



SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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<u>July 9th 2012 Minutes</u>	Action
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Minutes of the General Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council held in Clark House, Shipston on Stour at 7.00pm on Monday 9th July, 2012</u></p> <p><u>Those Present:-</u> Town Councillors: Cllr F Ivens, Cllr I Cooper, Cllr A Ivens, Cllr R Munden, Cllr V Murphy, Cllr P Rathkey, Cllr M Trapp, Cllr J Warner, Cllr M Wildish</p> <p>SDC: Cllr R Cheney WCC: Cllr C Saint <i>(arrived at 8.45pm)</i></p> <p>Press: 2 Public: 13</p> <p><u>Introduction</u> The Town Mayor, Cllr. Mrs Fay Ivens, welcomed Town Council members, the press, and the public to the July meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council.</p> <p>The Mayor added that items 16 & 17 on the agenda would be taken in reverse order. Standing Orders would be suspended after item 17 and the press and public would be asked to leave due to the confidential nature of item 16.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>Apologies for absence</u> – apologies received from Cllr. Noyce, Cllr. Vial, Cllr. Gullis & Cllr. Trapp <i>(who would be arriving late)</i>2. Cllr Murphy proposed that these apologies be accepted, seconded Cllr A Ivens – unanimously agreed3. <u>Declarations of Interest</u> No declarations received6. <u>Previous minutes</u> With two typing errors to be amended Cllr. Murphy proposed that the minutes of June 11th, 18th & 25th meetings, be accepted as a true and accurate record, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – unanimously agreed7. <u>Clerk's Report</u> The Clerk gave an update;<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has received a confirmation from WCC that a resident of Berry Close has applied for a disabled parking space.• That the New Street allotment site has been broken into on the last two Fridays. Damage has been caused to greenhouses and sheds and garden tools have been stolen. The allotment holders have contacted the Police and have made a request to the town council for assistance to mitigate further occurrences. <i>The clerk will post notices on the allotment entrances warning trespassers that they will be prosecuted.</i>	

8.

Town Councillors

Cllr. Murphy reported on the Communication Group meeting;

- Two quotes have been received for a hearing loop system in the Council Chamber to aid those with hearing difficulties. A third quote has been sought; the group are also researching potential grants. The Comms. group will report on further progress.
- The group have been monitoring the website and were disappointed with the response from residents who attended the Wool Fair. Various ideas on how to encourage input from the town organisations who are involved with the event were discussed and will be reported on at the next meeting.
- Cllr. Vial will be asked to update the council on his progress with the Community Engagement Policy. Cllr. Cooper will also be looking at the document.
- There has been a shortfall in copies of the Forum over the last couple of months, this is due to the increased number of houses in the town.
- Cllr. Murphy thanked Catherine Martin for the media training recently presented to councillors. It proved to be a worthwhile and interesting exercise thanks to her expertise.

Cllr. A. Ivens – attended General Purposes meeting and the opening ceremony at New Clark House; he also reported that the Brailes Road Depot has almost been cleared.

Cllr. Rathkey – congratulated Catherine Martin for her professional presentation on media training. Also reported;

- Attended two staffing meetings; decisions from the meetings have been reported to the council.
- Attended a Communication meeting and the planning meeting held at Ettington Chase which will be reported on later in the agenda.
- Attended official opening of New Clark House on Saturday 7th July.

Cllr. Cooper – reported that he had also attended the planning meeting at Ettington Chase and was pleased to see that the Town Council views and public opinion had been listened to.

Cllr. Warner – reported;

- Attended Emergency Planning meeting. A resident of Church Street requested a meeting with STC to discuss his views on improvements he considers could be made following his experience of the flooding in July 2007.
- A large pothole in Tileman's Lane opposite Shipston Building Supplies. *The clerk will contact Highways.*
- Noting that the grass area at Mill Street Car Park is overgrown and if weeding could be done at Badgers Crescent before the Shipston in Bloom judging. *The clerk will speak to the contractors.*

Cllr. Munden – had been asked to attend a meeting at the Sports Club where the future of the football and cricket club meetings were to be discussed following the loss of one of their playing fields. Cllr. Munden reported that Sheldon Bosley Hub had agreed to let their ground on a 5 year agreement exclusively to Shipston Excelsior Football Club and outlined to the council where the various age groups would be playing. Shipston High School had also offered to allow matches to be played on their grounds with the remainder of the teams still playing at the Sports Club. This allows the cricket outfield at the Sports Club to remain clear from football matches. Cllr. Rathkey congratulated all involved on the outcome which enables both clubs to remain training in Shipston.

