



Shalford Parish Council

Parish Clerk:

Cathryn Carlisle

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Minutes of the Parish Council, held on Wednesday, 21st October 2015

Present Cllr Eves (Chairman)

Cllr Golding

Cllr Oates

Cllr French

Cllr Eversden

Cllr Stevens

DC Tattersley

Cathryn Carlisle (Clerk)

15/163 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Askew

15/164 Minutes of the PC meeting held on Wednesday 16th Sept 2015 were approved and signed.

15/165 Declarations of interest

Cllr Golding: item no 15/170.9 Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee

15/166 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

There were none

15/167 Clerk's Report

The Clerk had received a copy of an email from Kieran McGrath, BDC Landscape Office, regarding the tree at 1-5 School House, which he has sent to Circle Anglia. Saying there is a very large mature white poplar that is covered by a preservation order. It does not look like it has had much management other than trimming away from the high voltage power lines that run adjacent to the tree and over the school playing field. Generally, it looks to be in good health, with a full crown and vigorous growth. There are a number of stubs and old wounds throughout the crown where limbs have snapped out. He did not see evidence of fungal infection or root heave. However, all of the main lateral limbs are very over-extended. White poplar is a naturally fairly brittle species, as shown by the number of snap-outs in the crown.

As the owner, Circle Anglia (if you are indeed the owner) has a duty of care to ensure that your trees do not injure or otherwise harm people and property. As the tree extends over the car park and importantly, over the school playing field and high voltage power lines, my advice would be to pollard the tree just above the main union, where it splits into three. This would remove the risk of falling limbs landing on cars, people, power lines or schoolchildren, and sets a point at which the tree can be managed. Continuing to do nothing will mean that it is likely that the tree will drop branches/limbs into areas that are constantly used, with the worst case scenario including potentially bringing down the power lines into the school playing field.

The poplar is preserved under TPO 3/94. This means that any works will need to be applied for before they can go ahead. An application to pollard the tree would be met favourably.

The Clerk had received an email from Pam Lee, Shalford Tree Warden who had received an email from Fiona Lawes to see if the Parish Council would plant a tree at Broome Close Villas. This is Greenfields Land. The Clerk contacted Greenfields who have offered to plant two fruit trees.

The Trees opposite the Village Hall will be planted as soon as the leaves have fallen off.

The Clerk has found out that she can get a grant for a new computer to help with the new Transparency law which came out this year.

15/168 Reports from Councillors with matters affecting the village

Shalford Parish Council - Web Report Oct Meeting

Month of September 2015

Unique Visitors 748 (Means different devices) Total Visits: - 1569 - Average Daily visits: - 52.3

Pages: - 17854 opened, including images. Countries (Top 10): United Kingdom - Germany – European country – British Indian Ocean – USA Military – Australia.

The Website has not had any new people sign up this month for the monthly email service. Cllrs thought it might be a good idea if we gave a cash incentive (i.e. 'sign up for the website and we will put your name forward in a raffle to win a cash prize'.)
The Clerk is to speak to the EALC, to see if we are allowed to do this.

15/169 Advertising and Promoting the Parish Council Cllr Stevens to report
Cllr Stevens has put articles in the Parish Mag about the Website, the Bendlowes Trust, and the Village Shop.

15/170 Finance

15/170.1 £220.08 Clerks Salary, 201493
15/170.2 £110.00 P Edwards Maintenance 201494
15/170.3 £24.50 Clerks Expenses 201495
15/170.4 £199.20 MD Landscapes Grass Cutting 201496
15/170.5 £10.00 100 Parishes Subs 201497
15/170.6 £500.00 Shalford Village Hall Rent 201498
15/170.7 £19.79 E-on Electricity 201499

Payments were approved by all members of the council present.

15/170.8 Contribution to St Andrews Church: Cllr Golding proposed that we give £2,000 to go towards the grass cutting in the churchyard, seconded by Cllr Oates.

15/170.9 Contribution to Village Hall
Cllr Eves proposed that we give £2,000.00 towards the continuous maintenance to the Village Hall. This was seconded by Cllr Stevens.

15/170.10 Monthly Budget and Bank Reconciliation
Were approved by all councillors present.

15/170.11 Bank Mandates
The Clerk asked that Cllr Stevens goes in to Barclays Bank Braintree with his T proof of identity and proof of his address. The Clerk asked Cllr Stevens to take all the paperwork she had back to the bank.

15/171 Village Hall Management Committee matters affecting the Parish Council.
There will be a quiz night on the 14th November in the Village Hall.

The VHMC are awaiting a quote to see how much it will cost to get the roof done; so far there's approximately £16,000 in the account. The VHMC are looking at renewing the basketball surface, extending the high fence to stop the cricket balls in the summer. A goal post would also be set into the fence so that in the winter the children can play football in this area without going onto the field.

The wooden posts separating the grass/ overflow parking area and the play area are rotten and in need of replacement. The committee would like to replace this with estate fencing and a gate to access the field.

The VHMC has just spent approximately £1,000 on a new fuse box and repairing a leak to the roof in the away changing room.

15/172 District Councillors Report

The District is required to follow central government policy to substantially increase housebuilding.

Objectively assessed, the need has been recommended at 845 per year, but that is not yet a Local Plan target.

