

D R A F T

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHRIVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, SHRIVENHAM, ON MONDAY 9th JUNE 2008**

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

In attendance Mr D Pratt Clerk to the Council

APOLOGIES: Cllr Mrs P Mullin, Cllr Stuart Spencer

1539 RECREATION GROUND TRACK

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman, Cllr Tidmarsh and Cllr Mrs Day signed an engrossment allowing the access track to the Recreation Ground off Highworth Road to be shut.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Mr Allen expressed his disappointment at the lack of Councillors attending the Parish Assembly. He was also concerned about a pile of rubbish on the allotment car park area. The eastern grass path had been badly mown, some allotments had not been cultivated and there appeared to be entrances made onto the allotments from both Colton Road and The Green. On one occasion a resident had cut a hole in the hedge and burnt the arisings in a fire on an allotment plot. Cllr Downton had inspected the allotments and had seen the problem with the hedge. The Chairman suggested holding a meeting at the allotments on Thursday 12th June at 9.00 am.

Mr McDonough reported again that the pavement outside 70/72 High Street had not been repaired and water was ponding. He also reported that the hole on the A 420 where a catseye had been removed was becoming dangerous.

Mr Lloyd enquired about the proposed Recreation Ground extension. He was advised that the option had been withdrawn and a new 20-year option was being drawn up with a national house builder. The agent had intimated that there was a likelihood of land being allowed to develop in the latest District Council core strategy. Cllr Saunders had pursued the matter with the planning officers and had been assured that there were no plans to allow development and expand the village.

1540 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th May were approved and signed.

1541 MATTERS ARISING

1523/1512 Marten's Road pavement. Mr John Beaumont from the County Council had suggested meeting on site and the Chairman agreed and asked the Clerk to arrange a date and time.

1523/1512 High Street Businesses It was noted that the proprietor of Rafu's had painted the outside of the restaurant but there had been no responses from the One Stop Shop or Punch Taverns.

1523/1512/1503 Station Road Traffic. The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Thames Valley police stating that they were awaiting a report from the local traffic department.

1523/1512/1506 Bus Shelter. The complaint regarding the water ponding by the bus stop is to be discussed at a meeting with the County Highways inspector.

1523/1517 Stainswick Lane Housing. The Chairman had received a copy of the 106 Agreement with Sovereign Housing and would send a copy via email to the Clerk. The Chairman announced that the building works should be complete in December and that the first houses should be occupied in February.

1525 Vicarage Lane Flooding. Both Councillors Watson and Bartle had observed the flood at the junction of Vicarage Lane and Longcot Road. They were still most concerned that very little seemed to have been done.

1530 Risk Assessment. It had not been possible to arrange a meeting but it is hoped that Cllrs Bartle, Watson and the Clerk would meet during the course of this month.

1536 Marten's Road Car Park. Mr McCabe had given assurances that adequate signage would be installed.

1542 SPEED REACTIVE SIGN

Cllr Bartle reported that this sign was non-active and the Clerk was requested to contact the appropriate authority.

1543 ACCOUNTS

Cheques paid in May and for payment in June were approved.

1544 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL

Stainswick Lane Housing Development. Both the Chairman and Cllr Tidmarsh had met with Sovereign Housing and the builder to make an understanding regarding funerals during the construction period. Both Councillors were impressed with the attitude of the builders who spent time talking with neighbours and assuring them on their concerns. The first tenant is expected to take up occupancy in February. Cllr Watson reported that lorries leaving the site tended to use Stainswick Lane and were depositing mud at the junction with High Street. Cllr Howell agreed and stated that a near accident had been observed when a young child could very easily have been a victim. The Chairman to contact Leadbetters to ask if lorries could use the Fairthorne Way route.

1545 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

1546 VAT REGISTRATION

Cllr Mrs Day had met with the accountant, who had said there were a number of advantages to registering for VAT. It would be possible for the Council to run the website and sell copies of the Shrivenham Book and it was likely that as the Council's VATable turnover was small, HMRC would not require a registration. Cllr Holman thought that the downside would be in making quarterly returns and keeping separate accounts. However, he would look into the matter and report back to the meeting.

