



SHIPSTON ON STOUR TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

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General Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council, Monday 14th July at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs T Booth (Mayor), R Walters, P Tesh, C Howarth, V Benjamin-Smith, J Dinnie, S Crockett, H Kelly, I Cooper and J Williams

Public: 1 Press: 1 SDC: 2 WCC: 0 Clerk: E. Booth

1	TO RECEIVE AND NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs G Kelly, M Kelly, J Barker
2	DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST (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
3	TO NOTE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK None
4	MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING To confirm the minutes of the meeting that took place on Monday 9 th June 2025. <u>Proposed by Cllr J Dinnie, seconded by Cllr J Williams, 3 x abstentions due to absence, motion carried.</u>
5	CLERK'S REPORT Report as circulated – noted and discussed.
6	REPORTS
6.1	Town Councillor (STC – Shipston Town Council) Cllr J Williams Lloyds bank now been escalated to the complaints department which would go to an independent person beyond that. They changed the assessment criteria without notifying anyone. The Lloyds bank building is owned by a Jewish Charity, advised he has written to them to ask about what the next steps will be for use of the building as it would be ideal to use as a banking hub, however Link keep objecting against our town having a hub. Attended CCTV meeting at SDC building last week, found this very informative and useful. SDC showed how the cameras operate and advised they are updated every 2 years. There is an ANPR camera on Darlingscote road, however it does not measure speed. SDC also carry out regular patrols of each camera. Whilst in

the monitoring office, there was a report of a missing person in which the CCTV operators were liaising with the police to find the missing person and their radios are linked together. Potential use of the camera situated at Mill Street to support with a flood warning system. There have been 67 missing person reports and 251 incidents between April 2024 and April 2025 which include crime prevention, rough sleepers, medical emergencies etc. There is currently no footfall monitor, would be good if biannual CCTV forums were carried out with Q and A sessions. Would also be beneficial to promote CCTV in the area on platforms such as the Shipston Forum. Another point that was discussed that would decrease crime is a Pub Watch scheme and possibly retail radios. SDC advised that no SLA will be given to STC before the outstanding payment has been made. Sam and Trevor ensure that STC get it's value out of the current CCTV system and it is well used by authorities. They were both very eager to work alongside us as a Council and we had a discussion of adding a camera onto London Road to cover any blind spots and ensure the Cemetery Lodge is safe following recent burglaries.

Cllr I Cooper Expresses congratulations to all those involved in Shipston Proms, especially on the last night.

Cllr H Kelly Reiterated that the events Shipston Proms organised and held were brilliant. Attended the WALC WCC Devolution and Local Government reorganisation meeting. Also attended the SCAN meeting, they had a talk from the Shipston Librarian, was not aware the Library holds events every day that they are open, which covers all ages. There has been a problem with watering the planters and tubs around town, L2M have been watering everyday but climate change is hitting hard. Idea that STC take the lead on this and look at fitting solar panels onto New Clark House, LED lights would also be a lot cheaper.

Cllr S Crockett Nothing to report

Cllr J Dinnie Also attended the CCTV meeting at SDC, agrees it was useful. Discussed ideas about promoting CCTV around Shipston. Dave organised a visit at Sherbourne Recycling, it was amazing to see how the equipment there is put together. Saw a film of how it operates and how important it is to recycle properly. However the deterioration with their machine was an issue, it does not look like it is being maintained properly, could be a management issue which was raised with Dave.

Cllr V Benjamin-Smith Has been attending as many working groups as possible to see which ones suit.

Cllr C Howarth Been working with E Booth on the new police lease which has now reached a hopeful conclusion which was taken to Finance. Attended meeting with management team at football club, they had a lot of questions which need to be answered prior to the sports meeting. Attended meeting with J Dinnie about the High School application call where issues were identified and partially answered. Had a meeting with a member of SDC who was involved in housing looking to introduce a community grant system later on in the year for community buildings which we may have access to. Shipston proms were brilliant with 2 weeks of jam packed events. Attended a Rotary coffee morning where a lot of questions were asked about the Youth Club building proposal. Also attended the Devolution training with WALC and has circulated a report. Would be a good idea to have a STC Councillor on the committee to represent our area as there are only 11 Parish councils represented at present. Important for STC to have a representative to put issues forward, concerned that STC could get swallowed up and forgotten about. Completed the playground training module which was found to be quite brief. Had a towns network call on Thursday, introduced us to a new interactive tool they have for looking at towns and getting ONS data and Warwickshire data which is live and gets updated throughout the day. Includes demographics, gender, population, ethnicity, crime etc. Will show this tool to DH and EB in the first instance, then once it is made official, this will be circulated to all Councillors.

Cllr P Tesh Nothing to report

Cllr R Walters Delighted to deputise for the Mayor at the Alcester Civic Service last week. Also been working on obtaining modular building information and pricing for the new Youth Club building on behalf of FWG.

Cllr T Booth Attended around 7-9 Shipston proms events, 2 amazing weeks. Attended Evesham civic event and a few summer fetes in the area. Thanked Laura for another great edition of the Shipston Forum. The new Mayor of Shipston page on Facebook has been a success. It is a good

	platform to use to keep residents up to date on what is going on around Shipston. Completed playground training with HSE, was very brief. Refers more to playgrounds within schools, however other information given was more relevant to STC, therefore can be adapted to our needs.
6.2	District Council issues (SDC – Stratford District Council) Reports as circulated. Cllr D Passingham Expressed interest in a cycle route grant, which has been accepted for a feasibility study along Darlingscote Road/Campden Road. Work needed on the junction, could be in the second tranche of the Community Highway action fund. Proposed motion this morning at SDC regarding a call in for the EBH to support with the process, they have taken the beds away before the consultation. 25 voted for with some abstentions. Manuela has written to the Secretary of State to ask for the decision of the ICB to be reviewed. Cllr O Hatch Explained more about Devolution. The Deloitte report came out in favour of 2 unitary authorities (South and North). This is an independent report on the criteria to put forward. SDC also voted that this is their preferred option.
6.3	County Council issues (WCC – Warwickshire County Council) None
6.4	Blue Light update – PC Hammond – High number of car thefts, Jaguar and Land Rover vehicles have become the biggest target. Have responded to 14 vehicle thefts with resulted in 12 of the offenders getting a custodial sentence. Ensure a visit to every person who reports vehicle crime. There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour and nuisance reports have been received in higher numbers as children are close to finishing school. There were also a few drunken children at Shipston Proms on the last night. Defibrillators are being fitted into Police vehicles, however Police in rural areas will not be having them in their vehicles, possibility to speak to surrounding parishes for a funding option. Have been scoping out vulnerable locations which could be used in the traveller community. Warwick and Southam areas are having issues at present, communicating regularly with the Traveller Liaison Officer. Taking a different stance on County lines issues, instead of attending schools for a talk there is an idea to hold drop in centres. This would be rolled out to the residents of Shipston in the first instance. Ensure Police and Schools are communicating regularly. Any reports of crime can be made on Crimestoppers, online, calling 101 or on the Warwickshire Police website.
6.5	Shipston Forum Lots of Shipston Proms photos in this edition, many activities and also the Mayor's business feature of 'Mad Mollys'.
6.6	Ellen Badger Hospital SDC advised that Manuela Perteghella has put a call in to the Secretary of State to make them aware of the issues that South Warwickshire health services are facing.
6.7	Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership None.
6.8	Shipston High School Cllr I Cooper attended Governors meeting last week. Advised the development of the new sports hall will be started in October 2025 and will hopefully be completed by November 2026. Pupil administration numbers have significantly decreased, this year the admissions number have dropped from around 110 new pupils to only 85, which is a lot lower than it should be, STC should look to support with this as much as possible. There are also plans in place to refurbish the tennis court as a MUGA, also plans to turn the other unused area into a more useful facility for the school.
7	OPEN FORUM (15 MINUTE DURATION) Shipston resident reported that the contractors involved in the hospital have not been watering the flowers that were planted. Mentioned this to them on the open day and was told the flowers

