



# SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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## June 8<sup>th</sup> 2015 Minutes

### Minutes of a General Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council held in New Clark House, Shipston on Stour at 7.00pm on Monday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Those Present:-** Town Cllrs; J Warner, B Cooper, I Cooper, M Ferrier, F Ivens, K Perry, V Murphy, P Rathkey, M Westwood, P White

WCC & SDC: Cllr C Saint      SDC: Cllr. J Barker      Public: 10      Press: 0

#### Introduction

The Town Mayor, Cllr. Jackie Warner, welcomed Town Council members, press and public to the June Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council.

1 **Apologies for absence** – Cllr. A Henderson, S Saunders, D Scobie

2 **Acceptance of Apologies** – Proposed Cllr. Ivens, seconded Cllr Ferrier - **unanimously agreed**

3 **Declarations of Interest** – none

#### 4 **Previous minutes**

Corrections to minutes of meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015 as follows:

- Page 2, item 9, Clerk's Report 'Stratford DC have confirmed that the VAS...' altered to 'WCC have confirmed that the VAS...'
- Page 2, item 10, District Council – Cllr I Cooper's thanks to Mr J Kenner reworded as follows: Cllr I Cooper said that even though he had not always agreed with Mr J Kenner, he wanted to thank him for the work he had done on behalf of Shipston during his term as District Councillor.
- Page 3 – Item 14, representatives for outside bodies – 'The School for Females – IC' added to the list
- Page 4, item 15, duplication of item 'other planning matters' removed

Cllr. Murphy proposed the minutes of the meeting of May 18<sup>th</sup> be accepted as a true and accurate record. Seconded Cllr. Rathkey – **Vote taken – 9 for, 1 against – motion carried.**

#### 5 **Clerk's Report**

In addition to the written report already circulated to councillors, the following items were dealt with:

- Judith Jackson is stopping production of the Talking Forum due to reduced local need.
- The reply from Glen Burley was not included in correspondence, printed copies were available at the meeting.
- Copies of the Working Group membership lists were circulated.
- Regarding the request from the Sports Club regarding dug out facilities, Cllr I Cooper said that subject to required planning permissions being sought, he would support their proposal. Cllr Ferrier proposed that permission be granted subject to necessary planning permission being sought. Seconded Cllr. Westwood. **Vote taken - unanimously agreed.**
- The Clerk explained the procedure for approval of invoices received relating to Sports Club refurbishment expenditure.
- Following discussion about CCTV in the town and the invitation to SDC officers and Warwickshire Police to the August meeting it was decided to let the invitation stand and the Clerk would request written confirmation from SDC that Robert Weeks previous statements to STC would be withdrawn.

**Reports****Town Councillors**

Cllrs. Perry & White – no report

Cllr. I Cooper asked whether the damaged hanging basket post in the High St had been repaired. The Clerk replied it had and answered his question about how it had happened. Cllr. Cooper also noted that contractors working at a property in Sheep St have said they will repair any damage caused to pavements on completion of their building work.

Cllr. Westwood had attended local events in the town and congratulated the Wool Fair organisers on a successful fair this year. She gave an update on the Portobello Junction campaign and had received reports that the speed camera there was not working.

Cllr. B Cooper had received a complaint from a resident in Warwick Place that continual damage is being done to their fence by cyclists and other vehicles using the alley between Warwick Place and Pittway Avenue. The Town Clerk will report the matter to the Police.

Cllr. Ferrier had received, and was dealing with, correspondence from residents of Oldbutt Rd about the effect of the planned neighbouring housing development. He reported on a briefing given by Dave Nash of SDC regarding Neighbourhood Development Plan and in particular comments by Dave Nash about the building of more houses in Shipston. Discussion followed on this item.

Cllr. Ivens congratulated the Wool Fair committee on this year's fair. Students from Shipston High school took an active part in the recent litter pick.

Cllr. Rathkey said that he had asked for a confidential staffing item to be added to the agenda which would be discussed in private by Town Councillors following item 14 of the public part of the meeting.

Cllr. Murphy said that she was pleased with the success of the Wool Fair this year. She reported that the Heritage Centre in the Post Office had been officially opened at the Wool Fair. She had represented the Mayor at Warwick DC Annual Meeting and the High Sheriff of Warwickshire's Tea Party.

Cllr. Warner reported a busy start to her year, having attended Rotary Songs of Praise, Flower Festival at St Edmunds, and Wool Fair. She will be holding her first surgery on 13 June.

