**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**7.30 PM ON THURSDAY 1th AUGUST 2019 IN THE CHURCH CENTRE, SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors M Webberley, L Gasson, P Aaron, R Acton, T Kennard, K Ridout; Clerk D Green; Footpaths Officer Graham Rains, County Councilor Pauline Batstone. In addition, there were 3 members of the public in attendance.

**452. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Received from Cllrs McNamara and White

**453. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**454. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2019 were approved.

**455. MATTERS ARISING:**

The Chairman reported that Cliveden Conservation had located a suitable mounting block for the Cross Head and Blandford Museum were in the process of designing an explanatory plaque; it is hoped that the relocation of the Cross Head will take place soon.

Cllr Ridout had obtained a stock of ‘Sustainability’ information related to household waste recycling from Dorset Waste Partnership. The Chairman suggested that this should be freely distributed to all households, the issue of what can and cannot be recycled being very confusing. The Clerk will ask the CEO of DWP if this could be considered.

The matter of the Little Lane Footpath extension was discussed in the light of Andrew Bradley’s update. The Council resolved to support the extension of the 30-mph zone and to install any additional signage as necessary, and to keep Okeford Fitzpaine Parish Council appraised of council actions.

**456. PUBLIC SESSION TO RAISE ISSUES**

A resident requested that consideration be given to improving access from the recreation ground to the Trailway for those using mobility aids; there is steep concrete step which makes it very difficult to traverse onto the Trailway. The Clerk agreed to look into this.

The issue of tennis club users parking in Honeysuckle Gardens rather than using the car-park was raised. It was resolved to ask the Tennis Club if the gate could be left open on tournament or event days and users requested to use the carpark rather than the road outside.

**457. COUNTY COUNCILORS REPORT**

Cllr Batstone advised that the new Council meetings had been well attended but there were having to strictly time limit speakers in the public session; Cllr Gasson praised the Council for holding evening meetings. Cllr Batstone mentioned her support for ‘Friends of Dorset Care Leavers charity which provides additional funding for young people leaving care; they plan to raise money by providing tea & cakes at Council meetings.

**458. FOOTPATH OFFICER REPORT**

Graham Rains reported that the paths to the quarry and by Shillingstone House had been cleared. He has reported the overgrown path adjacent to Bere Marsh to the Rangers. The Trailway is due to be cut soon. In relation to Little Lane a question had been raised concerning Shillingstone’s interest in this footpath, of which though only a quarter actually falls within the parish; Graham expressed the view that there is little enthusiasm for volunteering for clearance work in Shillingstone, but that in fact the footpath is well maintained by present contractors. The Chairman noted that Everett’s Lane footpath is rather overgrown, Graham advised that this will be dealt with soon.

The matter of the additional dog waste bin was discussed. Cllr Batstone had not seen the Trailway Trust’s minutes in relation to this subject but will look into and advise accordingly. The Clerk confirmed that he had not received a reply from the Trust regarding this suggestion.

**459. PLANNING**

**i) Existing applications update**

Nothing to report

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

No new applications received

**iii) Application for tree works conservation area received before the meeting:**

There were no new applications for tree works.

**460. FINANCES**

**a) To approve retrospective payments made following last SPC meeting**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CQ/Ref** | **Date** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** |
| DEBIT | 16/07/2019 | £ 192.00 | Dorset Council | Bin Emptying |
| SO | 30/07/2019 | £ 611.68 | David Green | June 2019 pay |
| SO | 01/08/2019 | £ 333.00 | Cricket Club | Mowing |

**b) To approve cheques per list**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** |
| 2341 | £ 182.25 | David Green | Expenses |
| 2342 | £ 30,935.81 | Star Rubber & Environmental | Resurface play area |
| 2343 | £ 120.00 | Elite Playground Inspections | Swings refit |
| 2344 | £ 120.00 | R Smith | Hedging work |
| 2345 | £ 75.00 | Stacey Hankin | Cleaning |
| 2346 | £ 75.00 | Charlotte Hayward | Cleaning |

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

The Chairman reported that the new surface for the play area had been completed to a very high standard. Cllr Gasson said that it had been tested by her grand-daughter and found to be very good. The Chairman reported that there had been some additional cost due to the very poor subsurface discovered the contractors, which included old play equipment buried by original installers. The matter of the distance of the gap between the slides run out to the ground will be considered. It was agreed that fencing around the area would not be desirable; some additional ‘No Dogs’ signs had been obtained and would be attached to the equipment.

The Clerk has received a quote of £325 for pressure washing the equipment. It was agreed to accept this. The swing seats have been re-fitted by Steven Day, who has also been asked to quote for rejuvenating the see-saw.

The Clerk Reported that RS Gardening have now completed the hedging and clearing work in the corner of the Recreation Ground near the play area and have been asked to fell two diseased elms near the gate. The Clerk will though clarify with the Cricket Club precisely what they are responsible for in terms of perimeter strimming.

**462. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The request by Savills for a meeting with the Parish Council regarding the Whitepit development was discussed. It was agreed that an informal meeting between the agent, architect, developers and representatives of the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood planning committee would be arranged shortly at the Church Centre. It was agreed that the purpose of the meeting would be to listen to the developer’s proposals in relation to the policies contained within Neighbourhood Plan on a ‘without prejudice’ basis.

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

Cllr Gasson raised the issue of installing a dropped kerb opposite the Co-op. Cllr Batstone agreed to ask Dorset Highways to consider this and will report back.

**464. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was confirmed as being on Thursday 5th September 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Church Centre.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.