



# SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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## May 14<sup>th</sup> 2012 Minutes

Action

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council held in Clark House, Shipston on Stour at 7.00pm on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2012

#### Those Present:-

Town Councillors: Cllr I Cooper, Cllr A Ivens, Cllr Mrs F Ivens, Cllr R Munden, Cllr. V Murphy, Cllr A Noyce, Cllr P Rathkey, Cllr M Trapp, Cllr J Warner, Cllr M Wildish

SDC: Cllr R Cheney, Cllr J Gullis

Press: 1

Public: 14

#### Introduction

The Town Mayor, Cllr. P. Rathkey, welcomed Town Council members, the press, and the public to the Annual meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council. Cllr. Rathkey congratulated Cllr. cheney on his re-election, putting party politics aside, he wanted to thank him for all the hard work he had put in over the year, adding his gratitude to Cllr. Gullis for his excellent input to the town. Cllr. Rathkey welcomed the three new councillors stating that the biggest issue facing them and the town would be the impact of applications for major residential developments, he agreed with the view of STC to adopt the principle not to extend the natural boundaries of the town, stating that STC was not against development, but support the SDC Draft Core Strategy to add only 2% of existing housing in the town, which equalled 42 new homes. He said a few words about achievements and events over the last year, noting that he had received a reply to his recent letter to Rt Hon Eric Pickles concerning the potential for one voter to trigger an election, as he was not happy with the response, he will take up the offer of Nadhim Zahawi MP to take the matter further. Cllr. Rathkey considered that the purchase of the new offices was a sound investment and an opportunity to bring other services to a more accessible venue for residents. He noted that STC would be keeping a watching brief on the contracting out of grounds maintenance and cleansing services. He had enjoyed attending, along with his wife, many occasions and considered it to be a privilege to represent and fly the flag for Shipston. In closing he thanked fellow councillors, the clerk and assistant for their support, help and advice throughout the year.

#### 1. Election of Town Mayor

Cllr. Rathkey proposed Cllr Fay Ivens as Town Mayor, seconded by Cllr. Noyce – **unanimously agreed**

Cllr Rathkey passed the chain of office to the new mayor.

The Town Mayor, Cllr. F Ivens thanked everyone and gave a short acceptance speech. She stated that it was a privilege and honour to accept the chain and office as Town Mayor and thanked the outgoing Mayor Cllr Rathkey for all his hard work during the past year, as well as

welcoming the three new members to the town council, noting that there were still two vacancies. Cllr Ivens considered it to be a new era for STC with a new building and changes to grounds maintenance and town cleansing, she thanked the gardening team for their hard work and wished them well for the future.

Cllr. Ivens commended the work of the "Proud of my Town" campaign and its success with increasing numbers of residents joining the monthly litter picks, she noted that the national press had filled a lot of editorial space with litter campaigns and hoped that Shipston could become one of the cleanest places in Britain.

Cllr. Ivens stated that she would continue the Saturday morning surgeries, named her charities for the year as Shipston First Responders and Shipston Youth Club and would look forward to attending as many events as possible in the town as well as acting as an ambassador for Shipston by attending Civic Events in other areas. At the end of her year in office she hoped to see the community working together for the benefit of Shipston.

2. **Election of Deputy Mayor**

The Mayor asked for nominations for deputy mayor. Cllr. Rathkey nominated Cllr. Murphy, seconded Cllr. Noyce – **vote – 7 for, 1 abstention – motion carried**

3. **New Town Councillors**

Cllrs Munden, Trapp and Wildish were asked to say a few words about their election to STC

Cllr. Melanie Trapp – born in Shipston, had started up the Jubilee group which inspired her to seek nomination as a Town Councillor.

