



5	<p><b><u>Clerk's Report</u></b></p> <p>In addition to her report, the Clerk noted;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCC Highways have asked STC to confirm that they support the cutting down of the Leylandii trees on Darlingscote Road, Cllr F Ivens proposed that STC support the felling of the trees, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – <b>vote – 10 for, 1 against, 1 abstention – motion carried</b></li> <li>• Information received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AMT Report on business confidence in Shipston</li> <li>• Booklet on sustainable communities</li> <li>• NALC Booklet – “What next for Localism”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Clerk apologised to those people who had been offended by the lack of the Union Flag flying from the Council Building on Remembrance Sunday – further explaining that there was no excuse for this omission, it had been an oversight and that every endeavour would be made to ensure that this did not happen in the future.</li> <li>• The changes recommended by GPWG on the modifications to Sheep Street road layout have been agreed by highways.</li> <li>• The Customer Access Terminal should be installed by first week of December</li> <li>• STC Cllrs need to complete a dispensation request form to enable them to vote on the precept at the December meeting</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b><u>Town Councillors</u></b></p> <p><b>Cllr. Murphy</b> – had attended finance, communication and Community Forum agenda meetings throughout the month. Cllr. Murphy also reported on other civic events that she attended; the Arts &amp; Community Festival at the Townsend Hall, the Tapestry exhibition at Compton Verney, the ever popular French Market in Shipston, the Centenary Town Band Concert, a Drum Head Service held in Whitnash and finally the Remembrance Service at St. Edmund's which was well attended by the residents of the town. Cllr. Murphy had received complaints of various pot holes in Queen's Avenue; these have already been reported to Jeff Morris at Highways by the clerk.</p> <p><b>Cllr. A. Ivens</b> – attended the General Purpose Working Group meeting and accompanied the Mayor to various functions. Cllr. Ivens is monitoring the state of the play area at Mayo Road daily due to the recent heavy rain fall and is closing the area if unsafe to use.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Wildish</b> – noted that he had offered Shipston High School his assistance with their future development plans and asked STC if they would be happy to send a letter of support to the school. The clerk will liaise with the head teacher to offer the school STC support as appropriate.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Jelf</b> – had attended the Neighbourhood Plan launch, planning meetings and the Arts Festival at the Townsend Hall.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Healey</b> – reported on attending a General Purpose meeting and an interesting Planning Training Day. Cllr. Healey joined fellow councillors at the Remembrance Service on Sunday.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Trapp</b> – reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received requests from local residents on the possibility of a one way system in Old Road. It was noted that this project has been discussed on a number of previous occasions, however Cllr. Saint offered to look into the matter again.</li> <li>• On flooding on the Darlingscote Road/Fosseway crossroads. Cllr. Saint informed the council that he has already communicated with Jeff Morris on this issue who has implied that flooding in this area is due to water draining from the fields.</li> <li>• That while walking in Tilemans Lane had narrowly escaped injury by a bus driving too close to the footpath. Cllr. Cooper suggested writing to the bus company asking them to take more care on this stretch of road. Cllr. Trapp and other councillors are concerned of the potential dangers from the continued parking of cars in this area when parents drop their children off for school.</li> <li>• Having recently moved into an Orbit home, Cllr. Trapp was surprised at the incorrect information given in her 'welcome pack' on local amenities. Cllr Trapp will write to Orbit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cllr. Rathkey</b> – had attended a meeting with Mr Peter Yates the acting planning officer at SDC but remained unconvinced of the benefits of his input. Cllr. Rathkey took the opportunity to pass on his congratulations to Cllr. Alan Noyce who has recently married Mrs Pat Cox and wished them both the very best for the future.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Munden</b> – reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Had been asked by a resident when the new Queens Avenue play area would be completed. Cllr. Vial noted that although some funds had been raised the group were still a long way off reaching their goal.</li> <li>• Cllr. Munden again raised the issue of flooding on the Stratford Road. Cllr. Saint observed that this could be due to a blocked culvert and that STC should contact Mr Nigel Chetwin. It was agreed that the GPWG would do a further report on the matter.</li> <li>• A broken sign in Donnington Rd, opposite the Medical Centre. Clerk will report to Jeff Morris.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cllr. Warner</b> – reported:</p>	

