

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHRIVENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, SHRIVENHAM
ON MONDAY 1ST MARCH 2010**

PRESENT:

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

In attendance Mr D Pratt Clerk

PRESENTATION

Mr David Quayle of Hodsons Solicitors gave a short presentation on the services offered by his Company to Town and Parish Councils. Mr Quayle has a background in Local council work as he was for a number of years the District Secretary to The Vale of White Horse District Council. The Chairman thanked him for the presentation and reminded Councillors that a further presentation would be given to Councillors prior to the start of the April Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Mr McDonagh reported that the Minutes as posted on the web were wrong in that there were two copies of the January Minutes and not one for December. Cllr Howell and the Clerk will look into the matter.

1959: MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 1st February were approved and signed.

1960: MATTERS ARISING.

1948: High Street 20 mph speed limit. Confirmation of a meeting date with County officials was awaited.

1948: Townsend Road Light. The Clerk reported that the trees had been cut back but Cllr Mrs Mullin pointed out that until the hedge was cut back, the full benefit of the light would not be seen.

1948/1930/1914/1900/1882/1867/1855. VAS speed sign. The Clerk reported that the sign was now in position.

1948/1930/1914/1900/1882: Unauthorised sign, Rafu's Restaurant. The sign had reappeared and would be reported to the District enforcement officer.

1948/1938: Bugs Alley Lighting: There was no further contact from OCC but Cllr Tidmarsh reminded the meeting that the one objection to the proposal was against an additional light where as the proposal was to move the light to a more central position.

1948/1941 Acorn Centre: The Chairman had attended a meeting at which it was soon obvious that a £35,000 deficit in funding could not be found from local sources. However, he was hopeful that a monthly meeting of a newly formed Acorn Club would be established to run on the third Tuesday of each month. He would represent the Council on a committee to ensure the project came to fruition.

1961: ACCOUNTS: The Accounts for February and for payment in March were approved

1962: ORGANISATION AND FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Cllr Bartle introduced this item by asking Councillors to consider whether the Committee should continue and if so as a Committee or a Working Group. As a Committee, the meetings should be open to the Public and advertised by publishing an Agenda. He gave a précis of the minutes regarding the future relationship between the existing Village Plan Group and the Council. The Committee had agreed that should a new Committee be formed, the make up should be four Councillors plus two or three co-opted members. This Committee would go through the Plan and identify sensitive issues for further consideration by full Council but non contentious issues would be the responsibility of the Committee to authorise action. With regard to possible Office re-organisation, it had been decided to leave this matter until such time as Mr Anderson had been in post for a while.

The Committee were in accord that Council should look seriously at installing a Computerised Burial record system together with a digital map to replace the existing faded and torn map. He pointed out that there were a number of Companies who specialised in this field and that the O & F Committee could take some weight from the Council by receiving presentations from interested Companies and making a recommendation to Council.

The Chairman thanked the Committee for their work on Budgets and the appointment of the new Clerk.

Cllr Mrs Day pointed out that the existing Committee had no delegated powers and that as a working group, they could exist to investigate and make recommendations on various subjects of interest to Council. Cllr Watson agreed stating there was no need for this Committee to meet regularly but that ad hoc meetings could be called as and when required. Otherwise, Council could find itself bogged down with presentations and investigative procedures. Cllr Bartle reminded members that when recommending the Budget for this year, they had been unable to find sufficient funding to commence a building a contingency fund and that this was work in progress. Cllr Spencer agreed although he had been shocked when it had been floated that the Committee could be disbanded as in his opinion there was still work for the Committee. Several Councillors were unsure as to the exclusivity of the Committee and felt that full information should be supplied to all Councillors whether by presentation or written information. Cllr Tidmarsh was of the opinion that it was easy to form a committee as and when