Cllr. Mark Wildish – see notes attached

*(Cllr Warner arrived – having informed that the clerk that she would be late for the meeting)*

Cllr. Munden – stated that STC is fragmented from the town and that the Saturday surgery was of no use, STC is elitist, Cllr. Munden also referred to

4. **Apologies for absence** – apologies received from Cllr. Vial, (Cllr. Warner sent apologies for late arrival)

5. Cllr Murphy proposed that these apologies be accepted, seconded Cllr. Noyce – **unanimously agreed**

6. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Wildish – item 13 - Planning

7. **Previous minutes**

Cllr. Murphy proposed that the minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> April meeting, be accepted as a true and accurate record, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – **unanimously agreed (Cllr. Cooper not present at April meeting did not vote)**

**Clerk's Report**

The Clerk gave an update;

- The Clerk received an email from Rob O'Malley withdrawing as cllr due to other commitments.
- Could the council consider presenting Mr Sid Peachey with an award of some kind in recognition of the four beacons he has built over the last 60 years of the Queen's reign? Suggestions from the councillors included a plaque, photograph or certificate. Cllr. Cooper proposed a budget of £50, seconded Cllr. Noyce – **unanimously agreed**
- Ilmington Morris Men had approached the Clerk asking if they could use 5 parking spaces in the town on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May to promote the 'Olympick Games' in Chipping Campden. As this is the busy Wool Fair Saturday after discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Warner that the council offer the Morris Men the opportunity to use the parking spaces after 6pm, seconded Cllr. Trapp – **unanimously agreed** (The Clerk will inform the group of the decision)
- The Draft Waste Core Strategy had been received – Cllr. Wildish offered to draft a response

- Mr Phil Ward of WRCC will meet with council regarding the Housing Needs Survey. Cllr. Cooper and other councillors were concerned how independent the housing survey would be if WRCC carry it out only seeking the opinions of the residents of the town. The Clerk will investigate further and report back.
- Cllrs were asked to update contact details and declaration of interest forms as necessary
- Banner Homes have invited the council to meet with them to discuss outline plans for a proposed development on the Campden Road. Cllr. Rathkey's view is the council shouldn't meet with the developers until they have firm plans. Cllr. Wildish disagreed stating he considers STC should engage with developers not in a supporting role but so STC are aware of their proposals and can assist in shaping the needs of the town. Cllr. Cooper added that from past experience, meeting with developers is seen as an endorsement to their proposals. After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Rathkey that we do not meet with Banner Homes, 6 votes for, 2 against, 2 abstentions – **motion carried**
- The Jubilee beacon will be lit at 10.15pm on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012.
- An evaluation report has been received from Orbit Homes for the Tileman's Lane development; this was passed to the Planning Group.
- The council are hoping to organise an open day at New Clark House dates proposed; 30<sup>th</sup> June or 7<sup>th</sup> July.

## 8. Town Councillors

**Cllr. Rathkey**- briefly mentioned the Annual Town Meeting where the purchase of the Police station was discussed stating that he would not be replying to any further letters. The reply Cllr. Rathkey received from Mr Pickles with reference to the Local Government Act 1972 has been passed on to Nadim Zahawi MP.

**Cllr. Noyce** – attended a General Purpose meeting being reported on later in the agenda.

**Cllr. Murphy** – congratulated Cllr. Fay Ivens on becoming Mayor adding that she will give her full support in the coming year and thanked Cllr. Rathkey for all his hard work over the past year.

Cllr. Murphy went on to report;

- Represented STC at the Business Fair Exhibition at the Townsend Hall
- Attending the Town Meeting, Finance and Communication meetings.
- The two bicycles have been removed from outside John Lynes, ownership is under investigation.