- A second bench in the Sensory Garden is broken and asked if it could be repaired.
- Her thanks and congratulations to all who attended and helped on Saturday's 'Think Pink' coffee morning - £980 was raised for breast cancer.
- Sandra Benfield, Charity shop in Church Street asked that STC pass on her thanks to Fred Holtom who swept outside St Edmunds and surrounding area for Remembrance Sunday.
- Raised concerns of flooding on the Brailes/Barcheston Road. Cllr. Healey noted that this could be due to a blocked culvert in an adjacent field. Clerk will contact Jeff Morris to investigate.

**Cllr. Cooper** – Enquired if the removal of some street lights in the town is linked with the proposed turning off of lights during the night. Cllr. Saint thought not as there is a replacement process taking place and was unaware of the removal of lights. The town clerk will email Cllr. Saint with a list of lights that have been removed around the town. Cllr. Cooper would like to see new lights replaced with LED bulbs to help reduce running costs.

**Cllr. Vial** – attended a planning meeting and the meeting with Mr Peter Yates, who has arranged a training session to be held at New Clark House on Monday 19<sup>th</sup>. Cllr. Vial passed on his thanks to Georgina Beaumont, the town clerk for organising the road closure for Remembrance Sunday and informed the council that Rev Jill Tucker has launched a food bank at St Edmund's taking place on Wednesday mornings 10.00am to 12 noon.

**Cllr. Fay Ivens** – reported on the various events she had attended during the previous month.

- delighted to be invited to present the trophies at the Shipston in Bloom annual presentation evening; she thanked the committee and helpers for the tireless work they do to make beautiful floral displays around the town.
- attended the "Bake Off" at Shipston Primary School and judged the sensational results, she is looking forward to returning to the school later this month for a series of "Meet the Mayor" sessions.
- The Town Band Centenary Concert – a wonderful occasion, with superb music from their repertoire and a finale by the Junior Band.
- Bonfire and Fireworks at Shipston Sports Club – privileged to have lit the bonfire
- Remembrance Sunday – along with other STC cllrs joined the parade to church, was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of STC and townspeople.
- Also represented Shipston at: Judicial Service of the High Sheriff; Civic Service of Leamington; Drum Head Service at Whitnash; Southam Civic and SDC's Civic Dinners.

### **County Council**

**CC – Cllr. Saint** – reported:

- The missing 'footprints' to the Primary School in Tileman's Lane are on order. Cllr. Saint apologised to the Mayor for the delay.
- CC Broadband roll-out is planned for Autumn 2014/Spring 2015.
- Changes to the bus service 50 have been made. There will now be four buses (previously 6), each Sunday, direct to Oxford and back. There are no changes to the 50A service to Brailes and Banbury.
- County councillors will have the opportunity to apply for funding for local projects in January; the one way system in Old Road could be suggested.
- Councillor Community Fund applications will be looked at next week.

### **District Council**

**SDC – Cllr. Cheney** – reported:

- Was grateful to Peter Yates for meeting with STC and for arranging the training session.
- Pleased that STC is going ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan, a worthwhile project.
- Following Cllr. Warner's request the street lights in Mill Street Car Park are now working.
- The recent decision for the Shottery planning application may go to appeal; district planning issues will be discussed at a full council meeting next week.
- Planning applications going to committee; land west of Hornsby Close 18<sup>th</sup> Dec, Cala Homes February 2013. The ASL application has been amended and consultants are currently assessing the retail impact on the town.
- Enquired if there is a flood warning system in place for Mill Street? The town clerk noted that weather updates were not coming through as frequently as they were.
- Pleased to announce that the youth club is thriving and hopes that STC will support their application for a grant for next year.

### **Shipston Forum**

**Forum Editor reported:**

The December issue will include a review of the year and an update on the Neighbourhood plan

8

**Open Forum for Parishioners**

Martin Ferrier read out a pre-prepared statement on his views on the future development of the town and the importance of sustainability. (See copy of notes at end of minutes). Cllrs congratulated Mr. Ferrier on his reasoned argument and briefly discussed the content.