required and should councillors be interested in a subject, they should be allowed to attend Committee meetings. He was fully in favour of computerising the Burial records as he had seen two examples at a recent Conference. Cllr Downton was also in favour of computerised records but wanted presentations to be made to full Council. Cllr Mrs Mullin also expressed doubts concerning the Committee method. The Chairman proposed that all future meeting Agendas would be circulated to all members in good time and that if members wanted to be involved in a particular subject, a special meeting would be called. Cllr Tidmarsh was concerned that Councillors had sufficient time to look at the estimates and requested that future budget estimates be circulated well in advance of the Council meeting. Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Watson proposed and it was **resolved: that the O & F Committee be named the Organisation and Finance Working Group.** Cllr Watson requested that the Village Plan Group be appraised of Council's position with regard to the future of the Group and that the O & F Working Group meet as soon after the Community led Planning event on March 6th. Cllr Bartle proposed and it was agreed that the meeting be held on **Monday March 15th at 7.30pm** and that Council would debate the recommendation at its April meeting.

The meeting went on to consider the situation of both the Planning and May Day Committees and it was unanimously agreed to change the May Day Committee to a Working Group and to debate the standing of the **Planning Committee at the April meeting.**

1963: GRASS CUTTING TENDERS: The tendering group had seen seven tenders and recommended SCS as the Contractors for this season. Cllr Bartle proposed, seconded by Cllr Saunders and it was resolved to award the **Grass Cutting Contract to Messrs SCS Ltd.**

1964: RISK ASSESSMENT: Councillors considered the existing Risk Assessment and agreed to it without amendment.

1965: VILLAGE DINNER ACCOUNTS: Councillors received the Accounts and agreed to donate the surplus £29. 02 to the May Day Working group.

1966: MAY DAY COMMITTEE MINUTES. The minutes were accepted and Cllr Downton proposed that Ed Vaizey be approached to be next years guest Speaker. **Cllr Saunders agreed to contact Mr Vaizey.**

1967: HIGHWAY MATTERS: An e-mail had been received concerning the additional heavy traffic generated by the housing development off Sandy Lane and the noise of the vehicles negotiating the mini roundabout at the junction of the High Street and Longcot Road. Councillors considered that as this was short term and would cease once the development was finished. Cllr Tidmarsh requested that the state of the B4000 both on Station Road and Highworth Road be reported to the Highways department.

1968: PLANNING MATTERS

The following applications were received

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115/16	Swan Hill Garage	Renewal of outline consent for 3	No objections
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		dwelling	
19619/2	17 Highworth Road	Extend planning permission for 2 detached dwellings	No objections
16622/1	Crown Inn	Change of use from Restaurant Café to A4 drinking establishment	No objections
16861/1	Sandhill Farm Highworth Road	Barn conversion and alterations to annexe	No objections

The following decisions were received

13450/2	7 Claypits Lane	Demolition of garage & store. Erect new garage & store	REFUSE
2573/3	Swan Hill Garage	Demolition of garage & construction of three dwellings	WITHDRAWN
10333/3	31 Vicarage Lane	Conversion & extension of garage to form granny annexe	WITHDRAWN

CORE STRATEGY RESPONSE: Cllr Tidmarsh briefly outlined his response to the District Council stating he had incorporated those points where there had been unanimity of opinion from Councillors. The Chairman thanked him.

AOB

1969: ANNUAL LITTER PICK: Both Councillor Spencer and Dawson presented to Council the idea of a combined Council and Guides event. After some consideration as to dates, it was agreed to enquire as to the availability of equipment from the District Council through Colin Marshall, and failing that for Cllrs Spencer and Holman to make enquiries regarding Council purchase of equipment. The date agreed was March 20th. Several Councillors commented on the poor state of the A420 which had previously been reported to the County and the Clerk was instructed to follow this matter up.

1970: ADDING YEARS TO LIFE SHOWCASE: Cllr Watson sought a Council contribution to enable a showcase to be mounted in the Hall in July. On the proposition of Cllr Spencer seconded by Cllr Saunders, it was unanimously agreed to support the event to maximum of £50.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm