

SHILTON PARISH COUNCIL



Villages:
Shilton
Bradwell Village
Stonelands
Sturt

www.shilton.info
✉ shiltonclerk@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE SHILTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT SHILTON OLD SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY 2014 at 7.30pm

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

Present:

Chairman (retiring) Councillor Alexander Postan,
Councillor Mr Malcolm Linney (new elected Chairman)
Councillor Mr Justin Heyworth
Councillor Mr Tony Cripps
Clerk Ann Tyldesley

Apologies:

Councillor Brian Adams
Mr & Mrs Perfect.

There were approximately 50 members of the public present.

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. His report is contained in the Newsletter circulated to all households in the Parish. No questions were asked.

Minutes of the last meeting

Copies of the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2013 had been provided to all present. The Chairman invited the public to consider the minutes and they were signed as a true record.

District Councillor

Councillor Verena Hunt advised that she has resigned her post and her successor is District Councillor, Mr Alex Postan. Mr Alex Postan confirmed that he will continue to do his best to represent the interests of the Shilton Parish and support local projects.

Signed
Malcolm Linney, Chairman

Continued...

A presentation, on behalf of Shilton Parish Council, was made to Miss Verena Hunt. The Council thanked her for all her hard work on behalf of the Shilton Parish Council and its community. The Chairman also gave a special thank you for her support regarding the implementation of Speed Indication signs and Weight Restriction Orders. He also recognised her invaluable input and work with the Shilton Flood Defence Group.

County Councillor

Mr Neil Owen reported that:

- little money available and estimated OCC will have spent £220m by the end of its term.
- The School Transport 2015 plan had now been implemented
- Already agreed to give an allowance of £1000 from new April budget and will be paid direct into our bank.
- He will continue to support the Flood Defence Fund.

He gave apologies from Mark Kemp, Highways, who could not attend the meeting and stressed there is a commitment concerning the problem of HGVs, in the Burford/Shilton area.

Question from the floor concerning Weight restriction (David Hedges)

Why it taken 18 months? What can be done to speed up the process?

Answer:

Cllr Owen has a meeting with the responsible officer tomorrow and agreed the progress has been tardy. Cllr V Hunt has chased up the signs, they are now ordered and should be delivered mid-June. Cllr Owen agreed to chase this.

Question from the floor: (David Bridges)

Oxfordshire County Council has implemented a 2% addition to Council tax, with a similar increase next year and 3% year after that. Is this the case?

Neil Own could not answer that but will respond with the correct information.

Report from the Welfare Fund

Cllr M Linney reported as of 13th December 2013 the accounts stood at:

Balance:	£6067.00
Outgoing:	£2000.00
Deposit:	£1240.00
Total for 2103	£5043.00

1. £2k was allocated for improvements to allotment field boundaries which need to be re-instated
2. £400 set aside for registration charge for the allotment field.

Value of the fund:

Investments	£16k
In the Bank	£ 5k
Total	£22k

Signed
Malcolm Linney, Chairman

Continued....

Cllr M Linney agreed that interest on this account was minimal and he is looking at different investment opportunities.

Question from the floor:

What are we spending £2k on?

Answer:

- 1. Dry stone walling and preventative measures i.e. planting hedging.
- 2. Installation of two new gates: single one at Hen and Chick Lane and a double at Corner.

Question:

Is there a plan to re-instate allotments?

Answer:

Cllr A Postan suggested Circulation of Aims and Objectives.

Cllr Malcolm Linney stated that the trust was originally set up, as a result of bequests, to look after the needs of the poor and education of children of the parish. More recently it had and could be used to provide help for people who were struggling with heating bills, e.g. elderly. There will be a field rent review in 2015.

Shilton Conservation Trust

Set up in 1992, John Clewith said to investigate inappropriate developments and that the fund now stood at £13,348.00.

Nothing else to report

Open Forum

The floor was given to Justine Garbot who represents the Stop Carterton West Group. She discussed the adverse effects to the local communities should this be passed by WOCC and OCC.

Her main concerns are:

1. Increased Traffic

The reports states that there should not be an increase in traffic within the Shilton area, however, a study had been carried out along Alvescott Lane and 3000 cars a day each way were currently using the Lane. This could increase to 8000 cars each way per day.

2. Flooding

The report claims that the developers have considered reducing the effects of adverse weather conditions by a better flood modelling to include ponds to capture water.

However she expressed concern that they will not be sufficient to reduce the flood risk as the wells in the area were already full in January.

3. Timescales

The time frame is tight as WODC need to double their original estimate for new housing because of the national house building target. Keep protesting.

The chairman thanked Justine for her input and agreed a sum of £250.00 to her funds.

Signed
Malcolm Linney, Chairman

Continued....

Shilton Flood Defence Group

Cllr Justine Heyworth reported that this group had been in action for 7 years and recognised they are where they are today because of the invaluable help Cllr Verna Hunt has given.

They have now have:

- A location for the upstream bund and agreement with the landowner Mr Harry Metcalfe.
- Tenders are coming in to WODC for costings and work required
- £80k has been granted by the Environmental Agency
- Gardens /fund raising has donated £7k leaving a shortfall of £18k
- Exploring options of how this could be raised i.e. a Loan over a set period of up to 10 years of £18k. With the help of Cllr V Hunt they could secure a loan with a favourable interest rate (0.5%) lower over the timespan of the loan
- This would require householders to pay an extra £0.70 per month over the loan period. SPC to look at other options of repayment.

Question from the floor

I already have concerns on any further increases as the Parish Commissioners office has already projected a 2% increase which will affect every householder with another £100 p.a. raise.

Answer:

The SPC are looking at alternative ways to reduce the impact by various means and will keep the Parish notified.

Question from the floor

Where are we concerning the Village Plan?

Answer: A Neighbourhood Development Plan is being developed which is a more comprehensive community led project and will require parishioner's input as what they consider appropriate. This will replace the village plan and as soon as we have completed the exercise we will publish and circulate.

There being no other business, the Chairman invited everyone to stay for drinks, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Ann Tyldesley, Clerk to the Council
This day of 2014

Signed
Malcolm Linney, Chairman