10

**Planning Matters**

Cllr Vial informed the meeting that notes from the Banner Homes meeting would be available before the next meeting. The Planning Group met with the landowner and a representative of Banner Homes, the developer. The land owner noted that 66 homes were planned for the site, adjacent to Oldbutt Road. Should the application be successful the land owner hoped to support a walkway next to the river. He further stated that no application would be made until the NP process had been completed.

- **NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – discussed at Planning Working Group meeting  
*The first 5 applications discussed by the Planning Working Group actioned using standing order: Section 3b(xv)*  
12/01905/FUL & 12/01906/LBC – 38 Sheep Street – partial demolition of a curtilage listed outbuilding & construction of 2-storey element, to create a one bed dwelling - **Amendment** – response date 30/Oct  
**Recommendation: Object on grounds previously given, also support objections given by conservation officer**  
12/02386/FUL – Clark House, Sheep Street – change of use from B1 to mixed use B1/A1  
**Recommendation: Support on the grounds of improving business and employment opportunities as per the Town Plan**  
Cllr Vial proposed that the above decisions be confirmed, seconded Cllr Trapp – **vote – 11 for, 1 abstention – motion carried**
- **ADDITIONAL NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS**  
12/02506/FUL – 16 Stratford Rd – single store rear flat roof ext. to replace existing, remove tree and chimney – to be discussed following the Planning Training on 19<sup>th</sup> November  
12/02552/TREE – 4 Church Street – T1 Corkscrew Willow – prune and re-shape  
Cllr Vial proposed no representation, seconded Cllr Jelf – **unanimously agreed**
- **PLANNING DECISIONS BY DISTRICT OR COUNTY COUNCIL**  
12/01861/LBC – London Hse, 17 High St – change of use office to res. – consent with conditions  
12/01829/FUL - London Hse, 17 High St – change of use office to res. – perm. with conditions  
12/01842/FUL – 19 Callaways Rd – 1<sup>st</sup> floor extension – Permission with conditions  
12/01896/FUL – 8 Torigni Avenue – conservatory to rear – Permission with conditions  
12/02016/FUL – 10 Pound Close – single storey front extension – Permission with conditions
- **PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFERRED TO PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
11/02380/OUT - Norgren site – Planning Inspector Appeal – 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. venue to be confirmed  
Further comments were discussed, including: re-affirming previous objections; supporting the SDC objections; the environmental impact; opportunities for jobs and business. Cllr Cooper proposed that the above comments be added to previous objections, seconded Cllr Rathkey – **vote – 6 for, 4 against, 2 abstentions – motion carried**  
Cllr Cooper noted that a local group were hoping to engage the services of a planning consultant and recommended that STC support this with funding, following discussion Cllr Cooper proposed that STC support the use of a planning consultant with funding, no seconder – motion failed.  
12/00793/OUT - Land West of Hornsby Close – 18/Dec/2012, 10 am at Elizabeth House  
Following discussion, and noting that a six month period had passed since the previous vote on a response to this application, Cllr Vial proposed that STC put forward the following objections: Proximity to Rugby Club and Nursery, which may cause light and noise pollution, if new neighbours complain it could impact on the future of the rugby club, which is a vital asset to the community; concerns about the height of buildings; **vote – 8 for, 4 abstentions – motion carried** Cllr Rathkey agreed to attend the planning meeting to put forward the objections.

10

**General Purposes Working Group**

In Cllr Noyce's absence, Cllr F Ivens introduced the GPWG report:

1. Cllr F Ivens proposed that installation of two new seats in the High Street be added to the GPWG wish list for the 2013-2014 precept, seconded Cllr Vial – **vote – 11 for, 1 abstention – motion carried**
2. Cllr Healey is investigating water run off from Shoulderway Lane allotments into adjacent land.
3. Noticeboard for New Clark House – Cllr A Ivens noted that there is a new unused noticeboard in STC storage, it is hoped that this can be used, in preference to the purchase of a new board
4. GPWG reported that sand bins have been purchased for the storage of sand to be used for sand bags in case of flooding.
5. Following a site visit to Mayo Road play area, GPWG will ensure that the grassed play area is fenced off with temporary orange fencing with appropriate signage when flooded. The play area will be closed and padlocked if deemed unsafe due to large puddles, also with appropriate signage. The area is being monitored on a daily basis for safety reasons.

