



**SHIPSTON ON STOUR TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

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**General Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs T Booth (Mayor), C Howarth, J Dinnie, J Williams, H Kelly, M Kelly, S Crockett and V Benjamin-Smith

**Public: 0 Press: 1 SDC: 2 WCC:0 Clerk: E. Booth & D. Hardiman**

<b>1</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE AND NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Cllrs P Tesh, G Kelly, I Cooper, R Walters and J Barker
<b>2</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST</b> (Councillors are reminded that, unless they have been granted a dispensation, if they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter as defined by Regulations made by the Secretary of State where the interest is theirs, their spouse or civil partner's, or is an interest of somebody with whom they are living as a husband or wife or as if they were civil partners, they may not participate in any discussion of or vote on the matter and must also leave the room for the duration of the matter. They must also disclose the interest if it has not yet been entered on the Authority's register unless it is a sensitive interest)  None
<b>3</b>	<b>TO NOTE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK</b>  None
<b>4</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING</b>  To confirm the minutes of the meeting that took place on Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 <u><b>Proposed by Cllr C Howarth, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously</b></u>  To confirm the minutes of the meeting that took place on Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 <u><b>Proposed by Cllr H Kelly, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, motion carried unanimously</b></u>
<b>5</b>	<b>CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS – RECOMMENDATION FROM THE STAFFING WORKING GROUP</b>  <u><b>Recommendation that Council approve the co-option of Mr Steve Crockett to Shipston Town Council</b></u> <u><b>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, motion carried unanimously</b></u>  <u><b>Recommendation that Council approve the co-option of Mrs Vanessa Benjamin-Smith to Shipston Town Council</b></u> <u><b>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously</b></u>

	Acceptance of Office read out and signed by both S Crockett and V Benjamin-Smith
<b>6</b>	<b>CLERK'S REPORT</b> Report as circulated – noted and discussed.
<b>7</b>	<b>REPORTS</b>
<b>7.1</b>	<p><b>Town Councillor (STC – Shipston Town Council)</b></p> <p><b>Cllr M Kelly</b> reported that this month she has taken part in The Shipston Amateur Dramatics Society performance of "A Bunch of Amateurs" - which went very well and rehearsals are now starting for the next production of "Hi-de-Hi" in October. Also been very busy with Shipston Proms, which is fast approaching, events kicking off on Friday. Shipston introducing Act has taken place and now have 2 winners ready to perform on the "Last Night of the Proms"</p> <p><b>Cllr H Kelly</b> reported that she has received a complaint in the form of a letter from the previous members of Shipston in Bloom, via the Forum. Cllr H Kelly reported that the current volunteers are doing a fantastic job and that STC only took on the group at the end of the year, not the end of the summer as stated in the letter, there was no handover period. It was decided that the Council will respond to the letter directly, rather than publish in the Forum.</p> <p><b>Cllr J Williams</b> reported that a detailed document explaining why Shipston should have a banking hub and access to cash, was submitted on the 16<sup>th</sup> May, he will be giving another week to respond, but if no response, will then escalate this to a formal complaint. When speaking to local retailers it was discovered that after the attempted burglary at Lloyds Bank, footfall and therefore sales in Shipston went down – this is because the bank acts as an anchor outlet – people come to Shipston to do their banking, then spend money elsewhere in the town whilst visiting. Reported that Lloyds have put in a planning application to remove the ATM and signage, there is worry that this will accelerate the closure of the bank, which is due to close in November. Reported that a banking hub, having 5 different banks in one hub would be beneficial to Shipston – effectively 5 anchor outlets – bringing more footfall to Shipston. The bank building has been a listed building since 1958, would be worth finding out who owns the building and see where to go from there. If we can't get a banking hub it will also cause a problem to local events taking place, what to do with the cash? Mentioned that it could be a possibility of placing machines at New Clark House for people to do their banking, but would need research. Manuaela Perteghella will be raising a question to HM treasury. It also might be worth contacting the press. SDC Cllrs O Hatch and D Passingham have been copied into various emails, to help if they can. Cllr D Passingham has put Cllr J Williams in contact with Julia Artoon from WCC (sustainable Communities &amp; Places Officer) who has been very supportive, a meeting is taking place on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July. Cllr T Booth asked that we revisit this at the next Council meeting in July to see how this meeting went and where we are with progress.</p> <p><b>Cllr J Dinnie</b> reported that he attended the amdram performance of "A Bunch of Amateurs" which was really good. Attended the book club at the library, where they discussed "Orbital", really great. Attended the teddy bears picnic for Great Big Green Week which was really great. Has attended a landlords course, inspections should be taking place every 5 years, will circulate all info to Councillors.</p> <p><b>Cllr C Howarth</b> reported that he has circulated an assets checklist, similar to the one that Wellesbourne use, in order to check our own assets. Reported that he has been involved with banking over the previous months, but now office staff are all set up. Expressed thanks to all those involved in organising the VEday80 events throughout the town. Has been involved in meetings at The Hub, where various aspects of football were discussed, MUGA pitch discussions and also a discussion about the Shipston Proms Ibiza night. Attended Sports Club and Football Club AGM: Sports Club has now re-organised and has a new bar manager, which is now a completely separate entity to the club. Alex and Kayleigh are no longer running the football club, they have a new chair, meeting them soon for an update.</p>

