**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT**

**7.30PM ON THURSDAY 4th APRIL 2019 IN THE CHURCH CENTRE, SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councilors C Oakley (Acting Chairman), P Aaron, P Acton, T Kennard, R McNamara, K Ridout; P West, Footpaths Officer G Rains, District Councilor Sherry Jespersen and the clerk D Green; in addition, there were 6 members of the public in attendance

**395. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Webberley

**396. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Oakley reference Planning Item, 4 Honeysuckle Gardens, Shillingstone

**397. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2019 were approved.

**398. MATTERS ARISING:** discussed as below

**399. PUBLIC SESSION TO RAISE ISSUES**

Paul Williams, director of the not for profit entity ‘Equilibrium Youth Work CIC’ explained a new garden venture the ‘Big Yellow Bus Garden project’ which is now located in the village on a 4- acre site at Holloway Farm off the Blandford Road at the eastern edge of the village boundary. This is a project in association with DC Rangers and the landscaper David Harriman (who has worked with BBC and RHS) to provide an environment where plants can be grown and cultivated, including an allotment, for people of all ages, the purpose being to promote mental health and well-being. It is intending to involve many local groups ranging from schools to care homes in developing and using the garden. The site will be accessible from the Trailway and there will be a small parking area off the main road. The project will feature a sunflower maze and some wild flower meadows. The Chairman thanked Paul for explaining the project and asked if he would like to make a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting at the end of May.

Graham Rains raised the matter of the additional bollards near the Co-op which do not appear to have materialized. The Clerk agreed to chase up this matter.

Graham also raised the issue f the missing street sign at the ‘Knapps’, which has still not been replaced. The Clerk agreed to pursue this matter.

**400. COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

Cllr Jespersen provided her last report to the Parish Council. The new council is now officially up and running, and there should be no reduction in frontline services. This was a key intention of the creation of the unitary authority, and in fact, the better delivery of existing services is intended in the long term. Work of Durweston bridge was delayed by a fortnight, but this should have no ‘knock on effect’ on the intended closure dates in June & July. The C13 work has not been completed as was hoped, but this should be complete by the end of May when Durweston bridge is closed and will help to alleviate some of the traffic disruption.

Cllr Pauline Batstone advised that there had been some £6 million granted in additional funding for Social Services in Dorset and some £14 million for road maintenance, included much need pothole work. It is important that potholes are reported whenever and wherever they are found.

Cllr Jespersen confirmed that a second street sweeping machine has been obtained.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Jespersen for her work as District Councillor for the village over many years, particularly when the Neighbourhood Plan was being prepared.

**401. FOOTPATHS:**

**Footpaths officer report:**

Graham Rains reported that the opening of the Trailway diversion will be on 10th April to which invites have been issued. Graham said that this was excellent and would serve two purposes a) preventing riding on the platform and the dangers arising therefrom and b) would permit horses & cyclists to traverse the Trailway without having to stop and dismount. The Station project are planting hedgerows to alleviate the steepness of the bank in some areas.

Graham will attend to missing discs on the Round Village Trail signs, which appear to have been vandalised.

Graham confirmed that Phase 2 of the footpath project explained by Andrew Bradley to the Parish Council meeting in March had now been abandoned.

**402. PLANNING**

**I) New applications received before the meeting:**

a) 2/2019/0149/HOUSE |4 Honeysuckle Gardens Shillingstone DT11 0TJ

Erect single storey front and rear elevations and second storey side extension. Convert existing garage into living accommodation, install solar panels to south elevation and widen drive to create additional parking (demolish existing chimney).

Rachel Oakley the architect explained the scheme further, this involves staged extensions to an existing house, primarily to provide a downstairs ‘wet room’ which is mainly a single storey extension with a very small 1st floor extension at the rear of the property and a large single storey extension at the front. The proposal to install solar panels has been included in the application but these may only transpire at a later stage.

The Council had no objections to this proposal which is consistent with the Neighbourhood Plan.

b) /2019/0145/VARIA | Erect 1 No. dwelling. Land At 10 Wessex Avenue Shillingstone Dorset (Variation of Condition No. 2 of Planning Permission 2/2017/0869/FUL to replace Drawing No. 2625-01D with 2625-01F and 2625-02 to amend the front elevation. |

This is a proposal for the alteration of a new house which was approved in August 2017. The redesign is consistent with other property work in the same road. There were no objections to this proposal which is consistent with the Neighbourhood Plan.

1. **New applications to carry out works to trees in the conservation area received before the meeting:**

There were no new applications for tree works.