11

**Communications Working Group**

The Communications meeting had been cancelled – a further meeting has been planned to discuss the submission of bids for the Forum and Website

12

**Finance Working Group**

Cllr. Cooper went through the FWG Reported:

- It was noted that the Internal Audit Report had been received and would be reviewed by FWG
- The precept timetable has been issued to councillors
- Accounting software – Cllr Cooper proposed that the current software be renewed for a further year, seconded Cllr Vial – **unanimously agreed**

13

**Financial Matters**

Cllr F Ivens proposed that all invoices be paid, seconded Cllr. Murphy – **unanimously agreed**

14

**Correspondence**

No matters raised

Cllr. F Ivens proposed that standing orders be suspended and the meeting closed to public and press in order to discuss confidential staffing matters, seconded Cllr. Trapp – **unanimously agreed**

15

**Staffing Group**

Cllr Rathkey, Chair of Staffing Group updated cllrs on a confidential staffing matter – not reported in these minutes.

Cllr Vial proposed that the staffing group recommendation (confidential) be accepted, seconded Cllr. Trapp – **vote – 6 for, 5 abstentions – motion carried**

**Finale**

The Town Mayor noted that the next meeting will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 in New Clark House commencing at 7.00 pm.

The Town Mayor thanked fellow councillors, press and public for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10.10 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Councillor Mrs F Ivens  
Town Mayor  
Shipston on Stour Town Council

Extract from Martin Ferrier's statement

Madam Mayor

I've been reading a lot about the Shottery planning decision. I believe there are issues in the inspectors report which affect Shipston.

The District Council does not appear to have a draft core strategy which stands up to appeal by developers because it is inconsistent with the National Planning Policy Framework.

The appeals inspector says the District Councils plan for 8,000 dwellings for the period 2008-2028 is under called by a third. That means 3-4,000 more houses will be needed to satisfy the requirements of the Framework.

.....and the actual delivery over the last 4 years has a shortfall. SDC are already nearly 1,000 houses behind.

To make it worse the so-called 5 year land supply objectively is only between 2 and 3½ years.

The inspector dismissed claims of prematurity as perverse.

The dispersed strategy adopted in the 2012 draft will fail to protect towns such as Shipston .....there will now be pressure to accommodate even more houses.

Nick Boles (Source Hansard) the planning minister replying to the Stratford MP said "*.....if an authority does not have a plan ... it ..risks its decisions being overturned on appeal.....*"

I hope I am wrong but it looks like it will be difficult to resist Ainscough, Carla, Banner homes and others at appeal.

Perhaps in Shipston we could cope with an increase in housing numbers of a pro-rated total of about 300 houses, ...if at the same time we negotiate with the County Council, District Council and Developers for significant improvement in the sustainability of Shipston.....

Alternatively ..... it could be argued that the draft core strategy does not comply with the NPPF for a very different reason .... for example NPPF 30 states "*In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should ... support a pattern of development which,..... facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport.*" In my opinion this could mean that we should build no more houses in Shipston at all on the basis that it is currently not sustainable, .....that would also require negotiation.

My proposals to you involve a rethink on the town's relationships with the County Council, District Council, and developers.

Firstly the town council should, in the absence of a local plan, go through the NPPF line by line and find out where the town stands and act on that.

Secondly the town council should bring forward the developments of parts of the neighbourhood plan such as sustainability, transport, and housing location... and create an 'abbreviated' neighbourhood plan.....15 months is too long to wait. We need leverage now in negotiations with the District Council as they struggle to develop an acceptable core strategy.

Is the town council prepared to do that?

Martin Ferrier, FIET.