

# Shipton Parish Council

## Minutes of Parish Council meeting 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018

		Action
1	<p><b>Apologies</b> –Cllr Ian Griffiths sent apologies for the meeting. Also Cllr Robin Hughes and Cllr Paul Hodgkinson. Present: Chair – Richard Brown, Peter Kealy, Julia Mangan, Dick Bradford</p>	
2	<p><b>Declaration or renewal of Pecuniary Interests</b> It was noted that Julia Mangan is a Trustee on the Reading Room committee.</p>	
3	n/a	
4	<p><b>Members of the Public Forum</b> None</p>	
5	<p><b>Approval of minutes from the Annual Council meeting held in August 2018</b> Approved, Signed and dated by Chair</p>	
6	<p><b>Actions from the meeting above</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An email from Tony Walsh offered no information on the boundaries of Shipton Solers and Oliffe, but his enquiries are ongoing at the County Records Office.</li> <li>• Overgrowth on the road to the traffic lights has been cut back considerably and has much improved visibility and passing for traffic</li> <li>• Grit Bins have now all been filled by Amey including Hampen, and Amey have been reminded of the map showing the grit bins for future use.</li> <li>• The County Council have been informed of the updated information for the Snow Warden and enquiries have been made concerning the suitability of the current snow plough.</li> <li>• It was agreed that village-wide CCTV is not a practical solution to theft problems and should be left to individual residents. Bourton On The Water is much bigger than Shipton and useful ANPR conclusions are unlikely. An undertaking to residents has previously been made that vehicle details would not be noted during Speedwatch sessions"</li> <li>• After investigation by Ian, it was agreed that there is no siting available for a grit bin in Dark Lane</li> </ul>	Clerk to follow up
7	<p><b>Administrative – New standing orders and GDPR</b> It was noted that there are new Standing Orders available from GAPTC but lack of time means they have not yet been reviewed. GDPR is being reviewed by Pete Kealy, who will talk to Susan Livesay about holding email information.</p>	Move to next meeting. Clerk to look at printers
8	<p><b>Planning Applications</b> No new planning applications but a road closure has been advised – email to be sent to residents. Discussion took place to try to make contact with the Empty Property Officer at CDC and to enquire whether Council Tax is being paid on The Forge, as no answer has been received from the Parish Council's letter to Dr Moon.</p>	Clerk to follow up
9	<p><b>Reading Room Update</b> See attached report.</p>	
10	<p><b>Finance</b> The balance of the bank account is currently approx £9000. Forthcoming expenditure will be Clerk Pay x2, possible tree works <i>Payments for authorisation and paid between meetings</i></p>	

Name	Amount £	Cheque No
Clerk Pay	444.45	online
PATA payroll invoice	12.50	online
Networld Sports	39.94	online

Get more advice

Richard Brown to look at goals

Advice and quotations have been obtained from Dowdeswell Forestry about the trees on the village green. Removal of the Horse Chestnut tree has been recommended. A neighbour strongly objected to this and it was agreed that more advice will be sought before any work is undertaken.  
Goal nets have been bought and the football goals need sanding and repainting. Richard Brown offered to look at this and the Clerk will look at the cost of new goals if not repairable.

11 **Precept**

It was noted that whatever option the Reading Room Committee opt for (repair or replace), the Parish Council have a strategic intent to Support the Reading Room committee. There have been meetings held between the Parish Council, Reading Room Committee and GAPTC to discuss the way forward.  
Discussion took place regarding the need for a larger Public Works Loan than previously thought and the precept will probably need to rise from approx. 63p per week currently to £1.60 per week for a Band D property in the village.  
It was noted that presently Shipton's precept is less than 50% of the average precepts nationally.  
Approx £9600 will be needed to make the first repayment of a £250,000 Public Works Loan.  
Work is still ongoing and a decision on the precept will be made on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 meeting. No work will begin until the village residents have been consulted.  
There was a brief discussion about whether a playground could be incorporated into the plans for the Reading Room and this can be investigated at a later date.