Due to the scale of growth and the lack of brownfield sites in the District there will be substantially green field development.

Evidence documents on the opportunities and constraints of growth in the District are currently being collected and are found on the Councils website.

Andrewsfield and Boxted Wood as submitted could accommodate around 8000 homes over 20+ years. They would need to include all the day to day services and facilities required for these residents.

Consultation with Local Parishes and members will be happening over the coming weeks and months in advance of formal approval of a draft Plan in early 2016 with extensive public consultation thereafter.

No decision has been made on the suitability of this or any other site to date.

DC Tattersley reported that there's a good chance that we would lose the Parish Support Grant and some to the Street Clean budget could be cut this year. It's possible that BDC will need to find a Million pound this year. We won't know this until later in the year.

15/173 County Councillors Report

No report

15/174 Village Enhancement

One of the trees planted earlier this year Whites Hill is looking a bit distressed. The clerk is to ask MD landscapes advice.

15/175 Planning Applications/Comments

15/175.1 15/00303/TPO Abbots Hall Braintree Road Shalford
Application to carry out tree work. No objection.

15/175.2 15/01227/FUL & 15/01228/LBC Conversion of redundant barn to one dwelling of existing outbuilding and replacement with a cart lodge, change of use of paddock to garden, closure of existing access and construction of new access.
Bays Farm Shalford Green Road Shalford Essex, CM7 5AZ
No objection in principle, but would like Highways to look at the proposed access.

15/175.3 15/01229/FUL & 15/01230/LBC Conversion of redundant barn to 2no two bedroom dwellings; Barns B and C, change of use of part agricultural land to garden, closure of existing access and opening of new access.
Bays Farm Shalford Green Road Shalford Essex, CM7 5AZ
No objection in principle but would like Highways to look at the proposed access.

15/175.4 15/01247/FUL Creation of Menage Farthings, Jaspers Green, Shalford CM7 5BB. No objection.

15/00672/FUL Erection of two storey rear extension to existing annexe at Millbrook Wethersfield Road Shalford has gone to appeal.

15/176 Footpath/bridleway

15/176.1 Footpaths Update from Cllr Oates

Cllr Oates reported that the Bridleway that comes out behind Bridle Cottage has only had some trees removed and the ditch hasn't been cleared. Cllr Eves to speak to Adam Grove-Smith.

15/176.2 Bridleways Update from Cllr French

Cllr French is in the process of setting out a letter to be sent to all horse owners in the Parish with a copy of the footpath map showing them where they can and can't ride.

With regard to the old rights of way EBA have a couple of people who research into lost rights of ways both from looking at Old maps and the current maps. If there is a possibility that something has been wrongly marked on the old maps it is looked into and a claim put in. Sometimes they are upheld and an historic byway or bridleway is then put on the definitive map. There is a cut off point for this which is 2026. EBA asked their members if they are able to help in doing this.

EBA also have discussions with developers or public bodies to see if it is possible to have new bridleways or multi user tracks included, to link existing bridleways or to create circular routes.

With proposed developments, various EBA reps have been in discussions with them and many are open to including multi-user or bridleways in their plans, and then discussing these with the planners.

Cllr French has recently attended a British Horse Society access and rights of way level 1 training day. Cllr French hopes to be able to go to a level 2-day next year. The level looks at rights of way law and practise, basic concepts of highway law, the non-government machine (i.e. different voluntary and professional organisations who work towards keeping rights of ways open). Mud and gates, includes horse stiles and horse friendly vehicle barriers, maintenance and obstructions, making changes to the network, public path orders and definitive map modification orders. This includes things like making a special order for crime prevention purposes.

15/177 Bendlowes Trust

15/177.1 Update on New appointment to Bendlowes Trust Cllr Eves:

Cllr Eves is in the process of getting a new Bank mandate in order to send the accounts to the Charity Commission, It is the responsibility of the Parish Council to

appoint trustees and appoint a new chairman following the retirement of Alex Tanner.

15/178 Stoneley Park

The Chairman asked the Clerk to send a copy of the proposed parking/entrance design produced by BDC in 2011 and a copy of the email from Andrew Brown to all councillors so that everyone knew what we are talking about.

Cllr Eves has spoken with the neighbouring property to the site: they see who parks there, who goes walking in the park. Cllr Eves has asked a resident if they would assist the council by sketching the PC's proposal for the parking area. Cllr Eves will send out some dates to arrange a site meeting to discuss the proposed parking area.

15/179 Quiet Lanes

Cllr Askew has sent off the application for Quiet Lane; for Water Lane, a Speed and Volume survey is being done at the present time.

15/180 Speeding: carried forward to next month's agenda.

15/181 Survey Monkey: carried forward to next month's agenda.

15/182 Recycling: carried forward to next month's agenda.

15/183 Andrews Field and Boxted Wood - Site Allocation Plan

Cllr Golding attended a meeting at Rayne with Cllrs from Rayne, Felsted, Great Saling, and Stebbing to talk about the proposed development at Andrewsfield and Boxted Wood. The group discussed how to go forward. The group agreed that some money should be put aside in the budget in case a barrister is needed. There is another meeting on the 13th November at Great Saling at 7.30pm.

15/184 Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda, None

15/185 Date of next meeting

18th November 2015

15/186 Meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed Dated.....