**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**7.30PM ON THURSDAY 7th MARCH 2019 IN THE CHURCH CENTRE, SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councilors M Webberley (Chairman), C Oakley, T Kennard, R McNamara, P Aaron, K Ridout; Footpaths Officer G Rains, County Councilor Pauline Batstone and the clerk D Green; in addition, there were 6 members of the public in attendance and guest speaker Andrew Bradley

**380. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Jespersen, Acton

**381. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

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

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

**384. PUBLIC SESSION TO RAISE ISSUES**

Lesley Gasson queried what the date of Annual Parish Meeting would be held on. The Chairman advised that the date had not yet been set.

Lesley asked if Highways could be asked to provide a speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting, in view of the complexity and changing Durweston Bridge plans. The Chairman advised that we would not ask Highways, there being a lot of publicly available information regarding the closure programme.

Lesley wished to thank the DCC Rangers for their work on roadside verges to help pollinators, and queried when the road sweeper would next be working. The Clerk will enquire.

The matter of a bonfire that has been seen in Mr. Moore’s field was raised.The Chairman advised that this would have related to the recent tree removal, though this is perfectly legal being outside the Conservation Area.

Mike Powell confirmed that all the tree work in the Churchyard had been completed. It was commented that the reduction of crowns had improved visibility greatly.

The matter of the signage at the Recreation Ground was raised. It was queried as to when the rules regarding the control of dogs had changed. The Chairman advised that the decision to replace with ‘friendlier’ signage had been taken at an earlier meeting of the parish council, it had been agreed that unenforceable rules concerning dogs on leads are pointless as most people walk their dogs off lead; this is an acceptable practice providing that owners keep their animals ‘under control’.

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

The District Councillor was not at the meeting to deliver her report. There was a brief discussion of the report contents, the most notable feature being the immediate increase in Band ‘D’ council tax under the harmonisation policy.

**386. FOOTPATHS:**

**Proposed footpath improvements**

Andrew Bradley, project engineer with Highways Improvements, presented his proposals for a two-phased improvement of footpaths to the west of the village.

‘Phase 1’ is a plan to install a 1.5-metre-wide footway from Little Lane to a crossing point over the A357 opposite the Trailway car park, which will join a footpath from the ‘triangle’ to the Trailway itself. The footway will be separated from the road by a 1 metre grass strip. There will be a dropped kerb to facilitate the crossing. In terms of surfacing there are two options, either tarmac which may have a 20-year life or some form of gravel which would require renewing regularly. The cost of this phase of the project is £40,000, and the work could be completed in the next two months.

Phase 2 of the project would involve extending the footpath to the Co-op, this would be costlier, around £100,000. as it would involve widening of the road opposite which is a ‘pinch point’.

Cllr Oakley asked if there was any plan to extend the 30-mph zone to include the crossing point; Andrew advised that this was not possible as speed limits are there to protect property frontage; however, there would be potential for introducing a 40-mph zone before the commencement of 30-mph zone, which could help slow traffic at the crossing point. There will be additional signage for the crossing point. The Clerk enquired ass to whether a dropped kerb opposite the Co-op could be considered to ‘complete’ the footpath into the village. Andrew said he would consider this idea.

Graham Rains queried whether the grass verge which is walkable could be surfaced temporarily. Andrew said he would consider this. Graham also enquired if the surfacing material for the footpath could be ‘dressed asphalt’ of the type that has been used in Stourpaine; Andrew agreed to consider this idea.

**Footpaths officer report:**

Graham Rains gave his report:

Graham reported that the Rangers had performed some good work on the Trailway, including installation of a new drainage system. Cllr Kennard reported that this was in fact overflowing.

The work to divert the Trailway behind the Station was on going. Graham reported that encroachment work was likely to take place in June or July. The work of the Youth Club in improving the Trailway was praised. Graham reported that many of the markers for the ‘Round Village Trail’ had been removed and needed replacing. Cllr McNamara reported that there was a lot of activity at County Farm, it was stated that the existing tenant was leaving.

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to NDDC planning regarding the re-opening of the Old Ox to Hine Town Lane footpath, and also to Garry Pickering. He was advised that the proposal was and still is within the original planning application; the discharge of conditions allowing the installation of tree bark path rather than a hard surface has been permitted. Garry Pickering has advised the Clerk that he intends to complete the path in the next few weeks, weather permitting.

**387. PLANNING**

1. **Clerk to report on outstanding applications:**

The Clerk reported that Lynwood, The Knapps, had been given approval subject to a number of constraints relating to vehicle access and turning spaces, and not until a scheme for the disposal of foul and surface water drainage has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. It was reported that groundwork had commenced at the site and the main sewer connection had been confirmed.

