

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SHRIVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, SHRIVENHAM, ON MONDAY 3rd MARCH 2008**

**PRESENT:** Councillor R Bartle  
Councillor Mrs C Dawson  
Councillor Mrs S Day  
Councillor K Downton  
Councillor C Holman  
Councillor S Howell  
Councillor P Saunders (Chairman)  
Councillor G Tidmarsh  
Councillor B Watson

In attendance Mr D Pratt Clerk to the Council

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Stuart Spencer, Cllr Mrs P Mullin

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS:**

There were none.

**1499 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February were approved and signed subject to the following amendment:

**Minute 1496** delete "a letter".

**1500 MATTERS ARISING**

**1484/1469/1467 High Street Tree:** The Clerk confirmed that the tree had been felled and that he had placed an order to have the stump ground.

**1475 Greengrocer's Van:** Concern was expressed that the greengrocer trading on a Tuesday on the High Street was taking up four spaces. It was questioned whether the street traders licence specified the number of spaces to be occupied. The Clerk will investigate the details of street trader's licence.

**1486 Cyberbus** Clerk confirmed that letters had been sent to both the District and County Council requesting grants. Cllr Howell proposed that once the future of the bus was assured, a formal application be made for new equipment. Cllr Downton believed that Motorola might also be prepared to donate equipment. The Chairman believed there might be further grants available provided it could be proved that the bus was for educational needs. Cllr Holman had the idea that maybe a dual use such as the University of the Third Age using the facility during the day might convince grant providers of the need for the bus.

**1495 Commemorative Boards** The Clerk had not taken this matter further as he was not sure of the measurements and suggested to the meeting that a decision was deferred until such time as the number of names on the board was confirmed.

**1496 Armed Forces Housing** Cllr Bartle had not had sufficient time to compose the letter of support.

**1497 Tree Felling** The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the District Council's Arborist who was of the opinion that without a TPO there was no necessity to obtain

permission to fell the trees in question. There was concern that the Planning Application for Cherry Bungalow, Station Road, stated that no trees were to be felled. The Chairman reminded members that fines of £50,000 would be attracted to anyone who fells a tree protected by a TPO.

#### **1501 ACCOUNTS**

The Accounts paid in January and for payment were approved with the addition of the following:

Travis Perkins	February	Timber	£48.69	2567
----------------	----------	--------	--------	------

#### **1502 BANKING ARRANGEMENTS**

Cllr Mrs Day informed members that Lloyds TSB would be making charges on current accounts. She had investigated both Alliance & Leicester and the Co-Op Bank, and had discovered that only the Co-Op Bank made no charges and paid interest. Paying in could be arranged through the post office thus keeping a connection and using a local facility, and an internet link could provide monthly statements. Cllr Mrs Day proposed and Cllr Mrs Dawson seconded, and it was resolved to move the accounts to the Co-Op Bank.

#### **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL**

##### **1503 STATION ROAD TRAFFIC**

Cllr Bartle and District Cllr Mrs Ware together with local police looked at various methods of slowing the traffic down. However, without any support evidence it was difficult to address the problem. They had been promised that police would carry out speed checks within the next month and also provide the "Smiley Face" equipment. The Clerk confirmed that he had provided the results of the 2003 Traffic Survey which conclusively proved that a great preponderance of traffic broke the speed limit.

