

SHALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Cathryn Carlisle

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Annual Parish Meeting 16th May 2007 Shalford Village Hall 8pm

Present all Councillors 17 members of the public & 2 children

Apologies Jo Crow, the Vicar, Paul Richards

Councillors Oates welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There have been some changes to the parish council in the last few months. Ann Tee clerk resigned and Cathryn Carlisle is now the new clerk. We said goodbye to Christine Fowler and welcome to Andrew Hull and Dave Isbell as new members of the parish council. Councillor Oates introduced the remaining members of the council.

Alan Playle Essex Police Traffic Management

Community Speed Watch

There are now some 20 Villages in Essex that have this scheme in place. Castle Hedingham, Saffron Walden, Gosfield, Bulmer to name a few of the local villages. To run this scheme you need 6 volunteers who are trained by Adam Pipe of Essex Police.

Alan Playle showed one of the speed detection devices that are used.

If detected by the speed gun your registration no is sent to Essex Police who send you a letter, people tend to call the office and promise not to do it again. There are no fix penalties at this time. If people keep speeding and getting letters from Essex Police the police will set up a mobile unit too catch the offenders which will relate to fixed penalties etc. People using mobile phones are also reported. Monitoring would only take place in daylight hours.

Essex police like at least 2 people at a time to do the recording. One to use the gun and the other to take number plate no's volunteers must not stand in the road, training would be given and only takes a couple of hours showing you how to use the gun and how to fill in the forms. Street training would also be given. There is a code of conduct to follow and how to deal with conflict. High Vis clothing would be provided. Equipment would be supplied by Essex Police and we can have it for as long as needed, but they encourage villages to share these devices. Any question regarding this scheme contact the Parish Council Clerk. It would take a couple of months to get things up and running.

The question of how do you measure the success rate, we were told we could contact some of the villages who have this up and running.

Regarding crashes in the area they normally only hear about the ones where there are injuries and fatal accidents normally minor accidents go unreported.

Councillor Oates reported that he and Councillor Phipps met with ECC and BDC at Victoria Hill and Pods Brook. Suggestions were put forward were for traffic calming but this was rejected. They did commit to coming back at a later date.

It was also mention that some larger vehicles have problems getting past parked cars at church end Shalford.

Minutes of last years annual meeting seem to be missing, we apologies for this. We will look through all the files and if they come to light we will post them on the notice boards around the villages.

Bedelows Charity Alex Tanner

They had there meeting earlier minutes to follow.

There is equipment out on loan Wheel chairs and various other items. Please ring Angela Tanner if you require anything. Last year they had a quite successful outing to Saffron Walden or Audley End everyone enjoyed a walk round and a cream tea afterwards. They are looking for something to do this year a morning breakfast has been mentioned but if you have any ideas please let Angela or Alex know.

Recently 6 planted baskets have been given out and well received. The funds stand at £2115.34 but we are looking for donations if possible!

Bedelows Charity would like to thank Shalford New and Braintree and Witham Times for the publicity.

County Councillor reports

Councillor Tim Wilkinson is able to make meeting. It was mentioned that he is an asset to the council in Braintree.

District Councillor Roger Walters informed Councillors Oates & Phipps that he runs a 7.5t Lorry for trading standards group it follows other 7.5t lorries around taking pictures recording of illegal trucks but there is only one in the Essex area but a least it's a start.

Question Time

Affordable Housing

An up to date survey took place in April with a preview of the plans from the developer and circle Anglia took place on the 21st April where many people visited the exhibition. RCCE representative Moria Groborz informed us that the houses where for villagers and surrounding area. Since then various people have been on the Circle Anglia website where it states that local people would not get priority on housing who ever is first on the housing list would get priority.

We received a copy of the petition which is to be sent to this consisted of 173 households some others still wanted to think about the petition and only 6 wanted it to go a head.

Out of the 350 surveys sent out RCCE received 129 replies and there where 47 people who were in favour of affordable houses. We the Parish Council will not take sides in this. We want to do what's best for the village. The Parish Council are to meet in Moria from the RCCE and Helen Frost the housing development manager of Circle Anglia within the next few weeks. Approval from the parish council is needed before planning applications can be submitted. Out of the 47 people how many were eligible for affordable housing. Was there any more sites identified?

After the meeting with RCCE and Circle Anglia we would hold an open meeting for the villagers. It was raised by many people who thought that the meeting should be an open from the start.

The development is outside the village envelope. It is said that Circle Anglia has brought the entire field this has not been confirmed by Circle Anglia.

Previous plans to build on this site they found migration of methane gas.

Section 1/06

BDC are to review the envelopes if the government policy changes.

If no-one takes up the houses within 4-6 weeks they will then be offered to people on the housing list.

The Parish Council took note that there was know one at the meeting who was in favour of affordable housing at the meeting.

We have to remember that in the survey 47 households did say they wanted affordable housing. If the parish Council says no we might find we have to have this site?

We already have 5 affordable houses in the village and these don't have local people in there. Who has the decision on who gets residency of these houses.

Councillor Oates agreed to try and get a meeting set up for the village in the few weeks.

Chairman's Report

Planning committee are Councillor Oates, Bedding, Isbell

Highway

Victoria Hill is still on going

Causeway from George to Clifffield by ECC is considerably better.

We need more volunteers to cut footpaths thank you to Gerald Wisby and Alan Oates for all there help.

Hedges these are the responsibility of the garden owners and should be kept well maintained. It has been mentioned to BDC that the hedge out side the amenity site be cut.

Parkend Lane (Green Lane) is being improved with crushed clinker and is now passable on speaking to the workmen improving the road normally discourages 4X4 and motorbikes.

Q Is it possible to make a provision to put in adequate blockage to stop 4x4 etc.

Footpath Map

Footpath map will be completed later in the year showing footpaths and houses the map is to be given away to villagers.

Neighbour hood watch has started up

The Community Warden is doing his rounds.

New bus shelter

Village Appraisal

The Village appraisal is hoped to be finalised and delivery to be in June with the hope to have a publicity meeting and generate interest. Once we get all the data analyzed we will publish the results on the website and in the Shalford News.

Parish Council meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, we now have an open forum at the beginning of each meeting where people can come and talk to us. If you want us to take action please let us have your question to the clerk so they can be put on the agenda.

New Parish councillors address will be put in the notice board.

The Parish Council are keen to have feed back from the Village.

So far we have not had a request for maintenance for the village hall, as the parish council is spending public money we need to know what we spending it on.

We would like to thank Brenda Handley and Jo Crow and all the team for the printing and all the hard work that goes into publicising the Shalford News.

Finance

We have earmarked a certain amount of money for the repair of the church roof. As the building is listed and is a public building

The money earmarked for the village appraisal we have a grant for £1500 for the previous year and is being kept in reserve we have received a cheque this week for £1350.00 for an appraisal so all we will have to pay for is the analyzing of the appraisal. If we want BDC to take any notice of us we must have an appraisal.

Precept is the funding we ask for from BDC each year.

Web award we did not any suggestion from the village, so we brought a new laptop for the clerk which has been a benefit to making more flexibility we have sent a note of thanks to.

We would like to thank everyone for turning out.