**County Council****Report by Cllr. Chris Saint**

- Had recently attended the Audit & Standards Committee.
- Talked about money saving items on the Chancellor's Agenda - £250 million for DCLG, £200 million for Public Health, £450 million for Education.
- Reported that nationally Public Health England publishes health profiles and they are available on line. There is one for Shipston.
- Said a meeting had been arranged for our MP to meet parishioners about the Portobello junction on 19/6/15 but he is unable to attend. He is prepared to facilitate more public consultation in the future on this issue.
- Has asked about speed camera use on the Fosse Way but is waiting for an answer.

**District Council****Report by Cllr. Jo Barker**

- Congratulated Wool Fair and will investigate potential new sponsors.
- Will enquire whether meeting with MP regarding Portobello Junction schedule for 19/6/15 can be re-arranged to allow more to attend.
- Attended a meeting with residents of Oldbutt Rd about the open space area and has been asked to have meetings with the developers
- Will attend the Mayor's Surgery on 13<sup>th</sup> June.

**Report by Cllr C Saint**

- Cabinet has approved 21 of 26 policies in the Core Strategy.
- Planning inspector has been clear that there is a cap on 2000 new houses in Local Service Villages (LSV) but no cap on Main Rural Centres (MRC).
- It is the Planning Inspector that is declaring Shipston sustainable, not SDC.
- Regarding CCTV discussion, the debate is over the level of service and SDC's view is that it should be sustained.

Questions followed from Councillors

- Cllr. Rathkey said that adoption of 21 of 26 policies of Core Strategy is of little comfort to Shipston because it is the remaining 5 relating to housing development that are the real cause of concern. Cllr. Saint said there was a 5 year land supply if planning permissions in place were taken into account. He said that the National Planning Policy Framework does require councils to work with developers.
- Cllr. Rathkey asked if any speed cameras are operational on the Fosse Way. Cllr. Saint has asked about their deployment but no reply yet. He will publish it in his column in Forum.
- Cllr. I Cooper said that there are key infrastructure deficiencies in Shipston and that the Planning Inspector's reports demonstrate that they have no local knowledge of the areas on which they make planning decisions. Cllr. Saint replied that the infrastructure delivery plan due to be adopted on 20<sup>th</sup> June will mean that responsibility for local infrastructure will rest with the local planners. Discussion then followed about decisions taken by inspectors on developments in Shipston.
- Cllr Ivens asked for an update on the VAS for London & Stratford Rd. Cllr Saint had no further information but will follow up the matter.
- Cllr Ivens explained that Shipston has been waiting for a year now for a full tree inspection which was recently promised for May 15 but it has still not taken place. Cllr. Saint will investigate.
- Cllr. Warner asked if a post in the verge at the junction of Badgers Crescent & Stratford Rd could be repaired or removed.

### **Shipston Forum**

The Forum Editor reported that the lead story of July 2015 edition will be the dog fouling campaign. Back page will advertise Fish & Frolics. Space is held for Proms publicity.

### **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

Cllr. B Cooper reported they are aiming to complete the NDP report early next year. Various engagement activities (public & landowner) will take place during the summer. Work is continuing on preparing the grant application. It is hoped the grant would cover costs to the end of the project.

### 7 **Open Forum for Parishioners**

- Jem Raison of Oldbutt Rd explained concerns of his neighbours relating to the proposed open space in the Cala Homes development south of Campden Rd. He asked whether STC can reassure residents that the hedge between Oldbutt Rd open space and the new development open space, which they understand belongs to STC, will not be interfered with. Cllr. Ferrier will discuss the matter with Mr Raison and the residents of Oldbutt Rd.
- Geoff Walker of Oldbutt Rd echoed Mr Raison's concerns and asked whether restrictions could be placed on site vehicles, noise disturbance and working hours. Cllr Ferrier will discuss the concerns raised with Mr Walker.
- David Christmas asked for papers circulated to Councillors in advance of Town Council Meetings to be made available to the Public for the next STC meeting.

### 8 **New Planning Applications**

15/01255/FUL – Killarney Corner, Sheep St – construction of outhouse (retrospective). Cllr. Rathkey proposed no representation, seconded Cllr. I Cooper. **Vote taken– unanimously agreed.**

15/01667/FUL – 57 Hanson Avenue – First floor side extension

15/01637/FUL – 3 The Maldens – various single and 2 storey extensions, window alterations

For 15/01667/FUL & 15/01637/FUL, Cllr. Rathkey proposed no representation, seconded Cllr. I Cooper.