Cllr. Wildish – attended the planning meeting at Ettington Chase

Cllr. Fay Ivens – had attended many functions this month starting with the launch of Shipston Proms where she met Nick Owen from BBC Midlands who was very complimentary about Shipston and the community spirit that exists here. The Mayor congratulated and thanked Mr Tim Porter and the committee for all their hard work in bringing the event together. Other events that the Mayor attended included; an evening reception for The High Sheriff of Warwickshire, the Primary School Fete and the celebration of the arrival of the Olympic Torch at Chipping Campden. Shipston Town Council opened their doors for the official opening ceremony of New Clark House with Cllr. Rathkey and Chief Superintendent Martin McNeven of Warwickshire Police cutting the ribbon. The month concluded with an invitation to Shipston High School to open their Eco Day.

District Council

SDC – Cllr. Cheney – reported:

- On the planning meeting at Ettington Chase where the CALA Homes planning application was refused. Cllr. Cheney is pleased with result as he would like to see the site used for employment. He believes CALA will appeal and awaits this with interest.
- The Community Forum meeting was, for the first time, available online. A request for trees to be planted in Shipston was discussed. The Mayor suggested speaking to Transition Shipston.
- WCC have requested local council's opinions on the decision to turn off selected street lights at midnight in Warwickshire to help reduce costs. The Mayor stated that STC have already written with strong objections to the idea to WCC.
- A press release issued stating that Low Furlong and other care homes in the county have been sold to a private company. The company have assured that Low Furlong will remain in its current location and that jobs will be secure.
- The rubbish at Sheldon Bosley Hub has accumulated again. Although the District Council promises to clear this once more Cllr. Cheney is not sure if they will continue to do so.
- The planning application for the Old Power House on the Campden Road is causing issues. Residents are at the meeting to discuss their objections.
- Is pleased with the resolution at the Sports Club.
- Cllr. Munden has been approached by residents repeatedly getting soaked asking for a solution to the drainage problems along the Stratford Road. *The clerk will contact WCC for progress on the situation.*

SDC - Cllr. Gullis – sent in a report as he was unable to attend the meeting. Cllr. Rathkey offered to read the report;

- Cllr. Gullis offered apologies for being unable to attend the opening of New Clark House and for failing to send the Forum editor his report.
- Was pleased with the planning decision on the CALA Homes application and congratulated Cllrs. Rathkey, Cheney and Cooper on their support. Also thanks to resident Jayne Braybn who had rallied support from the residents of Shipston. Cllr. Gullis has been in contact with Mr Denys Shortt who is the Chairman of DCS Europe who may potentially have to move his business out of the Stratford area. Cllr. Gullis would like to suggest that the council meet with Mr Shortt to offer his views on how we can attach business and enterprise to our Neighbourhood Plan along with the future of the land available at the IMI Norgren site.
- Cllr. Gullis continues to help the resident of Berry Close with their application for a disabled parking space.
- Continues with the application for funding for Shipston Youth Club from the Big Society Fund. Shipston Youth Club will be re-launching in its new form on Friday 14th September at The Outhouse from 3.15 – 4.15 pm. Cllr. Gullis invited all councillors to attend.

Shipston Forum

Forum Editor reported:

Would like advice from the councillors on what to lead with in the August edition; the head teacher from the High School who has concerns with anti-social behaviour in the town, the break in at the allotments or the CALA Homes planning decision? Cllr. Rathkey stated that the Community Police Officer had visited the High School to discuss the anti-social behaviour and suggested that perhaps the Police, High School and Sports Club (who have also experienced break-ins) could meet. The editor will discuss with Cllr. Murphy.

9. Open Forum for Parishioners

A number of residents were at the meeting to discuss their objections to the planning application at The Old Power House on the Campden Road.

