

Meeting of Shimpling Parish Council

Tuesday 31st May 2016

Shimpling Village Hall, 8.30pm

MINUTES

Present:

Chair: John Pawsey

Councillors: Ken Rush, Sue Salmon, Jackie Saunders, Gerry Shrimpton

District Councillor: James Long

County Councillor: Richard Kemp

Clerk: Jenny O'Reilly-Turner

1. Apologies for absence - no councillors were absent

2. Disclosure of Members' Interests:

2.1. John Pawsey disclosed interests in land on Gents Lane which is subject to the planning application currently being made. He stated that he would leave the meeting at the commencement of discussions and voting on any planning related matters and this was accepted by the Council.

3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council) held on 23rd May 2016 were accepted by the Council and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Public Participation

No matters were raised by any members of the public present.

4. Clerk's Financial Report

4.1. Following the discovery of an error in the financial recording for the year 2015/16 in the recording of un-presented cheques at the end of the previous financial year 2014/15, it was agreed that the consideration and approval of all audit documentation would be adjourned so that the issues could be investigated and full and correct documentation presented for subsequent approval at a later meeting.

4.2. For the same reasons as given above for agenda point 4.1 above, it was felt that the consideration and final approval of the budget for 2016/17 should be adjourned to a later date.

4.3. The financial report presented by the Clerk together with supporting documentation, invoices, cheque stubs and bank statements were approved by Council and signed by the Chair.

- 4.4. The sum of £1,500 for Village Hall matters was reserved for the current financial year 2016/17.
- 4.5. The total sum of £200 for donations under section 137 for the financial year was authorised.
- 4.6. Payment to CAS Business Services for Village Hall insurance of £531.08 was approved and the relevant documentation signed.
- 4.7. Payment to C Warmer for the VAT (reclaimable) on playground fencing of £866.60 was approved. Further payment of the balance of the playground fencing will be made once the remaining s106 funds are received from Babergh District Council.
- 4.8. The price list provided by Lark Valley Landscapes Ltd for 2016/17 was accepted for the continuation of provision of gardening and maintenance services. It was however noted that in accordance with current Financial Regulations and transparency and auditing rules, the process of tender for all contracts, including the current one, must be opened up in the future. It was agreed that the Council would begin to consider which contracts a tender process would apply to in October 2016 and ensure that the relevant provisions and regulations are complied with.

5. District Councillor's report - James Long had already given an extensive report at the Annual Parish Meeting held earlier in the evening.

6. County Councillor Report - Richard Kemp had already given an extensive report at the Annual Parish Meeting held earlier in the evening.

7. Correspondence received:

- 7.1. **Armed Forces Day:** It was felt that there were already many events being held to celebrate Armed Forces Day on 23rd June, particularly in Bury St Edmunds, therefore there would be no particular event to be held Shimpling, but that parishioners were reminded that they could choose to fly a flag from their own property if they so wished. There was no need for the PC to purchase any flags.

8. Matters arising (requiring a Council decision to be made):

- 8.1. **Replacement / fixing of rear door to Village Hall.** It was resolved that John Pawsey would speak to the Village Hall Committee to inform them that it ought to be their responsibility to arrange for fixing of the door.

9. Clerk's Report (for information only; no decision or resolutions required):

9.1. Playground

9.1.1. Cable ties around trees - John Pawsey confirmed that he would arrange for these to be clipped back

9.1.2. Playground fencing - this is now all in place together with 2 smaller pedestrian access gates and a larger emergency vehicle access gate. It should now be much clearer that dogs and standard vehicles are not to enter the play area.

9.1.3. Expenditure for replacement of various playground items - some of the items that needed fixing have been moved e.g. bicycle stands, litter bin pole etc so Clerk will

look into what still needs to be ordered (e.g. nut covers) and arrange for this to take place.

9.2.Scheduling of the Spring Clean - it was noted that this had been raised at the Annual Parish Meeting earlier in the evening and that it was regrettable that it was not possible due to other PC governance priorities earlier in the Spring to compete this, but that planning for it for 2016/17 would be scheduled from January so that it could take place before the verges and daffodils start to grow.

9.3.Parking on grassed area/playground area and pavements of Halifax Place - it was noted that the resident appeared to have sold the camper van and is no longer parking a car on the grassed area in front of the play area, therefore at this stage, as far as PC land around the playground is concerned, there is no need for any further action. It was however noted that the status of the pavement and its use as a parking area may need to be resolved and the Clerk will look into this for a future meeting. It was also noted that it would be prudent to issue a general reminder to all residents in Halifax Place that use of the grassed area for parking is not permitted, even if there is now fencing surrounding the playground.

9.4.Update on BT correspondence about installation of telephone poles in Gents Lane - it was noted that no update had been received from BT about the issue therefore the PC would write as agreed at the last meeting to determine why poles were erected on Gents Lane.

10. Planning - John Pawsey left the meeting and Jackie Saunders was elected to chair the discussions and voting on planning matters.

10.1. The Dovedshed - This application had previously been circulated to Councillors by email and it was confirmed at the meeting that there were no comments to submit so this was communicated to Babergh.

10.2. Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment - Documents previously circulated to Councillors tended to indicate that Babergh may have been using out of date information about the area in question, e.g. on extent of ownership, therefore it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Babergh and ask for more details or proposals on the current allocation in Shimpling with a view perhaps where appropriate for someone handling the SHLAA to give a presentation to the Council with more information than that currently available on the proposals, particularly in light of prospective planning applications in a similar area on Gents Lane.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.