	<p>SDC Cllr Dave Passingham to speak to SDC about funding for 3G pitch at the hub. Spent a long time in discussion in regards to the Youth Club modular building, this has now been handed to Ian Cooper and John Dinnie.</p> <p><b>Cllr T Booth</b> reported that he has attended Warwick and Stratford Mayor making events, which were very good. Expressed thanks to Laura from the Forum, for a nice issue this month. Gave Councillors the heads up that the Mayors Column for July will include a positive outlook for the Ellen Badger, their open morning was very good and would like to encourage the community that this will be good for Shipston. The Mayor's column every month will include an individual business around the town. This month will be "Time in Hand"</p> <p>Had a meeting with Sarah Edmonds about the Carol Service on the following Sunday after the Victorian Evening, event to be at St Edmonds Church.</p> <p>The Mayor's Civic Service will be in March next year, Easter falls slightly earlier.</p> <p>In the coming weeks, will be attending the Warm Hub, an event in Evesham, lots of fetes and Shipston Proms.</p>
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>District Council issues (SDC – Stratford District Council)</b></p> <p>Reports as circulated.</p> <p><b>Cllr D Passingham</b> reported that he has had a call from the Stratford Herald regarding comments on the Campden Road estates on Open Space, service charges, completion of roads etc. Has also been talking to the residents association regarding this.</p> <p>Has also had an email about Cycle route Feasibility sent about a month ago – not much response. It is part of Shaping Travel in Shipston – routes to schools being one of the points made.</p> <p>Has received an email regarding a public consultation for a proposed housing development located on Shoulderway Lane – has looked at the original planning application from a few years ago.</p> <p>The overview and scrutiny committee meeting will be taking place on the 20<sup>th</sup> July.</p>
<b>7.3</b>	<p><b>County Council issues (WCC – Warwickshire County Council)</b></p> <p><b>No Report</b></p>
<b>7.4</b>	<p><b>Blue Light update –</b></p> <p>Police Beat Report circulated to all and noted.</p> <p>First Responders - Cllr T Booth reported that they have now received their new vehicle from Jaguar Land Rover – this was secured through an internal competition at his place of work. It is now being kitted out with medical equipment in order to be used. The old Subaru will be given to Alcester First Responders. There have been 48 call outs in May – 16 of these were category 1's 22 category 2's: 22 were in Shipston, the rest were in surrounding villages. There have been 200 call outs year to date. Now have a team of 15 first responders on board.</p>
<b>7.5</b>	<p><b>Shipston Forum</b></p> <p>Very busy collating articles, events and columns ready for the July edition. Reported that they have had a contribution from Shipston High School this month.</p>
<b>7.6</b>	<p><b>Ellen Badger Hospital</b></p> <p>Cllr J Dinnie reported that the Call to the Secretary of State is going to happen. The building is well built and finished. Reported on a good discussion regarding staffing of the virtual ward – looking after people in their own homes. Would like to put forward that we register the 1992 building as an asset of Community Value – something that will be raised in the Finance Working Group.</p>
<b>7.7</b>	<p><b>Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership</b></p> <p>Cllr J Dinnie reported on a very positive meeting, lots of good stuff coming from the partnership meeting.</p>
<b>7.8</b>	<p><b>Shipston High School</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>