**403. FINANCES**

1. **To approve retrospective payments made following last SPC meeting:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CQ/Ref** | **Date** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** |
| DEBIT | 08/03/2019 | £ 50.92 | ESET | Antivirus |
| DEBIT | 18/03/2019 | £ 437.00 | Poulton’s | Storage shed balance |
| SO | 04/04/2019 | £ 333.00 | Cricket Club | Mowing |

**To approve cheques per list:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CQ** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** |
| 2244 | £ 65.00 | DAPTC | Planning Course |
| 2245 | £ 50.00 | Cricket Club | Seats repair |
| 2246 | £ 60.00 | PCC | Hall Hire |
| 2247 | £ 156.00 | Play Inspection Company | Play areas inspect |
| 2248 | £ 3,048.00 | Wessex Carpets | Pavilion flooring |
| 2249 | £ 176.49 | David Green | Expenses March |
| 2250 | £ 35.15 | Stacey Hankin | Cleaning |
| 2251 | £ 30.00 | Charlotte Hayward | Cleaning |
| 2252 | £ 432.00 | Jeff Ling | Hedge laying |
| 2253 | £ 101.03 | Water2business | Pav water |

1. **To approve grants for the year a) Parish Magazine b) Churchyard**

The Council resolved to make a grant of £500 to the Parish Magazine, and £250 to the PCC for the churchyard.

These will be paid in May after the precept is received.

1. **Consider the Clerks request to be paid monthly by standing order**

The Clerk explained cheques for his pay were taking a long time to clear and requested payment by Standing Order. The Council agreed to this request. The payments will still continue to be reported in the minutes.

The litter picker, Ian Kerr, has requested a small increase of £1.25 in the monthly fee. The council agreed to implement this from 1st June.

**404. PLAY AREAS, RECREATION GROUND AND PROPERTY CHECK:**

**Pavilion**

The Clerk that all works to the Pavilion have been completed, and it looks very good; the cleaners have been going in for the last 3 weeks and brought the Pod especially up to standard.

**Play Areas**

1. Action in relation to outcome of play areas condition report – clerks update

Inspection report(s) comments and agreed actions

The Clerk reported that the usual thorough play inspections had taken place and received their comprehensive reports. There are no serious issues to be addressed. The minor issues are these:

* Replacement of the missing screw in the rotating beam
* Adjust the cable spring on the zipwire
* The ground in front of the green seat at the rec looks as though it needs some reinforcement
* Jet wash the algae off (both at the rec & Augustan Ave)

It was resolved to ask Steven Day to rectify the minor repair Items. Cllr Kennard said he would use a special algae cleaning solution which is animal & child friendly to de-algae the play equipment.

The Clerk reported that he is still proposing to arrange a meeting with Redlynch to discuss the re-barking of the play area at the recreation ground, but it has been difficult to co-ordinate this.

1. **Trees and hedges – Clerk to report any issues**

Jeff Ling has completed the hedge laying at the allotments

**405. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk summarised the issue of the email from a resident and the subsequent correspondence between myself & Jane Williams of Environmental Services in relation to the North Dorset District Council ‘Public Spaces Protection Order’ (PSPO) effective from 31/03/2019. He has been asked various questions concerning the legality of allowing owners to let their dogs ‘off lead’ at the recreation ground, in the light of the changed policy regarding dogs on leads, and the introduction of new signage introduced, well before the issue of the PSPO.

The Clerk has established that no ‘offence’ under the PSPO if a landowner consents to allow dogs to roam freely on any land they control, although there is some uncertainty regarding allowing dogs to roam freely on marked sports pitches. He has asked Jane Williams of Environmental Services for guidance in relation to the Order but has not received any clear and unambiguous response.

The Clerk has ordered some signage which will specifically be located at the entrance to the Augustan Avenue Play area and at the recreation ground play area. He has also obtained some Dorset Council ‘Clean it Up’ signs which will be located on the gate entrances to the recreation ground.

The Chairman stated that there was no possibility that the order could be policed. Cllr Watts suggested that the council could adopt a ‘no dogs’ policy but it was pointed out that a lot of owners use the recreation ground as a cut through the to the Trailway, and a ‘no dogs’ policy was impractical. There was no collective view that the present ‘dogs off leads’ policy should be changed; the Council has a ’clear it up policy’ which present signage reflects, and the additional signage will help with. The Council agreed to monitor the situation and discuss further if required.

**406. TO AGREE ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

The possibility of sheds on the allotments raised by Cllr Kennard.

**407. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was confirmed as being on Tuesday 7th May 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Church Centre.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:55 p.m.