##### **1504 FARINGDON ROAD PINCHPOINT**

Cllr Saunders together with Watchfield Councillor Mrs Green had met with a County Council Highways Officer at the pinchpoint at 8.15 one morning. The officer pointed out that the purpose of the pinchpoint was to reduce speed in the village and that it was laid down that priority is given to traffic leaving the village. The traffic on that day had not proved heavy whereas when traffic is diverted from the A420 it can tail back as far as the Watchfield roundabout. The officer pointed out that it would be difficult and expensive to remove the pinchpoint and retain the speedbump. The County would be looking to the Parish Councils to provide funding. Cllr Mrs Green expected Watchfield Council to vote on this issue. The Chairman sounded out members' opinions but there was little support for the removal. Cllr Tidmarsh enquired whether the PCSOs would have the power in an emergency to control traffic through the pinchpoint in order to avoid further tailbacks. Cllr Mrs Dawson noted that police would be aware of any accidents on the A420 and should take actions accordingly. Cllr Holman pointed out that waiting in a traffic queue increased pollution. Cllr Mrs Day had spent as long as 6 minutes to pass through the pinchpoint. The Chairman noted that the majority of traffic was bound for the College through Beckett Gate and that on innumerable occasions he had requested that this gate be closed. Cllr Mrs Dawson informed members that all conference attendees use the main gate. Cllr Tidmarsh wondered whether a change in school times might ease the situation.

##### **1505 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MARTEN'S ROAD CAR PARK** He had met with Mr McCabe regarding the positioning of the entrance gates to Mr McCabe's development and had discovered that the right of Way Agreement specified 4.5 metres to allow no loss of car parking spaces. Unfortunately, the measurement had been taken from the corner of Mr McCabe's plot and not from the Bowls Club Car Park Boundary. In his opinion, provided cars were parked tidily, there would only be the loss of one space. Cllr Mrs Day suggested that the gates to Mr McCabe's properties open inwards, which would provide extra space.

#### **1506 BUS SHELTER**

The Clerk informed members that comments have been received regarding the erection of a bus shelter on Elm Tree Square for bus passengers to shelter on their way to Faringdon and Oxford. Cllr Tidmarsh could understand the need and suggested that by extending the width of the pavement, the proposed bus shelter would be sited on the pavement without the loss of any car parking space. It was proposed that an approach be made to the County Council to ascertain whether grants were available for the provision of bus shelters.

#### **1507 WEBSITE**

Cllr Howell distributed an updated plan of the website. He was extremely pleased that his plea for photographs of the village had produced over 200 photographs. Cllr Howell explained to members how the website would work and proposed a few changes to make the site more user friendly. Several suggestions were put forward by Councillors which will be incorporated in the website design.

Cllr Howell pointed out that the Hall site would be able to list all bookings but it necessitated the Trust to become "a Pay Pal account". He would also like to see a competition with a small prize for the first person to navigate the site successfully. Members agreed to the suggestion. It is hoped that the website will be up and running during April. Cllr Tidmarsh was concerned on any adverse effects to "The News" but pointed out that items sent to the Website could be copied to "The News".

#### **1508 MEETING DATES**

Councillors agreed to meet on the first Monday of every month excepting August, and as the May meeting fell on the Bank Holiday, it was agreed to move the date to Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **1509 SWINDON EXPANSION**

Both Councillors Saunders and Holman had attended a stakeholders meeting for the Swindon East expansion. They have been split into groups and asked to imagine how they would like to see the future of this development. Ideas were put forward with regard to improving local transport and the A420. Further suggestions were put forward that the floodplain around the River Cole be developed into a Water Park. They were both of the opinion that the expansion would go forward and Council must look insist on the creation of a buffer zone on the Wiltshire border. 30% of the proposed development would be affordable housing and the majority of the high-density stock would be built near to the A419. Cllr Bartle enquired whether there had been any discussion regarding service and Cllr Holman replied that this had not been part of their remit. Cllr Mrs Dawson enquired whether S106 money would be available to this side of the border. The Chairman was not hopeful but stated it was worth discussing the matter with the Borough Council. Concern was also expressed that the housing market had slowed down and that there could be difficulty in selling houses on the proposed development. Cllr Holman agreed and noted that the opinion of some of some groups was that the centre of Swindon needs to be totally redeveloped to cope with a development of this size.

#### **1510 PLANNING**

The following were considered during February

13450	7 Claypits Lane	Demolish existing garage and erect garage & store	Currently circulating
-------	-----------------	---	-----------------------

The following planning decisions were received:

20400	6 Townsend Road	Rear 2-storey extension and internal alterations	PERMIT
-------	-----------------	--	--------

The meeting closed at 8.30