

**SHIMPLING PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**AN ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD
ON MONDAY 12th MAY 2008 at 7.30pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present Chairman: Mr. K. Durant.
Councillors: Mr. K. Deeks, Mrs B. Jackson, Mr R. Rush, Mrs. S. Salmon
and Mr G. Shrimpton.

In attendance: Clerk: Mr C. Pugh.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor R. Kemp and District Councillor J. Long.
2. **Election of Officers.** Mr Durant was proposed as Chairman by Mr. Shrimpton and seconded by Mrs Jackson There being no other nominations Mr Durant was duly elected and signed the Declaration of Acceptance. Mr Rush was proposed as Vice-Chairman by Mr Shrimpton and seconded by Mr Deeks. Again there being no other nominations Mr Rush was duly elected.
3. **Register of Interests.** All Councillors present confirmed that there were no changes in their interests as previously recorded.
4. **The Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 3rd March 2008 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising.** There were no matters arising from the minutes.
6. **Police Matters:** There was no representative from the Police and no crime report had been received.
7. **Finance:** From the 29th April Cash book reconciliation the Treasurer's A/C stood at £287.61 and the Business A/C stood at £2560.01 giving a balance of £2847.62. A subsequent cheque to Nat. Assoc. Local Councils for £17 gave a current balance of £2830.62.

Monies received since the last meeting were: -

Interest on the Business A/c	8.00
VAT Refund	320.64
Precept 1 st Half	<u>1800.00</u>
	2128.64

Cheques approved and signed since the last meeting were :-

432 Rush Farms – Hedge Plants	84.60
433 Sarah Smith – Newsletter production	143.95
435 Clerk's Remuneration & Admin/Stationary	608.91
436 Suffolk Acre – V.H. insurance renewal	407.72
437 HSD Ltd – V.H. Baby Changer Unit	177.21
438 Lark Valley – Grass Cutting Footpaths	200.94
439 NALC – Subscription for Bulletin trial	<u>17.00</u>
	1639.93

An inflow of £488.71 to 12th May 2008.

(ii) The annual accounts had been completed and circulated to all members but have yet to be audited, they will therefore be signed at the next meeting.

(iii) Annual Return – Governance Statement 2008. Copies of the statement had been circulated to all members to read and all members present agreed, and resolved, that the answer to each section should be 'Yes'

8. Planning:

- (i) The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's response to the revised application for an extension to the rear of Cromwell House had indicated it's approval but requested that if granted it be conditioned to exclude any vehicles parking on the road during the construction period or leaving dirt on the road.
- (ii) The application for an extension to the side of Gate Fields Farm Barn had been refused mainly because the proposal would result in an overly domesticated form that would detract from the character and form of the converted barn.

9. Correspondence:

- (i) Boundary Committee Review – Although this item had been mentioned and discussed at length at the earlier Annual Parish meeting the members felt that they did not have sufficient detail to understand what effect the proposals would have on the parish or the future of parish councils. The Chairman agreed to try to obtain and circulate some more detailed information before formulating a response.
- (ii) BT Telephone Box Removal – three years after its previous attempt to remove the only telephone box in Shimpling the BT have now listed it amongst the 43 phone boxes throughout Babergh that are due to be removed through lack of use. The Council agreed that it should make strong representation to Babergh that the box should be retained for a number of reasons not least its use in cases of emergency.
- (iii) The Clerk read out details of a questionnaire from Babergh, that had been received and answered, asking for details of the services and facilities available in Shimpling.
- (iv) Requests for donations had been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau and West Suffolk Assoc. for the Blind. It was agreed to respond to both on the basis of being filed with others for consideration later.
- (v) The Suffolk PCSO Pilot – The members were advised that a pilot scheme was being introduced to improve the number of PCSO's, available for special consignments to towns/villages with a particular problem, providing the Council concerned were prepared to meet 50% of the cost. However this Council were more concerned that PCSO/police representatives had attended only one of its meetings in two years.

10. Matters for discussion:

- (i) Revised Administration Procedures – The Clerk tabled the revised Administration Procedures dated April 2008 that had been issued to all members. Mrs Salmon proposed and Mr Rush seconded the proposal that they be approved and formally adopted.
- (ii) Affordable Homes – Following his initial statement at the earlier Parish Meeting the Chairman outlined the purpose of the 'Local Homes for Local People Day' seminar that he and the Clerk had attended. After discussion it was concluded that a survey was probably needed in order to ascertain whether or not there actually was a need for more Affordable Homes in Shimpling. It was decided to ask for representatives of Babergh's Housing Panel and the Rural Housing Enabling Service at Suffolk Acre to attend the next Council meeting in July.

11. Date of the next meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 7th July 2008 at 7.30pm.

As there was no other business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.