1547 SHRIVENHAM UNITED CHARITIES

A letter had been received from the Secretary, Mrs Moss, requesting the Council to re-appoint the existing Trustees. Cllr Tidmarsh was concerned that Council were being asked to do something they knew nothing about. Cllr Saunders was of the opinion that this has been done before. Cllr Tidmarsh proposed that further information be gleaned before the Council endorsed candidates.

1548 SANDHILL TELEPHONE BOX

A request had been received to close the telephone box at the junction of Highworth Road and Stallpits Lane. Without usage figures Councillors felt unable to agree to a closure and the Clerk was instructed to obtain usage figures.

1549 OTTC ACCOUNTS

The accounts for the production of Ain't Misbehavin' were accepted and after some discussion it was agreed to pass the surplus to the May Day sub committee.

1550 TWELVE MONTHS MEETING CALENDAR

The list of meeting dates was accepted.

1551 MINUTES OF PARISH ASSEMBLY

The draft minutes were received.

1552 COPPIDTHORNE MEADOW

Councillors were informed that the District Council were prepared to present and install two picnic benches and a bench. Site positions were agreed and the Clerk was instructed to thank the District Council for their generous gift.

1553 VILLAGE PLAN GROUP

Cllr Howell reported that they were near to finishing the questionnaire for delivery to every house and business in the village. A number of consistent themes had been identified in the "Love it/Hate ti" survey. Cllr Tidmarsh enquired whether there was sufficient information from the survey regarding the appearance of some premises on the High Street. If so, could the attention of the Manager of the One Stop Shop be brought to this matter.

1554 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Sovereign Housing Association were looking for a name for the development. After some discussion members agreed on "Glebe Close".

PLANNING MATTERS

The following were considered during May

4639/2	8A Stallpits Road	2 storey front side extensions	In circulation
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The following planning decisions were received:

11340/81	Building 78 RMCS	Internal alterations	PERMIT
20360/1	Land adjoining 15 Manor Close	Erect single dwelling	PERMIT

1555 Thames Water Draft Water Resources Plan. An invitation was received inviting councillors to a meeting on 21st July. As Cllr Saunders was already attending the meeting, he volunteered to reflect the views of the Parish Council.

1556 Planning Training. Cllr Saunders had recently attended a training event and had some interesting material which he proposed to send to members of the Planning Sub-committee.

1557 New House, Medlar Road. Cllr Mrs Day had reported to the District Council that an access had been created to the new house from Longcot Road. In her opinion, this was dangerous as there was no pavement along this stretch of road and visitors to the house might be tempted to park on Longcot Road close to the 90° bend. Cllr Saunders did not think there would be a problem provided that was no vehicular access to the site and that parking on Longcot Road was a pre-supposition and was not a valid planning condition. Cllr Tidmarsh was concerned that this access had not been shown on the original planning application.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1558 Youth Provision

Cllr Tidmarsh informed the meeting that funding for the Cyberbus leader was coming to an end next year and that an army youth worker from the College would not be replaced. Cllr Howell pointed out the Village Plan Group would look at the matter. Councillors were appreciative of the effort and encouragement given by the various village sports organisations in providing youth training.

1559 Flood Contingency plans

Cllr Howell pointed out that there appeared to be no contingency plan for the “once in a lifetime” type of flood experienced over the last twelve months. The A 420 at Acorn Bridge had been closed to traffic from 3.00 until 12.30 pm the following day. Cllr Saunders was horrified that the A420 was the only major traffic route closed to traffic in the southern region. He had written to our MP asking him to represent our views to the relevant departments. Cllr Tidmarsh enquired whether there was sufficient liaison between the Wiltshire police and Thames Valley police. Cllr Bartle proposed that a meeting be set up with the County Council and the Police to discuss a contingency plan for the future.

1660 Anti-Social Behaviour

Cllr Watson reported that he had witnessed rubbish bins being pushed out of the One-Stop shop yard, and at the same time street litter bins placed on the pedestrian crossing. He had reported the matter to the police and had replaced the bins in their correct position. It was suggested that the One Stop Shop could buy a gate and install a padlock. Members thanked Cllr Watson for his diligent efforts.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.