

D R A F T

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHRIVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, SHRIVENHAM, ON MONDAY 6th OCTOBER 2008**

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

In attendance Mr D Pratt Clerk to the Council

APOLOGIES: Councillors P Saunders, S Howell, S Spencer

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Mrs Painter reported that the Hedge on the property bordering the junction with Stainswick Lane and Fairthorne Way has become severely overgrown and was blocking the pavement. **This will be reported to the County Council.**

In reply to her question regarding the Better Ways to School project (footpath across the Rec) Cllr Mrs Day replied that a shortage of funds meant this project would not go ahead. She had spoken with the Head Teacher who would take the matter up with the County Council. Mrs Painter was not in favour of moving the School Crossing Patrol from the High Street to Highworth Road.

1690 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1ST September were approved and signed

1691 MATTERS ARISING

High St Pavement. The matter was reported to the County

1675/1523/1512/1503 Station Road Traffic. The Clerk reported that a meeting date had not been fixed. A sign saying "kill your speed this is a 30mph limit" at strategic points within the 30mph zone. Had been observed **and it was suggested that the County be asked for information.**

1675/1662/1559 Floods. Cllr Watson reported that to date he had not been able to arrange a meeting with the relevant Authorities. He understood that a meeting had taken place with the house owners in July but was not aware of the outcome. He would continue to press the County to ensure that the storm drains had been cleared. The Chairman thanked Cllr Watson adding that it was important to sort out the responsibilities of each organisation involved in this problem.

1678 Bus Stop. Cllr Downton had attended a further meeting with County Officers and Stagecoach and had been informed that work on extending the path by the Stocks and installing a Bus Shelter would commence within a month. The height of the pavement outside the Barrington would be increased and suitable drainage installed. The Chairman enquired whether the problem with the hole on Elm Tree Square for the Village Christmas tree had been resolved. The Clerk replied that the County were hoping to rectify the situation soon. Cllr Mrs Day was surprised that the hole was considered a "Trip Hazard". The hole had been in place for a very long time and there were worse hazards on the square. Since tarmacing the area by the Bus Stop, a lagoon with an island had been created forcing bus passengers to walk through water to gain the bus stop.

1679 Green Waste. Considerable research and numerous telephone calls had resulted in identifying that Bawdens, the current Grass cutting contractor, would collect and transport green waste from site.

1683 Pump House Green Pathway. Cllrs. Tidmarsh, Bartle and Mullin undertook to look at the Tenders on **14th October** for relaying the Pathway.

1684 Road Signs. Council were informed that the County had a sign-cleaning programme and that a message had been sent requesting a visit to the village. **The actual road name signs are a District responsibility and several signs were in need of attention. Station, Longcot and Townsend Roads required replacing or repainting.** It was suggested that the Village Handyman be asked to cut away vegetation from some road signs. It was also reported that the directional sign to Shrivenham at Hinton Parva was obscured by vegetation.

1692 ACCOUNTS

The accounts were approved. Cllr Downton pointed out the current charges from Tiscali were high and the Clerk was instructed to investigate the situation.

1693 CHRISTMAS STREET LIGHTING: On the proposition of Cllr Tidmarsh seconded by Cllr Downton, it was unanimously resolved to install connections on 7 lamp standards at the eastern end of the High Street to accommodate Christmas lights.

1694 UNITED CHARITIES: Cllrs were circulated with a copy letter from the secretary to the Trust explaining the situation regarding Trustees nominated by the Council. On the Proposition of Cllr Tidmarsh seconded by Cllr Bartle, it was unanimously resolved to approve retrospectively the appointment of the current Trustees.

1695 BOWLS CLUB REQUEST FOR ALLOTMENT ACCESS: On the proposition of Cllr Tidmarsh seconded by Cllr Mrs Day, it was unanimously resolved to allow temporary access through the Allotments to allow removal of a hedge and installation of a fence.

1696 RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION: Council agreed not to continue with their membership of the Ramblers Association as they felt it was of little value to the Village.

1697 ALLOTMENTS: Cllr Bartle had considered the existing documentation and found it to be adequate with the following additions to the Agreement:

Hazardous Substances and Bonfires: He believed that the agreement should state that hazardous substances such as weedkiller should not be dumped and that the policy for bonfires after dusk should be included.

He reminded members that Cllr Spencer had suggested taking a £25 deposit from new plot holders to pay for tidying up should a plot be left in a bad condition. He had also looked at the triangular plot by Marten's Road and believed that it was too small to accommodate compost bins and would probably attract green waste from residents, rather than allotment holders. Cllr Downton enquired whether Cllr Spencer had recommended any particular weedkiller to eradicate Mare's Tail and **it was agreed to contact Cllr Spencer for further information.** Cllr Tidmarsh agreed with the points made by Cllr Bartle and suggested that the wording regarding hazardous chemicals should state that only chemical weedkiller prescribed as "safe" should be used on the allotments. The Chairman reminded members that the unofficial access points to the allotments should be closed for 24 hours and he proposed that January was the most appropriate month.