**Vote taken– unanimously agreed.**

15/01821/LBC – 6 High Street – Re-instatement of Chimney to rear, relaying of timber boards into dormer on second floor and to not re-install removed timber boarding to ceilings. Cllr. Ferrier proposed no representation, seconded Cllr. Perry. **Vote taken– unanimously agreed.**

15/01264/FUL – 23 Elm Road – Single storey and 2 storey side extension + amendment for info only. Cllr. Ferrier proposed no representation, seconded Cllr. Perry. **Vote taken– unanimously agreed.**

15/01612/FUL – 78 Hanson Ave – Ground floor front extension. Cllr. Ferrier proposed no representation, seconded Cllr. Ivens. **Vote taken– unanimously agreed.**

### **Planning decisions by district or county council**

None received

For information, Orbit Homes Appeal to be heard 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

### **S106 Funding attached to application 14/02607/OUT**

The Clerk explained the background to last meeting's suggestion that a footbridge be built using S106 money. Cllr. Rathkey reported Cllr. Scobie's concerns that STC was being pushed into deciding on a footbridge and he explained that the timescale for decision making is short. STC does not have any other feasible proposal but the footbridge is feasible. If we do not offer a proposal the money will be lost. Cllr Rathkey proposed that the footbridge project be adopted. Seconded Cllr. I Cooper. **Vote taken – unanimously agreed.** Further discussion took place about the timing & criteria for using S106 money and whether STC should prepare a wish list.

9 **Working Groups**  
Cllr. Rathkey raised a point of order that this matter had been discussed and policy agreed within a period of 6 months therefore standing orders would have to be suspended. Following discussion, Cllr. Rathkey proposed that standing orders be suspended to discuss the motion. Seconded Cllr. Ferrier. As only 5 councillors voted to suspend standing orders it did not meet the criteria of a minimum of 8 - **motion failed.**

10 **General Purpose Working Group**  
The written report was noted. Cllr. Ivens proposed that STC provide a number of in house prepared signs for the Sports Club use – ‘NO DOGS ALLOWED BY ORDER OF SHIPSTON TOWN COUNCIL’ Seconded Cllr. Warner. **Vote taken, 9 for, 1 against – motion carried**  
Cllr. Ivens proposed that in relation to the Annual Playground Check, in the first instance, Lawns2Mow be asked to make minor repairs. Seconded Cllr. Westwood. **Vote taken – unanimously agreed**

11 **Communications Group**  
The group’s written report was noted and a detailed discussion took place on the layout, content and purpose of the proposed template for working group reports. Cllr. White proposed that a standard template be used for working group reports. Seconded Cllr. Warner. **Vote taken – unanimously agreed.**  
Cllr. White then proposed that STC agreed that the Clerk’s office should add scheduled events to the website and social media and that more reactive comments/new will be added by 2 members of the Comms Working Group. Seconded Cllr. Rathkey. **Vote taken – unanimously agreed.**

12 **Finance Group (end of year accounts 2013-2014)**  
Cllr. I Cooper reported that the internal auditor report had only been received today so would be discussed on another occasion. He said that the year-end accounts reflected the year end position. The governance statement was circulated and Cllr. I Cooper said that FWG would review the register of risk periodically throughout the year. Cllr. I Cooper proposed that STC approve the year end accounts, risk assessment and accept the governance statement. Seconded Cllr. Perry. **Vote taken – unanimously agreed.**

13 **Financial Matters**  
The Town Clerk reported 6 additional payments to those listed. Cllr. I Cooper proposed that invoices be paid. Seconded Cllr. Perry. **Vote taken, unanimously agreed.**  
Income received was noted.

14 **Correspondence**  
Correspondence was noted.  
Cllr. Warner proposed closing the meeting to the public to discuss a confidential staffing matter. Seconded Cllr. Ferrier. **Vote taken, unanimously agreed.**

**Finale**  
The Town Mayor noted that the next general meeting will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 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 9.30 pm.  
Notes were taken of the private discussion but are not included here due to the confidential nature of the matter discussed.

Signed..... Date.....  
Councillor Jackie Warner  
Town Mayor, Shipston on Stour Town Council