**Cllr. A. Ivens** – had nothing to report this month

**Cllr. Trapp** – as a new councillor this month Cllr. Trapp had nothing to report

**Cllr. Wildish** – as a new councillor this month Cllr. Wildish had nothing to report

**Cllr. Warner** – reported;

- Could we confirm when nominations for the Anne Sankey Award need to be in by? The Forum editor will check the dates from last year and report back.
- Following an incident in Mill Street Cllr. Warner asked if the CCTV cameras were working. Cllr. Rathkey replied that the cameras are on but there is not 24 hour surveillance. Cllr. Warner was advised to contact Mr Tony Perks at SDC to view the tapes.
- Requested if the Jubilee Crew can place 'A' boards to advertise their event. Forms for permission can be obtained from the Clerk.
- The Jubilee Crew are looking for volunteers for marshals to help on the 4<sup>th</sup> June with the fun run, parking, the arena and procession. The committee raised £450 over the weekend; Cllr. Warner reminded all who have raffle tickets could they please try and sell them. The Mayor was pleased to see the community working together to celebrate this special occasion.

**Cllr. Munden** – made a request that STC limit any spending on the Jubilee celebrations.

**Cllr. Cooper** – reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> Business Fair was well attended and for the first time there was a live video link into Westminster where Shipston was congratulated by Nadim Zahawi. Two days later the Enterprise Centre held another successful open day. The Centre is available for training and workshops for all local businesses.

**Cllr. Fay Ivens** – reported;

- Will organise a Civic Service during Mayoral year and would like all councillors to attend.
- Thoroughly enjoyed the Stour Singers concert and Shakespeare Birthday celebrations
- Invited all to Songs of Praise at St. Edmunds Church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 3pm. Over 20 clubs and societies in Shipston are presenting flower displays with a theme of 'The Jewel in the Crown'. The W.I. will be supplying tea and cakes afterwards.
- Leather bookmarks will be presented to all school children and students of Shipston commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

## County Council

**WCC – Cllr. Saint** – was unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

	<p><b>District Council</b>  <b>SDC – Cllr. Cheney – reported:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passed on his congratulations to the Town Mayor and looked forward to continuing the Saturday morning surgeries with her.</li> <li>• Had received a request for a youth shelter to be installed in the town, perhaps at the skate park? Cllr. Cooper added that there had been some funds put by for this but it was given to the Outhouse last year.</li> <li>• On receiving complaints of litter on the London Road and at the skate park. Cllr. Ivens added that the youth club are doing a litter pick and will address this issue.</li> <li>• On the postal voting stating that 75% of all voters vote by post. Cllr. Cooper suggested that we advertise this in the Forum in time for the next election. There have been calls to relocate the Polling Station as many feel the Hub is too far from the town however, Cllr. Cheney noted that we had the highest turnout in the Stratford District.</li> <li>• Agrees with Cllr. Rathkey and will not be speaking with Banner Homes. Cllr. Cheney feels we need to decide what is the right planning for our town and that the developers need to fit in with us.</li> <li>• The planning officer may approve the change of use from retail to estate agent at the old toy shop in the town. Cllr. Cooper stated that SDC had adopted our Town Plan in which we recommended not changing use of retail premises and suggested we point this out to them.</li> <li>• Decision on the CALA Homes development will be heard beginning of July. Cllr. Cheney still opposes this development.</li> <li>• Hopes that the Scout Hut planning application will go through free of charge.</li> <li>• Urged the Town Council to progress with their Neighbourhood Plan.</li> </ul> <p><b>SDC - Cllr. Gullis – began his report by congratulating Cllr. Ivens on her election as Mayor and is confident she will do a sterling job. Also congratulated Cllr. Cheney on his promotion as leader of the Liberal Democrats and welcomed the new councillors to the council.</b>  Cllr. Gullis met with Mr James Bird from ASL to discuss their proposed development on the Campden Road and what he feels Shipston needs. Cllr. Gullis still opposes this development. It was unfortunate that one of the football fields at the Sports Club has returned to agricultural use despite requests to the farmer from District councillors. Cllr. Rathkey added that it is unfortunate that the council weren't approached first to see if they could help. Cllr. Cheney added that Mr Edwards is pursuing various avenues to make the best of the situation.</p> <p><b>Shipston Forum</b>  <b>Forum Editor reported:</b>  The June issue would be mainly about the Jubilee celebrations and council news. She noted that a new colleague, Judith, will be working on the Forum with her.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Open Forum for Parishioners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Marx of 17 Hawthorn Way read his submission to SDC Planning, objecting to the part of the planning application for an extension to 19 Hawthorn Way that wrapped around the building.</li> <li>• Referring to the application for change of use to the building (previously Toffee Apple) Mr. Crump noted that another building in High Street that had been formerly an estate agent was now closed.</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>To approve:</b>  Cllr. Noyce proposed that current standing orders be accepted, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – <b>unanimously agreed</b>  Cllr. Cooper considered that FWG should undergo a review of the Financial Regulations, Cllr. Noyce proposed that subject to a review by the FWG the current Financial Regulations be accepted, seconded Cllr. Cooper – <b>unanimously agreed</b></p>	
11.	<p><b>Dates for meetings</b>  Cllr. Noyce proposed that the list of dates for STC meetings be accepted, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – <b>unanimously agreed</b></p>	
12.	<p><b>Working Groups</b>  Membership of the working groups was discussed and amendments made.</p>	
13.	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b>  12/00859/FUL – 19 Hawthorn Way – proposed single storey rear extension – it was noted that the recommendation of the PWG was for “no representation” – Cllr. Noyce proposed that STC make no representation to this application, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – <b>unanimously agreed</b>  12/00913/FUL – Scout Hall, New Street – demolition and build new scout hall – Cllr. Murphy proposed that STC make no representation to this application, seconded Cllr. Warner – <b>unanimously agreed</b></li> </ul>	

