



SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF SHIPSTON ON STOUR TOWN COUNCIL HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Present: - Town Cllrs: S. Saunders (Mayor), J. Barker, I. Cooper, P. Cowley, P. Cox, J. Dinnie, F. Ivens, V. Murphy, P. Tesh, M. Westwood, P. White

Public: 0 Press: 0 WCC & SDC: J. Barker, T. Harvey Clerk: A. Packer & D. Neath

INTRODUCTION

Cllr Saunders, Mayor of Shipston Town Council, welcomed members of the Town Council to the September Town Council meeting which, due to restrictions relating to COVID-19, was held via the 'Zoom' platform.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apology noted from Cllr Kelly (apology received from Mr Rowland, Forum editor)

2 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST** – No pecuniary interests declared but the following professional/personal interests noted : Cllr. Murphy as Chair of Wool Fair and member of Sports & Social Club committee, Cllr. Tesh regarding London Road planning development. Cllr. Barker connection with Scouts.

3 **TO NOTE DISPENSATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CLERK** - None

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Item 9.1 change to 'other side of the *Willington Road*' not '*river*' and item 11.1 '1693' not '1735'.

Cllr. Barker proposed that the minutes for the meeting held on 10th August 2020, with the amendments noted above, be accepted as a true and accurate record - seconded by Cllr. Cooper - 9 for – 0 against – 2 abstained - motion carried

5 **CLERK'S REPORT** - Report noted.

6 REPORTS

6.1 Town Councillors

- Cllrs. Barker, Cowley, Cox, Tesh, Westwood, White – no reports.
- Cllr. Ivens informed she is now a Trustee of the Stour Valley Health & Well Being Partnership.
- Cllr. Cooper reported on concerns regarding the Hanson Track following work carried out by WCC to widen the bridleway cutting back trees and hedgerows. Cllr Barker noted it looked savage but was back to where it ought to be. On an historic note, Cllr. Tesh stated that the Hanson Track had been ridden down by John Wesley. It was noted that WCC had also dug diagonal trenches and ditches for drainage. Cllr. Barker to check with WCC where water is going. Clerk added that siting of the dog bin was to be agreed with Lawns 2 Mow.
- Cllr. Dinnie offered an update on the development of the Ellen Badger site, the details of which were to be clarified by Cllr Barker (SWFT).
- Cllr. Murphy queried a Pullmans coach regularly travelling up the Campden Road. Believed to be the new service being run between Shipston and Moreton-in-Marsh. Cllr. Westwood will source bus timetable and forward to the Clerk for the information to be included in the Shipston Forum.

6.2 County Council – Cllr. Jo Barker

- Schools - Cllr. Barker pleased that children are back at school – no major problems to report. Cllr. White added that coughs/colds currently circulating, NHS 111 were advising parents to obtain a COVID test & to self-isolate. Cllr Barker confirmed NHS advice to test only if symptoms apparent. Limited tests available
- Care homes - Cllr. Barker in discussion with Cllr. Izzy Seccombe regarding possible outbreak in care homes and how this can be prevented. Low Furlong residential home in Shipston have regular testing in place. The current problem was the shortage of testing kits and the manpower to process them.
- White Paper - Cllr. Barker reported on debate on the future of local government in Warwickshire will take place at full WCC meeting on 22.9.2020. White Paper due to be published in October 2020.

6.3 District Council – Cllr. Trevor Harvey

- SDC financial matters – Cllr. Harvey informed that that by the end of this week, SDC should have an estimate of the amount of money they will receive through Government 3rd tranche of funding (thought to be between £1.2 and £1.5 million), leaving a shortfall of between £ and £3.5 million. The budget will have to be reviewed to raise revenue and reduce costs, setting the shortfall against reserves. The challenge to set 2021/22 budget. Adding the proportion of unemployed before lockdown, plus the number on furlough and self employed on support, totals 43% of the district’s workforce. Once these end, SDC will be in difficulty. Cllr. Cooper mentioned the new ‘Kick Start’ scheme available to employers to increase employment of 16-24 year olds.
- White Paper – SDC collaborating with Warwick DC. SDC involved in appointment of Head of IT, which although a Warwick post will have joint responsibilities for both WDC and SDC. Deloitte’s independent assessment due to be released early next week.
- Drains – problems not unique to Shipston - reported in Tredington.
- Advertising boards should be at property advertised – complaint of 4 in one place, raised with Cllr I. Secombe. Cllr Harvey to be informed if similar issues in Shipston.

