



# SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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## January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 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 January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Those Present:** - Town Cllrs: V Murphy, B Cooper, I Cooper, M Ferrier, B Healey, F Ivens, P Rathkey, S Saunders, D Scobie, J Warner, M Westwood, P White

Public: 4      Press: 0      WCC/SDC: Cllr. C Saint, Cllr. J Barker.....Clerks: 2

#### Introduction

The Town Mayor, Cllr. Veronica Murphy welcomed Town Council members, press and public to the January Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council (STC).

1 **Apologies for absence**      Cllr. A Henderson

2 **Acceptance of Apologies**      Cllr. Warner proposed acceptance of apologies, seconded Cllr. Saunders– **11 for, 1 abstention – motion carried**

3 **Declarations of Interest**      None

4 **Dispensations received by Clerk**      None

5 **Previous minutes of the Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

Cllr. Rathkey proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 be accepted as a true and accurate record, seconded Cllr. Westwood - **11 for, 1 abstention – motion carried**

6 **Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's written report was noted. In addition, the Clerk reported the following:

- A dog bin has been removed from its fixings in Telegraph St. Lawns2Mow will do the repair. The bench at the top of Telegraph Street which is in poor state has been removed and the matter referred to GPWG.
- Cllr. I Cooper asked for an update on the Darlingscote Rd sign. The Clerk said that Highways have stated the sign belongs to STC and would use standard signs as a replacement. The Clerk will contact the insurers.

7 **Reports**

**Town Councillors** - The following reports were given:

- Cllr. Warner reported a water leak in Station Rd. An Orbit tenant who had been without heating and hot water for 12 days had contacted her. Cllr. Warner asked whether Orbit could be invited to give a presentation at a Council Meeting about their policy and responsibility for repairs.
- Cllr. White had met with the representatives of the Heritage Guide and would report back to the Communications Group. He noted that the lighting at the front of New Clark House was not lit for evening meetings. The Clerk will look into it.
- Cllr. Scobie said that the Rugby Club had been successful in an application to the RFU for £40,000 matched funding for pitch improvements. It will be presented at the next Rugby Club committee for approval. Cllr. Ivens asked whether it would cover drainage work at the site and Cllr. Scobie replied yes.
- Cllr. Saunders said there was a potential buyer for the cemetery caravan. She asked whether a discussion on a long term parking strategy in Shipston could be a future agenda item given the increasing demands resulting from development in the town.
- Cllr. Ivens congratulated the 3 organisers of the very successful Christmas Day community lunch.
- Cllr. Murphy had attended the Festival of Lessons & Carols at St Edmunds. On Christmas Day she visited Rainbow Fields, Ellen Badger and the community lunch in the Townsend Hall.

**County Council** Cllr. Saint gave his report:

- The promised work at Portabello will start in April.
- WCC budget will be decided by the time of the next STC meeting, 6% increase is expected.
- The proposed charge for use of the recycling centre will not be introduced.

**District Council** Cllr. Saint gave his report:

- The first draft of the budget will be published this Friday and an increase of 2% is expected.

Cllr. Warner asked when Stratford library would close for refurbishment. Cllr. Saint did not know the date. Cllr. Barker advised searching WCC website.

Cllr. Ferrier asked whether the green development at Long Marston would mean net new dwellings. Cllr. Saint replied no.

Councillors noted that there had been an increase in the number of caravans at the Darlingscote Rd site and asked Cllr. Saint to explain SDC's policy on the number of units permitted.

**District Council** Cllr. Barker gave her report

- She is in discussion with Orbit about the delays in heating repairs. She asked for such instances to be reported to her.

**SNT** No report this month

### **Shipston Forum**

Likely items for the February issue will include the community Christmas lunch, 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shipston Home Nursing, Totally Locally Fiver fest if it goes ahead, Mayor's yarn bombing appeal and STC Precept.

### **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) & Town Design Statement (TDS)**

Cllr. B Cooper gave the following reports.

**Neighbourhood Development Plan:** The formal consultation period ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December, SDC's response is due after 14<sup>th</sup> February. The NDP team will start reviewing the responses from 17<sup>th</sup> January. A number of the responses are lengthy so it will take some time to complete the review, following which changes will be made to the plan. One respondent, acting on behalf of a landowner, has requested a meeting with the NDP team to discuss a potential development to the north of Tilemans Lane and STC will be kept updated with developments. Any grant funds not used before the end of February will have to be repaid. Delays to the timescale and increased workload mean that the team will need to draw down £2,000 from earmarked reserves to meet projected expenditure. Cllr. B Cooper will make the request via the FWG.

**Town Design Statement:** Correspondence from Matthew Neal at SDC confirms that the draft TDS has not been adopted or approved. Cllr. B Cooper has been in touch with Paul Richardson and Phil Wragg (both involved with the TDS originally) and they have arranged a meeting to identify what actions are required. Cllr. Ferrier has offered to take any photos needed. Phil Wragg will liaise with Stephen Miles to ensure TDS and NDP documents are complimentary. If any external graphics are required, an estimate of cost will be submitted to STC for approval. The final document will be referred back to STC for final approval prior to submitting it to SDC.