	<p>• <b>PLANNING DECISIONS BY DISTRICT OR COUNTY COUNCIL</b> No decisions received</p>	
14.	<p><b><u>General Purposes Working Group</u></b> Cllr Noyce introduced the report discussing issues raised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The working group listed an inventory of the major items of equipment owned by STC, Cllr. Cooper suggested that these items be kept, during the settling in period of the new contract system. GPWG will keep this matter under constant review.</li> </ul>	
15.	<p><b><u>Communications Working Group</u></b> Cllr. Murphy introduced her report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New name for the new council building, Cllr. Cooper proposed “New Clark House”, seconded Cllr. Noyce – <b>unanimously agreed</b></li> <li>It was noted that a new clearer crest had been drawn up by Mr. Peter Drinkwater, CWG prefer to defer further consideration on this until full council have had the opportunity to reflect on such a major change to the branding of STC.</li> <li>Quotes for appropriate signage to the new offices were in process and would be installed in time for an Open Day to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> June or 7<sup>th</sup> July.</li> </ul>	
16.	<p><b><u>Finance Working Group</u></b> Cllr. Cooper introduced his report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr. Cooper proposed that the draft procedure for electronic banking be approved and the RFO be requested to action through the bank, seconded Cllr. F Ivens – <b>unanimously agreed</b></li> <li>FWG had reviewed STC reserves, Cllr Cooper proposed that the level of reserves be approved by STC, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – <b>unanimously agreed</b></li> </ul>	
17.	<p><b><u>Financial Matters</u></b> Cllr. Cooper proposed that all invoices be paid, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – <b>unanimously agreed</b></p>	
18.	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b> Correspondence 2 – letter from Mrs Courtney re trees dying at Mayo Road – Cllr. Cheney agreed to look into this matter, he was also asked to discuss the over grown hedge at the swimming pool with appropriate SDC officers.</p> <p>Cllr. Cooper noted that this had been a well chaired meeting</p> <p><b><u>Finale</u></b> The Town Mayor noted that the next meeting will be held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 in New Clark House commencing at 7.00pm.</p> <p>The Town Mayor thanked the press and public for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.35 pm.</p> <p>Signed..... Date.....</p> <p>Councillor Mrs F Ivens Town Mayor Shipston on Stour Town Council</p>	