6.4 SNT – No report received this month.

6.5 Shipston Forum – No report (Mr Rowland not present). Clerk will send update on the meeting to him. Cllr. White noted that the Comms group was currently working on the website and once finished would be looking at delivery options for the Forum. Request to councillors to send in any news items for inclusion in the Forum.

6.6 Shipston Area Flood Action Group (SAFAG) – No report this month but Cllr. Dinnie informed that the group were currently working on the Shipston Flood Resilience Plan.

6.7 Youth Working Group – No report received this month.

7 OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS:

No members of public present. No submissions to Clerk for including.

8 PLANNING MATTERS – all planning applications can be viewed at: <https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/>
Agenda and draft minutes of Planning Committee meeting held on 24.8.2020 noted.

8.1 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS - Dealt with at earlier Planning Committee meeting. Verbal update given to STC from Cllr Tesh that 20/02204/TREE Planning Committee was voted a ‘no rep’ and that 20/02368/OUT was voted ‘object’.
Cllr Cooper expressed concern regarding the trees on the London Rd plan

- **20/02204/TREE** – 7 Redwood Park – *T1 hawthorn reduce height from approx. 7 metres to 6 metres and spread from 6 metres to 4 metres*
- **20/02368/OUT** – 29 London Road – *Outline application for demolition of bungalow and garage and erection of four dwellings and associated work. All matters reserved except for access.*

9 OTHER PLANNING MATTERS - None

10 GENERAL PURPOSES WORKING GROUP (GPWG) – Chair – Cllr. Cox.

10.1 To consider a request from Shipston Scouts to erect a marquee on the ‘Little Rec’ at the rear of the Scout Hut for use during Scout meetings.

Recommendation: *That STC support the Scouts by allowing use of the grass for overspill during the Scout meetings but not erect a marquee which stays in situ.*

In principle, Councillors expressed their support for the request, but deferred any decision pending clarification of the restrictions conveyed on the land and research into the planning implications of a marquee.

Cllr. Dinnie proposed that STC investigate what can be done with the land with a view to providing a facility for the town, seconded by Cllr. Barker – 10 for – 0 against – 1 abstained - motion carried

10.2 To consider a request from Stour Valley Lions to use the ‘Little Rec’ for a one-off table top book sale on Sat 19th September.
Recommendation: *That STC support the Lions by allowing use of the grass for the charitable book sale, subject to Lions having relevant insurances and all appropriate risk assessments in place.*
The Clerk conformed that the Lions had prepared a risk assessment.

Cllr. Dinnie proposed that the Stour Valley Lions book sale is allowed to go ahead unless investigations concerning the land use indicate it should not, seconded by Cllr. Westwood – 11 for - unanimous - motion carried

10.3 To consider a request from Shipston Town Band for work to be done on the tarmac car park surface to reinstate ventilation to the Band Hall which appears to have been compromised by the laying of the new surface in 2017.
Recommendation: That STC agrees in principle to pay for the necessary work in the car park outside of the Band Hall to reinstate ventilation under the building, subject to an acceptable quote.

Councillors felt that the contractors who laid the tarmac should bear some responsibility and GPWG should further discuss. No vote on the matter - Clerk will liaise with Cllr. Cowley re drafting a letter to the original contractor.

10.4 To consider carrying out tree work in Ashgrove. (Trees bordering houses in Furze Hill Road)- ownership not determined. Further investigation to take place with Land Registry, Orbit Housing Association & original developer of the estate. No vote.