	<p>would be watered but they still haven't. It was advised the contractors are responsible for the plants for 5 years, look to contact the sustainability team and the site manager. Would also be a good idea to contact Mike Wells.</p> <p><u>Action - Cllr H Kelly to chase this up.</u></p>
8	<p>ENVIRONMENT AND FLOOD ACTION WORKING GROUP Minutes as circulated - Noted</p> <p><u>Recommendation – that Council approve the purchase of a water butt to be fitted at NCH at a cost of approximately £50.00 proposed by Cllr H Kelly, seconded by Cllr V Benjamin-Smith, motion carried unanimously.</u></p> <p><u>Recommendation – that Council approve a budget of £1000 for Sensory Garden maintenance</u> Discussion took place and Cllr I Cooper advised there is no budget outlined for the Sensory Garden for this financial year. Look at new budgets later this year to add on for 2025/26. In the meantime, Cllr H Kelly is able to use current Shipston in Bloom budget and to be responsible for allocating money and budgeting in line with the current figure that is left to be spent. To be discussed further at FWG.</p> <p><u>Recommendation – that Council approve Tippers quote for gravel and mulch for the Sensory Garden at a cost of £270.34 Proposed by Cllr H Kelly, seconded by V Benjamin-Smith, motion carried unanimously.</u></p> <p><u>Recommendation-that STC approve the additional cost of £450 plus VAT (£540) for the intervention works carried out on Stretton Brook.</u> <u>This will be costed against the SAFAG designated bank account (Maintenance Fund).</u> <u>Proposed by Cllr H Kelly, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></p> <p><u>Recommendation-that STC approve the quote of £2,700 plus VAT from Joe Dee for the repairs to the interventions on Pig Brook.</u> <u>This will be costed against the SAFAG designated bank account (Maintenance Fund).</u> <u>Proposed by Cllr J Dinnie, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, motion carried unanimously.</u></p>
9	<p>PLANNING COMMITTEE Minutes as circulated.</p> <p>All planning applications can be viewed at https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/</p> <p>25/01456/FUL – 23 Norgren Crescent, Shipston on Stour, CV36 4BF – single storey rear extension with ramp access <u>No Rep – Proposed by Cllr P Tesh, seconded by Cllr R Walters, motion carried unanimously.</u></p> <p>25/01475/TREE - Gyrotory Garden A3400, Shipston on Stour, Small Parish Council Garden with Flag Pole, Mill Street – T1 – Oak – Reduce lateral crown spread by 1 metre and Crown raise by 2.5 metres. Discussion ensued regarding bird nesting season, if the works are carried about before the end of nesting season, a nesting survey will need to be carried out. <u>No Objection – Proposed by Cllr R Walters, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></p>

	<p>25/01521/OUT - Land North of Darlingscote Road, Shipston on Stour – Construction of up to 102 dwellings with private gardens and garages/parking; provision of a vehicular access onto Darlingscote Road; and provision of new roads, public open space and drainage works across the site</p> <p>A discussion ensued, agreed to prepare ratification at the next Planning meeting. <u>Holding objection proposed by Cllr P Tesh, seconded by J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></p>
10	<p>HERITAGE, AMENITIES AND LEISURE PROJECTS WORKING GROUP (HALP)</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
11	<p>GENERAL PURPOSES/COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP</p> <p>Tracker/Action Log as circulated.</p> <p>Advised that the Council needs to brainstorm ideas for a use of the Chapel now the clearance and exterior works have been completed. Need to agree on a use before STC can look at potential grants and funding.</p> <p><u>Recommendation for the removal of a tree at Hawthorn way. Previously debated and subject to insurers direction. STC has since received further instruction to confirm the required removal of the tree. Proposed by Cllr T Booth, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, 6 for, 4 against. Motion carried.</u></p>
12	<p>FINANCE WORKING GROUP</p> <p>Minutes as circulated.</p> <p><u>Recommendation that Council accept the grant for the Darlingscote Road Cycle scheme feasibility study. Proposed by Cllr I Cooper, seconded by Cllr C Howarth, motion carried unanimously.</u></p> <p><u>Recommendation that STC submit the planning application for the Youth Club Building. Proposed by Cllr I Cooper, seconded by Cllr J Dinnie, motion carried unanimously.</u></p> <p><u>Recommendation that council apply to include the Ellen Badger Hospital as an Asset of Community Value. Proposed by Cllr I Cooper, seconded by Cllr H Kelly, motion carried unanimously.</u></p> <p>Mentioned that the specific building outlined above is the 1992 building, not the main Ellen Badger Hospital.</p>
13	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS</p> <p>Invoices for approval as circulated.</p>
14	<p>STAFFING WORKING GROUP</p> <p>Minutes as circulated</p> <p><u>Recommendation that Council approve the following policy documents (Safeguarding, Privacy Notice, Sexual Harassment) Proposed by Cllr J Dinnie, seconded by Cllr P Tesh, 9 for, 1 abstention, motion carried.</u></p>

	Cllr C Howarth expressed he no longer wishes to be involved with updating policies.
15	LOCAL NATURE ACTION PLAN Advised the Tree Council are offering free trees to communities. Could be an opportunity to obtain some. Could be used at some of STC's assets.
16	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 11th August 2025

The meeting closed at 20:43 hrs.

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

Cllr T Booth (Mayor) Shipston on Stour Town Council