1698 VILLAGE PLAN GROUP: Cllr Watson had become Chairman of this group whilst Cllr Howell had other more pressing duties. He informed members that a small group had put

together a questionnaire for circulation and that it should be distributed on the weekend of 18th October by Scouts and collected by Group members the following weekend. Once responses had been collected, a spreadsheet would be drawn up, helping to produce the plan which he hoped would be ready in two to three months. Cllr Mullin added that a separate questionnaire was to be sent out to businesses and organisations. Cllr Howell had sent a message suggesting that councillors survey the village streets and report any properties where hedges were overhanging the pavement. He suggested that the village be divided into areas for individual councillors but it was eventually agreed that councillors would report back to the next meeting on any offending hedges.

1699 PLANNING MATTERS

The minutes of the Planning Sub committee held on 25th September were approved. The Chairman congratulated Cllr Tidmarsh on his election as Chairman of the Sub-committee. Cllr Tidmarsh expanded the sub-committee minute on the Sandy Lane development, explaining that the sub-committee were treating the two applications as one and pointing out that 40% of the development should be Affordable Housing.

The following were considered during September

19548/2	Land to rear and west of 6 Stainswick Lane	Erect 3 dwellings	No objections but request for S106 monies
19080/1-X	Land off Sandy Lane	Erect 9 dwellings	No objections but request Affordable Housing and S106 monies
08/01343	13 Vicarage Lane	Demolish existing single storey extension and erect two storey extension	No objections
134871	40 High Street	Conversion of outside store to bathroom for disabled access	No objections
8379/5	Recreation Ground	Erect single dwelling	No objections but request S106 for amenities.

The following planning decisions were received:

20596	2 Townend Road	Demolish existing single storey extension and erect 2-storey extension	REFUSE
8067/1	13 Friars Close	Alterations and extensions to garage etc	PERMIT
20248/2	10 Townsend Road	Erect timber office	PERMIT
08/01318	Fat Dog	1st floor extension	WITHDRAWN

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1700 Village Map

Members were shown examples of a village map prepared by Haddenham Parish Council and distributed free of charge. Members were quite impressed and were informed by Cllr Tidmarsh that Mr Belk had produced a stylised map some years ago. He suggested that with alterations

this could be the basis of a similar project. Cllr Mrs Dawson questioned the need for this map as it was fairly simple to look on the Web.

1701 District Council Matters

Cllr Bartle had read that the forthcoming amalgamation of South Oxfordshire and the Vale would seek tenders for fortnightly rubbish collections as from 2010. He was thoroughly opposed to this proposal as he believed this was a health hazard. **The Chairman suggested that District Cllrs Ware or Saunders be invited to attend the December meeting to provide further information.**

1702 Travellers Site Occupation

Cllr Bartle had been informed that the village of Minety had fought a losing battle over the last five years to block travellers occupying a site in the village. He warned members that this was a possible scenario for the land on the way to Kingston Beauchamp. Cllr Mrs Day was of the opinion that the current High Court Injunction was sufficient to deter occupation of that particular site. The Chairman agreed but urged councillors to remain vigilant.

1703 Day's Ground Footpath Cllr Tidmarsh had received a complaint regarding litter and poor maintenance on this section of footpath. The Clerk had previously reported this matter to the Defence Academy and would **repeat his email to draw attention to this problem.**

1704 Fair Trade

Cllr Tidmarsh drew members' attention to the letter to be discussed at the Trust meeting. The letter had asked Council to consider including the Fair Trade logo on the letter heading. Cllr Mrs Day enquired whether events organised by the Parish Council would be required to use Fair Trade products and in particular the Annual Village dinner. Cllr Bartle was not impressed with the wine served at the last dinner but Cllr Tidmarsh was not aware of any complaints at his table. Cllr Bartle posed the question that if functions had a preference for a wine of a particular country, such as France, what would be the Council's official position? Cllr Tidmarsh did not believe that there would be a problem over products from Europe or Australia and New Zealand. Cllr Watson suggested that there should be a wine tasting whilst the Chairman could not see any point in participating in a Fair Trade Zone if the Council did not set an example. He proposed that, wherever possible, Fair Trade Products would be used. Cllr Dawson proposed that Cllr Tidmarsh email members with a list of Fair Trade wines he believed were of a good quality. With regard to including a Fair Trade logo on the letterhead, Cllr Mrs Day believed it was sufficient to have a certificate displayed in the Hall, whilst Cllr Watson suggested that Fair Trade be included on the village website. The Chairman agreed, adding that a Fair Trade page could be included. Cllr Tidmarsh explained that the Fair Trade Zone status was achieved using a minimum level of Fair Trade goods and that this standard should be expanded as time progresses. He would prepare a submission for the next meeting.

The meeting finished at 8.35.