11 HERITAGE, AMENITIES AND LEISURE PROJECTS (HALP) – Chair, Cllr. Cowley. Minutes of meeting on 2nd Sept 2020 noted

11.1 **Recommendation:** STC consider making enquiries with the owners of the area of the woodland adjacent to the river on the north-east side of the bridge, to explore the possibility of STC acquiring an interest in the land for the purpose of public amenity space.

Cllr. Cowley proposed that STC enter into discussions with the owners of the area of the woodland over the river on the north-east side of the bridge, to explore the possibility of STC acquiring an interest in the land for the purpose of public amenity space, seconded by Cllr Cooper – 11 for - unanimous – motion carried

11.2 **Recommendation:** STC requests feedback from the public as to possible uses of the cemetery chapels – suggested routes via social media and the Forum.

Chapels are under used and roof needs repair. Clerk to find previously produced report regarding condition of building & liaise with Cllr. Cooper to discuss repair work. Cllr. Cooper to share report regarding possible use of buildings for youth.

Cllr. Cowley proposed that STC consult the public as to what the cemetery chapels might be used for, seconded by Cllr Cooper – 11 for - unanimous – motion carried

Cllr. Westwood informed councillors of the positive response from public to the social media post asking for information on alleyways in Shipston. Cllr. Cowley to forward relevant information to Cllr. White for inclusion in Shipston Forum.

12 COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP (CWG) – Chair - Cllr. White. No report this month

13 FINANCE WORKING GROUP – Chair - Cllr Cooper. No report this month.

14 FINANCIAL MATTERS

14.1 Invoices for approval - as listed August/September 2020. Clerk noted inclusion of an additional invoice for £14.39 for Zoom (Appendix A attached)

Cllr. Dinnie proposed that invoices are paid, with the addition of Zoom, seconded by Cllr. Ivens, 11 for - unanimous – motion carried

15

Co-option of new councillor deferred to October meeting as invited applicants unavailable to attend

Cllr. Saunders proposed closing the meeting, seconded by Cllr. Barker – unanimous for – motion carried

Meeting closed at 8.49 pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 12th October 2020

Signed:
Councillor Shelagh Saunders
Town Mayor, Shipston on Stour Town Council

Date:

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX TO MINUTES OF MEETING 12TH SEPTEMBER 2020

EXPENDITURE APPROVAL LIST - SEPTEMBER 14TH 2020		
PAYEE	DETAILS	GROSS PAYMENT
Redwax	Managed IT 01/08/20	£ 195.00
Redwax	Managed IT 01/09/20	£ 195.00
Redwax	Office 365. Inv 6112 24/08/20	£ 9.48
Warks Pension Scheme	Staff Pensions -Aug	£ 1,000.66
HMRC	Staff NI/PAYE - Aug	£ 1,010.97
Council Staff	Staff Salaries - August payroll	£ 2,719.18
Busy Biz	Forum Services (Sept edition)	£ 237.50
KMS Litho	Forum printing (Sept Edition)	£ 672.00
Talacom	Editorship of Forum (Sept edition)	£ 930.00
Lawns to Mow	ContractSports Club Mow/ Replace dog bin	£ 6,336.00
Lloyds	Bank charges (general acc.) Jul-Aug	£ 10.34
Pink Connect	Telephone/broadband services 070920	£ 174.85
Stephi Paull	Payroll Services - August	£ 21.00
PIRMS	Repairs to Skate ramps	£ 75.00
EON	NCH Electricity 25/06/20	£ 143.97
SSE	NCH gas (estimated reading - quarter 2)	£ 60.35
SSE	NCH gas (Actual reading)	£ 1.27
Parkers Dutch Bulbs	Shipston in Bloom (from Grant)	£ 1,260.00
Land Registry	Card payment - Station Rd search	£ 6.00
AHGTC	Town Crier subs to the Guild	£ 35.00
SLCC	Membership renewal - Assistant to Clerk	£ 44.00
Feldon Graphics	A4 'Play Area Closed' signs x 7 (July)	£ 35.00
Cllr Saunders	Mayor's annual allowance	£ 2,500.00
Cllr Cooper	Deputy Mayor's annual allowance	£ 500.00
Verbally added by the Clerk during the meeting - Zoom invoice		£ 14.39