillor Eversden had requested reimbursement for expenses connected with the web site. Councillors agreed to this in principle, but wanted more information. This will be reviewed at the February meeting
- 77.3.** The budget was agreed with some changes to the precept. Following the additional expenditure incurred replacing the bus shelter, together with other costs such as the village appraisal, the provision of a new footpath map, the neighbourhood watch scheme and increased training costs for clerk and councillors it was agreed that the precept should be £9,000 for 2007/08
- 77.4.** The Village Hall Committee request for a grant was discussed: it was felt that the request lacked some detail, and the VHMC were to be asked to get 3 quotes for the work to be carried out and advise us which wood work and window panes were to be replaced. Clerk A Tee to do letter, Cllr Oates to review
- 78. FOOTPATHS:**
- 78.1.** The new map is well under way. Councillor Oates had brought copies for Councillors to look at. Some changes are needed, but the project is proceeding well.
- 78.2.** The Causeway has been resurfaced for three quarters of its length. Unfortunately the work carried out has caused damage to the remaining quarter of the path and this now needs attention. Councillor Oates has been in touch with Highways and the path is to be inspected
- 79. HIGHWAYS:**
- 79.1.** Hulls Lane is to be closed from 12th until 24th March for resurfacing work. The “Unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicles” sign is still missing – heavy lorries will damage the new surface if this is not replaced
- 79.2.** Highways have agreed that the hedge outside the Amenity Site on Braintree Road needs cutting back and have undertaken to get the Civic Amenities Department to do it
- 79.3.** The “Victoria Hill” sign was erected and damaged almost immediately. It was replaced and damaged again. Councillor Phipps has suggested that Highways re-site the sign to a less vulnerable spot
- 80. PLANNING:**
- 80.1.** Revised plans for the wind turbine at Westerns Farm have been received. Councillors still thought that the turbine should be re-sited where it would have less impact on the village and where it would work more efficiently

- 80.2.** A new plan for the pet crematorium at Abbots Hall Farm still use the original access, so the comments made on the original application still apply
- 80.3.** A conservatory at Wades Garden has no impact on neighbouring properties, so there were no objections
- 80.4.** Although there is a planning notice for 1 Fox Cottages at the property the Parish Council has not received a copy of the planning application. The clerk will contact B D C

**81. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 81.1.** Suggestions for speakers for the Annual Parish Meeting are needed  
Councillors were asked to bring ideas to the February meeting
- 81.2.** The 30 m.p.h. speed limit came into force in Jaspers Green in December 2006
- 81.3.** Some progress has been made regarding the priority scheme for Victoria Hill
- 81.3.1.** Neighbourhood Watch have advised of a break-in at Shalford Green during the Christmas period, and that Anglian Water overalls were stolen from a locked storage hut at Steeple Bumpstead Sewerage Works early in January
- 81.4.** There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00 p.m
- 81.5.** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st February at 8.00 p.m. in Shalford Village Hall