The Clerk reported that he had made enquiries regarding the former ‘Westleigh’ site adjacent to the petrol station. NDDC have advised that providing the site is secure nothing can be done to require any ‘tidying up’ of the site.

1. **New applications received before the meeting:**

There were no new applications to report.

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.

**388. FINANCES**

1. To approve payments made following last SPC meeting:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CQ/Ref** | **Date** |  **Amount**  | **Payee** | **Reason** |
| Debit | 11/02/2019 | £10.00 | Stopped cheque fee | Grant issue |
| 2233 | 15/02/2019 | £3,701.40 | Dorset Wet Rooms Ltd (replacement) | Deposit refurb |
| 2234 | 12/02/2019 | £232.20 | Bourton Fencing | Deposit bollards |
| Debit Card | 14/02/2019 | £186.00 | Poulton’s (Dorset) Ltd | Deposit Shed |
| Debit Card | 02/03/2019 | £4,234.41 | Dorset Wet Rooms Ltd (balance) | Final Account |
| S/O | 04/03/2019 | £333.00 | Cricket Club (Jan paid) | Rec mowing |

 To approve cheques per list:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CQ** |  **Amount**  | **Payee** | **Reason** |
| 2235 |  £ 1,632.00  | Stur Newton Town Council | Lengthsman |
| 2236 |  £ 319.20  | Jeff Ling | Hedge cutting |
| 2237 |  £ 42.00  | GeoXphere | Mapping Services |
| 2238 |  £ 48.75  | I K Services | Litter pick |
| 2239 |  £ 583.16  | David Green | Feb 2019 pay |
| 2240 |  £ 583.16  | David Green | March 2019 pay |
| 2241 |  £ 125.60  | HMRC | PAYE |
| 2242 |  £ 66.79  | David Green | Feb 2019 expenses |
| 2243 |  £ 696.60  | Bourton Fencing  | Bollards/fencing work |

1. **Agree standing order for litter-pick services**

The Clerk reported that Ian Kerr, the litter picker, has requested payment by standing order from 01/04/20019. In return for this Ian has agreed to maintain the same fees for the next two years. The Clerk advised that this is a reasonable request by a trader whose charges do not change on a monthly basis. The Council agreed to this request.

1. **Clerks pay rise from 01 April 2019**

The Clerk reported that is a rise for pay-point SCP 20 from £10.301 per hour, to £ 10.57 per hour, with effect from 01/04/2019, per a national agreement with NALC. The Council approved this increase.

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

**The Pavilion Refurbishment project**

The Clerk reported that the project to refurbish the pavilion was well underway. Plumbing refurbishments have been completed by Dorset Wet Rooms and are to a good standard; painting by the Cricket Club has been ongoing this week, and gave thanks to Hugh Shackell & Geoff Cole for their excellent work; new flooring will be installed by Wessex Carpets next week. A small store for the white lining machine will be installed by Poulton’s behind the pavilion shortly.

The Clerk has discussed cleaning the ‘pod’ and the pavilion with Stacey & Charlotte, who work at the Church Centre; they are potentially interested in taking the work on. Clive Nelson for the Cricket Club said that the club were very happy for professional cleaners take on responsibility for the Pavilion in the summer and at all other times. The Council resolved to appoint the cleaners on an ongoing basis.

**Play Areas**

The Clerk reported that he is proposing to arrange a meeting with Redlynch to discuss the re-barking of the play area at the recreation ground.

**Car Park Bollards**

The Clerk reported that the car-park bollards had been replaced and the fence behind the tennis courts has been repaired.

**390. LOCAL ELECTIONS**

The Clerk confirmed that Local elections are being held on 2nd May 2019, and that the nominations deadline is Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 4 p.m. The Clerk advised that all candidates including existing councilors, if they wish to continue in office, must complete a nomination form, which will require a proposer and a seconder. Cllr McNamara queried exactly which forms should be completed. The Clerk agreed to confirm procedures with Electoral Services. The Clerk agreed to provide elector numbers and to take completed forms to Electoral Services.

**391. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – speaker suggestions**

Graham Stanley DCC Rangers was suggested as above. The Clerk will enquire with Graham.

**392. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk had received an email regarding the felling of trees behind the industrial estate. He has spoken to NDDC conservation regarding this; it seems likely that these trees fall outside the Conservation area and are not protected. This matter has been discussed under 384 above.

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

Mobile App promotion

**394. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was confirmed as being on Thursday 4th April 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Church Centre.

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