**Shipston Area Flood Action Group (SAFAG)** The Clerk read out a report from Phil Wragg, SAFAG Chairman.

"My report for January 2017 is that SAFAG has secured some funding for our Natural Flood Management (NFM) programme from DEFRA. It is subject to the agreement of a business plan which we'll be putting together over the next few weeks and which, once approved, will enable funds draw down. I expect this will take a few months to sort out so existing funding commitments, e.g. from STC, will still be needed to keep us going.

This is a great step forward and we believe that the backing, both financial and in kind, from STC has been an important contributor to our getting to this stage. It has not only enabled SAFAG to function but has also provided credibility.

We are continuing to meet landowners to plan and agree NFM schemes on their land and have received much positive support so we are hopeful, now that we have decent funding lined up, that we will be able to undertake several schemes on the Kneebrook and its feed watercourses during the Spring and Summer such that it should make a measurable difference to the flooding risks to Shipston and downstream villages.

That said, to significantly reduce the risks to the level we have targeted much more work will need to be done on the Upper Stour and other brooks as well as on the main river near the town and for the latter we will need substantially more funding than is currently on offer including 'match funding'. We have plans in hand to bid for such moneys once the initial programme is under way, meanwhile this is a good start.

Thank you for your continued support and I'd be happy to give you a verbal update at a future meeting should you so wish."

8	<p><b>Tourism Group</b> No report this month</p> <p><b>Open Forum for Parishioners</b> Mr Bob Figures asked whether an additional noticeboard to advertise leisure activities in the town could be considered. He asked for urgent resolution of the water leak in Station Road. He congratulated the organisers of the Christmas Day community lunch.</p>	
9	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p><b>NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16/03932/FUL – 15 Mayo Road – front porch, replacement garage roof. Cllr. B Cooper proposed no representation. Seconded Cllr. Warner. <b>Unanimously agreed.</b></li> <li>• 16/03859/FUL &amp; 16/03860/LBC – Granville House, High Street – change of use of vacant unit to C3 residential and restoration and repair works to Bondgate House. Cllr. Scobie proposed no representation. Seconded Cllr. B Cooper. <b>Unanimously agreed.</b></li> <li>• 16/03994/COUO – The Assembly Rooms, Church St – change of use from offices (B1a) to create 4 residential units (C3). Cllr. Scobie proposed objection on the grounds of loss of employment and office space. Seconded Cllr. I Cooper. <b>Unanimously agreed.</b></li> <li>• 16/03985/VARY – Low Furlong, Darlingscote Road – variation to conditions 2 and 4. Cllr. B Cooper proposed no representation. Seconded Cllr. Scobie. <b>Unanimously agreed</b></li> <li>• 16/02703/REM – Land off London Road – reserved matters Orbit site. This was dealt with last meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>PLANNING DECISIONS BY DISTRICT OR COUNTY COUNCIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15/00946/REM – Land South of Campden Rd reserved matters – Approved.</li> <li>• 16/02813/FUL – The Old Kiln House, West Street – garage with holiday let above – Permission with conditions.</li> <li>• 16/03502/VARY – Springhill Close – variation of conditions – Permission.</li> <li>• 16/03045/FUL – 3 Pound Close – 2 storey extension – Permission with conditions.</li> </ul> <p><b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16/03231/ADV – George Hotel – erection of 2 free standing signs left &amp; right of car park entrance – Withdrawn.</li> </ul>	
10	<p><b>Proposed Development at Ridgeway</b> Following detailed discussion Cllr. Ferrier proposed that the following points should be presented to the Neighbourhood Plan Team in response to the recent consultation:- a) that in principle the Town Council support the proposals for Ridgeway as outlined at the December 2016 Town Council Meeting, b) to remind the Neighbourhood Plan Team that it would be difficult for the Town Council to submit (to SDC) a neighbourhood plan which is inconsistent with those proposals, c) request the Neighbourhood Plan Team review the policies relating to the Ridgeway. Seconded Cllr. Ivens. <b>11 for, 1 against, 1 abstention – motion carried</b></p>	
11	<p><b>General Purposes Working Group</b> No report this month</p>	
12	<p><b>Communications Working Group</b> No report this month</p>	
13	<p><b>Finance Working Group</b> Cllr. I Cooper noted that a review and approval of the Asset &amp; Reserve Register would be deferred to the next meeting. Cllr I Cooper proposed that STC accept the FWG recommendation to maintain the precept level at £232,000 for 2017/18 noting that it would be subject to a Council Tax Reduction of £13,710. Seconded Cllr. Scobie. <b>Unanimously agreed.</b></p>	
14	<p><b>Financial Matters</b> One additional invoice was read out to the meeting. Cllr. Scobie proposed that invoices be paid. Seconded Cllr. Ferrier. <b>Unanimously agreed.</b> Income received was noted.</p>	
15	<p><b>Correspondence</b> No correspondence this month.</p> <p><b>Finale</b> The Mayor noted that the next meeting of Shipston Town Council will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 in New Clark House commencing at 7.00 pm. The Mayor thanked fellow councillors, press and public for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.40 pm.</p> <p>Signed..... Date..... Councillor Veronica Murphy Town Mayor, Shipston on Stour Town Council</p>	