12 **Highways & VAS**

Following on from the meeting in August with Danny Taylor from Glos Highways, there is now signage on the A40 advising traffic turning right at the traffic lights to give way to oncoming traffic. Glos Highways have been looking at improving the white lines on the road and the timing of the traffic lights.  
Glos Highways have been informed of the difficulty of entering the driveway of Crossroads Cottages and the possibility of painting keep clear on the road.  
Following on from several complaints from pedestrians in the village, pavement parking was discussed, and it was agreed that the Parish Council will put a polite note on cars parked on pavements when there is not space for either wheelchairs or pushchairs to get through. It was noted that the Police have advised that they can prosecute offenders for causing an obstruction.  
Leaves – after comments from residents, it was noted that Glos Highways have stated that this is usually referred to CDC.  
Drains – the drains at Shipton Sollars Manor corner has been looked at by Amey and may be rodded/replaced with the upcoming work.  
VAS – Andoversford PC are keen to borrow the equipment and have checked their insurance is valid for it. They have been advised to check with Glos Highways before using for correct location placement in their village. Paul Morrish offered to take the VAS to Andoversford.  
The Police have offered to undertake speed monitoring and several locations in the village have been put forward. No time scale has been given yet.  
It was agreed to put speeding information in the notice boards in the village.  
Bagged grit has been ordered from Glos Highways and will be stored in the yard at North Farm and Glos Highways will contact North Farm directly.  
It was agreed to leave the damaged grit bin on Kilham Lane until Spring and all Councillors will monitor the bin during the winter

All - Parking notices

Clerk to contact Aford PC

All to monitor

**Dates for next meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 (precept setting) , 20<sup>th</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> May (Annual meeting).**

## Reading Room Project update 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018.

In October 2017 the Village gave overwhelming support to the project put forward by the RR Trustees of building an extension to the Reading Room to house a reception foyer and modern toilets as well as substantially renovating the original old building. This included reorganising the internal layout, renewing all the electrics, installing insulation throughout, curing the damp issues and fixing the roof. At that time the Village also gave support to the prospect of a £75k Public Works Loan being taken out by the Parish Council to help Fund the project. This to be repaid re-paid via the Parish precept.

Planning Permission was successfully obtained in March of this year. There were then some amendments made to the plan to improve the internal layouts and finally Trustees went out to 3 building companies for quotations.

We received the last quote at the beginning of October. They ranged from £250K to £300K including VAT. Unfortunately, all three builders could not guarantee their prices where the refurbishment work was concerned. All said that until work got underway and the full extent of any problems were revealed, particularly with regard to the roof and damp issues it was not possible to be absolutely specific. Thus, substantial, potential financial risk of a cost over-run would remain with us, the Client.

It should be noted that the original estimation of the costs we had anticipated to carry out this approved scheme was £150k.

The Trustees feel that the current cost of the project, in the region of £300k, does not represent value for money. We are now investigating the option of a new-build which would potentially deliver a better building, properly fit for purpose that will serve the current needs of the Village and a building that is more economic to operate, ecological, and cheaper to build.

As far as fundraising is concerned we spent a great deal of time and effort in applying to one large Trust for a grant which could have yielded, at best, £150K.

We learned in October that we were entirely unsuccessful. It seems that there is a great deal of competition and that although there are a number of potential funding sources to whom we have every intention of applying, the chances of reaching anywhere near £300K of support is not likely.

Local fundraising has been valuable but clearly will only scratch the surface of this sort of target.

We welcome the support expressed by the village and the increasing support from the Parish Council.

Latterly we have held joint consultations with the Parish Council in seeking to find a solution.

It is important to show potential funding sources, how we hope to raise all of the monies necessary to complete the project. This includes the full list of other grant aid bodies that we are approaching, as well as local fundraising targets and assistance by way of a Public Works Loan. We are going to need a level of certainty that we are able to put together all the funds we require, before we are going to get substantial backing from the individual Trust Funds or be able sign contracts with builders.

Bear in mind that we may not get Planning Permission for a new build scheme and would have to fall back on the current £300K proposal.

Once we have all of the information, the Reading Room Committee will consult with the householders in the village, get agreement on a project plan, with all necessary planning consents in place, and three reputable contractors quotations based upon a full and comprehensive specification. It is our endeavour to be in this position by July or August of 2019, although we are obviously reliant upon third parties to achieve this.

**In any event, once we reach that point we do need to be in a position to move really quickly and get on with signing contracts knowing that, whatever level of support is required, it can be drawn down without delay.**