

Shipton Parish Council

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Minutes of General Meeting

Held by virtual means on Monday 5th October 2020, 19:30

Councillors present: Cllrs Kealy (Chairman), Griffiths, and McKinna
In attendance: 6 members of the public including Cllr P. Hodgkinson (part)

Due to the extraordinary and unprecedented circumstances we are currently living in, Shipton Parish Council conducted this meeting by virtual means in accordance with NALC guidelines. The statutory notice for the meeting and the agenda were published electronically on the Parish Council website and the village notice board. Members of the public were invited to attend. Following Government and NALC guidelines, only time critical items were discussed. Members of the public were encouraged to pass any comments they had for consideration to the Parish Clerk via email or telephone. Alternatively, comments could also be posted at Mulberry Barn, Shipton Oliffe.

201005/1 Chairman's Opening Remarks

- Cllr Kealy welcomed everyone to the meeting thanking Cllr Hodgkinson for attending.
- Cllr Kealy advised that the Covid Support Group will be operating again over the Winter months and details were recently circulated in the latest Parish Magazine.
- Thanks, were given to Kate Hathaway and friends for the sterling work clearing the ford at the bottom of Kilham Lane. Point 9.4 on the agenda is a discussion on a further tidy up around the village sponsored by Cllr Chalklin.
- Thanks, were also given to Derek Marshall, Shipton Oliffe's long standing postman who was retiring due to ill health. It was agreed that the PC would write a letter.

201005/2 **Apologies:** Cllrs Hughes and Chalklin sent their apologies.

201005/3 **Declarations of Interest:** NONE

201005/4 **Report from Cllr Hodgkinson:** A high level report was received about Covid and roads. Worryingly, Covid cases in the Cotswolds are increasing and Cheltenham A&E is currently closed. Parts of A429 will also be closed due to tree maintenance because of Ash Dieback.

201005/5 **Minutes of Previous Meetings:** Draft minutes of EGM held on 18th March 2020 and General Meeting held on 23 July 2020 were approved and signed by the Chair, Cllr Kealy.

201005/6 **Highways Update:** Cllr Chalklin's report on highway issues around the village was read out by Cllr Kealy. Consideration to be given in the future to publish this report. 14 defects have been reported @3.10.20.

201005/7 **Reading Room Update:** The Chair of the RR Committee updated Council on the renovation and extension project. Specifically, items covered included grants, PWL, building regulations, project management and construction. Discussions were starting to be held with neighbours and the impact of the works on these properties.

Please note the RR is currently closed due to Covid restrictions and will remain so for the foreseeable future.

201005/8 **Planning Applications:** None known at this time and the application for a development at the crossroads has been withdrawn.

201005/9 Finance Update received from Cllr Griffiths (RFO): It was agreed that it would be misleading to present interim figures at the meeting because the second half of the year would be vastly different to the first. We incurred just over £1,000 of spending in the first six months and will spend, £280,000 in the second. Our cash reserves are sufficient to cover a full year's precept income and cover the cost of paying for the project manager.

201005/10 Matters Arising for Discussion and Approval:

9.1 CRAFC have asked for a letter of support and endorsement regarding upkeep and maintenance of the recreation ground. Letter of endorsement agreed.

9.2 In line with SPC's Standing Orders, contracts > £500 need to be tendered. RFO to present tender document at the next meeting in January. Consideration will be given to a 12-month contract initially, then one for 3 years. Concern was raised about some verges in the village being poorly maintained (verge by Church and bridge in Solers). Cllr Griffiths confirmed that GCC were responsible and that they were actioning as required.

9.3 Dog fouling continues to be an issue in the village. Disappointedly, dog owners are not consistently clearing up after their dogs. Please note, dog faeces is NOT a fertilizer but a serious health hazard. It was agreed that at this stage no more poo bag dispensers or bins were required. NB: CDC have a dog incident reporting section on their website.

9.4 Village tidy. Cllr Chalklin would like to create a task force to 'keep the village tidy'.

9.5 Xmas Tree. PC agreed to fund 2020 Xmas tree through Dowdeswell.

Consideration to be given to the purchase of new lights and holding a village, socially distanced event around the tree at Xmas.

201005/11 Two additional items were added to the agenda at the last minute. The PC recognise that this is not good practice. However, on this occasion they were included:

11.1 Defibrillator training. PC to review current list and arrange re-fresher training asap.

11.2 Memorial benches in the Village. A request has been received to place a memorial bench in Shipton Oliffe. This was agreed in principle and a relevant policy adopted for this and future use.

201005/12 Date of next meeting – January 2021

Meeting closed at 20:28

Signed: *Peter Kealy* Chairman

Date: 21st January 2021