- Mr Wates of Green Lane Close, an immediate neighbour to the car wash reported his issues with the spray that continually comes into his garden from the pressure washer. Mr Wates is pleased that the owners accept the current situation is causing a nuisance but he is concerned that their proposal of increasing the size of the current doorway will bring the exit closer to the junction on the Campden Road which will increase traffic dangers. The owners are intending to wash the cars inside once the changes have been made but Mr Wates considers that this will bring safety risks as there is no drainage on site, so potentially the water could run directly onto the Campden Road. There are also concerns with the clearance height.

- Mr Finlay of Green Lane Close also experiences problems. He passed around a photograph showing damage the pressure washer had caused to his garden wall before a screen was put in place. Foam from the car washing is continually being sprayed onto the windows of Mr Finlay's property and he feels very strongly that the application should be withdrawn.
- Mr Crimp, who lives opposite the property, raised his concerns with the application, mainly the proposed external door – when would it be open/closed; would it be a sliding door; could it cause a noise nuisance; the increased size of the doorway would open directly onto the pavement; the location of the door is dangerously close to the busy junction; would a dropped kerb be required; if the pressure washer is used inside would the noise level increase?

Cllrs. listened to residents, thanking them for their views and said that they would take them into consideration when commenting on the application.

Maria Harvey asked the council if the public were going to have the opportunity to comment on the Neighbourhood Plan before it was published. Cllr Cooper answered that there would be public consultation once the steering group had been established adding that Stephen Miles who was putting together the plan was an expert in this field and would abide by the rules and regulations. Cllr. Wildish disagreed with Cllr. Cooper stating he thought that the public consultation should be before a steering group had been formed.

10. Planning Matters

- **NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

12/01289/FUL – The Old Power House, Campden Road – remove of 6m wall, insertion of sliding door and provision of dropped kerb – Cllr. Murphy had listened to residents views on this application, stating that the planning group would be meeting later in the week and would submit their comments by Friday 13th July to Stratford District Planning Department.

12/01450/VARY – 44 Telegraph Street – variation of condition 3 of 12/00792/FUL to reinstate part 3 class F to allow part of the building to be occupied as a flat – The planning group would also be considering this application at their meeting this week.

12/01441/DEM – Scout Hall, New Street – demolition of wooden Scout Hall – Cllr. Munden proposed that STC make no representation, seconded Cllr. Rathkey – **unanimously agreed**

- **PLANNING DECISIONS BY DISTRICT OR COUNTY COUNCIL**

12/00598/FUL – 5 Sheep Street – raise roof and install dormer – Permission with conditions

12/00599/LBC – 5 Sheep St – raise roof and install dormer – Consent granted with conditions

12/00491/FUL – 13–15 High St – change of use -A1 retail to A2 estate agents – Permission with conditions

- **PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFERRED TO PLANNING COMMITTEE**

11/02380/OUT – Outline application for Norgren Site by CALA Homes – amendment – 5th July 2012 – Permission refused

Cllr. Rathkey had presented the town council's views to the planning committee at Ettington Chase on 5th July outlining their objections to the application from CALA Homes. He was pleased with the decision and the strength of local opinion at the meeting. Cllr. Rathkey congratulated Jayne Brabyn on a tremendous job in putting together Shipston residents' views.

Cllr. Wildish started his report by saying that he did not support the application in its current form, however he considered that if changes had been made it could have been approved as a successful mixed industrial and residential site. Cllr. Wildish was disappointed that the decision is seen as a victory as the future of the site is uncertain and it could remain empty for up to two years while CALA appeal.

Cllr. Cooper disagreed with Cllr. Wildish as he considered it was obvious on the evening how residents felt adding that three issues were raised from the meeting;

- 1) an aerial photograph of the site highlighted how isolated the development would be
- 2) offers had been made to IMI Norgren from companies to purchase the site but IMI would not engage with anyone
- 3) it is now up to Shipston Town Council to try and find a suitable and effective use for the site.

Cllr. Wildish added that in his opinion there is no prospect of the site being redeveloped solely for industrial use in the current climate and that STC should have taken the opportunity to meet with the developers to discuss a mixed use site.