8	<p><b>OPEN FORUM (15 MINUTE DURATION)</b></p> <p>None</p>
9	<p><b>ENVIRONMENT AND FLOOD ACTION WORKING GROUP</b></p> <p>Minutes as circulated – noted</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that STC approve the printing and issuing of business/contact cards at a quoted cost of £130.00 (excluding VAT if applicable) This expenditure will be allocated to the SAFAG designated bank account.</u></b></p> <p>Discussion took place as to why this quote is so high, it was suggested that it could be possible to source a cheaper quote. Amendment was made to the recommendation.</p> <p><b><u>Amendment to the wording of the recommendation Proposed by Cllr J Dinnie, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that STC approve the printing and issuing of business/contact cards at a cost less than quoted by Council's preferred supplier.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr J Dinnie, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that STC approve the purchase of a table-top display kit at a quoted cost of £138. This expenditure will be allocated to the SAFAG designated bank account.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr C Howarth, seconded by Cllr H Kelly, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that STC approve the quote of £900 plus VAT from Simon Healy for the agreed works on Stretton Brook. This expenditure will be costed against the SAFAG designated bank account.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr J Dinnie, seconded by Cllr J Williams, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that STC approve the quote of £2,600 plus VAT from Joe Dee for the repair works on Nethercote Brook. This expenditure will be costed against the SAFAG designated bank account.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr H Kelly, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p>
10	<p><b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>Minutes as circulated.</p> <p>All planning applications can be views at <a href="https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/">https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/</a></p> <p>25/01194/TREE - STREET RECORD, Orchard Close, Shipston on Stour, CV36 4HR – T1 Sequoia – Crown lift to 3 metres from ground level to clear footpath and neighbouring property. Current height approximately 16 metres. Remove deadwood.</p> <p><b><u>No Rep – Proposed by Cllr J Dinnie, seconded by Cllr M Kelly, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p>
11	<p><b>HERITAGE, AMENITIES AND LEISURE PROJECTS WORKING GROUP (HALP)</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>
12	<p><b>GENERAL PURPOSES/COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP</b></p> <p>Tracker/Action Log as circulated.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approve CPD accredited Online Play area assessment training course provided by ClickHSE at a cost of £19.99 per person (1-9people)</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr T Booth, seconded by Cllr H Kelly, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p>

	<p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approve the increase in online presence for Mayoral/Council activities via FB/IG Pages, including VLOG linked to Website and administered by Mayor/Office</u></b>  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr T Booth, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p>
13	<p><b>FINANCE WORKING GROUP</b>  Minutes as circulated.</p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council provides approval for the Angling Club container placement at the Sports Club</u></b>  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr H Kelly, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approves the AGAR and supporting documents</u></b>  <b><u>Point 1 – Annual governance statement (section 1)</u></b>  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously</u></b>  <b><u>Point 2 – Accounting statements (section 2)</u></b>  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Recommendation that Council approves the Risk Register</u></b>  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr H Kelly, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p>
14	<p><b>FINANCIAL MATTERS</b>  Invoices for approval as circulated.</p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr H Kelly, motion carried unanimously</u></b></p>
15	<p><b>STAFFING WORKING GROUP</b>  Minutes as circulated  Business to be conducted during the closed session.</p>
16	<p><b>LOCAL NATURE ACTION PLAN</b>  Nothing to report</p>
17	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC</b></p> <p>In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest, as if members of the public and press were present during the consideration of such business, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under paras 1 &amp; 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.</p> <p><b><u>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p> <p>Council reached a decision during the closed session.  <b><u>Proposed by Cllr M Kelly, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></b></p>
17	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>  Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025</p>

The meeting closed at 2050 hrs.

Signed..... Date.....

Cllr T Booth (Mayor) Shipston on Stour Town Council