12.	<p><u>New Code of Conduct</u> It was proposed that the council adopt the Stratford District Council Model Code of Conduct when it is published. Cllr. Cooper questioned how the council could vote when there is no model available? After discussion it was decided that the council were not happy to vote on a code that they had not yet seen. The clerk was asked to submit a draft code of conduct meeting the new criteria to the next meeting.</p>	
13.	<p><u>General Purposes Working Group</u></p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Noyce, Cllr. F. Ivens introduced the report discussing issues raised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town clerk will be drawing up contracts for the grass cutting, Cemetery maintenance and street cleansing and putting them out to tender. An advert will be placed in next months Forum • Cllrs. Noyce, Munden & Ivens will ensure all areas needing mowing are listed on the new contracts • Following the recommendation by the GPWG, Cllr. Warner proposed that the memorial bench for Matthew Payne is placed on the grass verge area at the bottom of Berry Avenue by the tree, seconded Cllr. Trapp – unanimously agreed • A further dog bin is to be placed on the Darlingscote Road close to the Brickle Path. • Following a complaint from a resident of Marshall Avenue of overhanging trees planted by SDC, Cllr. F Ivens proposed that the trees are pollarded, seconded Cllr. Murphy, 7 for, 2 abstentions – motion carried • The overgrown hedge at the Leisure Centre is restricting visibility for vehicles exiting the junction. The clerk will again contact SDC asking for the hedge to be cut back. • There are a number of items to be disposed of at the Brailes Road Depot by the end of July. Offers have already been received for the red sit-on mower (not in working order) £150 and £500 for a trailer. Cllr. Rathkey proposed we accept the two offers received, seconded Cllr. F Ivens, 7 for, 2 abstentions – motion carried • A further list was produced at the meeting for other items at the depot to be disposed of and Cllr. Rathkey proposed that the council approve that the GPWG deal with this accordingly, seconded Cllr. F Ivens – 5 for, 3 against, 1 abstention – motion carried 	
14.	<p><u>Communications Group</u> Cllr. Murphy reported on the meeting in her Councillor report.</p>	
15.	<p><u>Financial Matters</u> Cllr. F Ivens proposed that all invoices be paid, seconded Cllr. A Ivens – unanimously agreed</p>	
17.	<p><u>Correspondence</u> Councillors asked for more details on item numbers; 28, 31 & 34. Correspondence was received from SDC regarding CCTV. Cllr. Rathkey explained the current situation regarding CCTV coverage in Shipston to the three new councillors.</p> <p>The Town Mayor proposed that standing orders be suspended to allow item 16 to be discussed without the presence of the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business, seconded Cllr. Rathkey - 8 for, 1 abstention – motion carried</p> <p><u>Finale</u> The Town Mayor noted that the next meeting will be held on Monday 13th August, 2012 in New Clark House commencing at 7.00pm.</p> <p>The Town Mayor thanked fellow councillors, members of the press and public for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.25 pm.</p>	
16.	<p><u>Co-option of Councillors</u> There were two potential members of the public who wish to be on the council. The council had an informal chat with both candidates, a decision will be made in due course.</p>	

County Council

WCC – Cllr. Saint – Cllr. Saint presented the council with more details on the purchase of Low Furlong and the other seven residential homes in Warwickshire. The privately owned company Runwood Homes has purchased all eight care homes promising that staff currently employed will be transferring to the new company and that residents placements will remain as they are. Runwood Homes will invest £360,000.00 in Low Furlong to improve facilities; the formal transfer is expected to take place in October. Cllrs were pleased to hear that the future of Low Furlong is now secure, but raised concerns about rates going under a private company; the quality of care currently provided at Low Furlong is high and it is hoped that this is maintained. WCC will be closely monitoring the service and care provided by Runwood Homes.

Cllrs asked Cllr. Saint for a progress report on sourcing a site for the new wellbeing centre. Cllr. Saint said that the Medical Centre is looking at various options but had no further progress to report.

Cllr. Saint reported that WCC have started work on renewing concessionary bus passes that expire March 2013. New passes will require a photograph. WCC will write to those concerned.

Signed.....

Date.....

Councillor Mrs F Ivens
Town Mayor
Shipston on Stour Town Council