

Shotteswell Parish Council

Minutes of Shotteswell Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present were: Cllrs Faulkner (Chair), J Burgess, V Ingram (Clerk), A Omer, M Pearson, C Williams (WCC)

Apologies: Cllr B Dala Mura (SDC)

Members of the Public: 6

Disclosure of interest: None

Minutes of the previous meeting having been previously circulated were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Burgess, Seconded by Cllr Faulkner.

Matters Arising

Highways: The road surfacing was eventually completed after some delay due to bad weather. There appears to be quite a few loose stones still remaining, which may need a further sweep. A number of road warning signs were left behind and had been reported for collection. Various defects had been flagged for attention and these include the road surface at Snuff Lane, potholes and broken setts by the Coronation Tree. Some signpost poles had rusted through and one sign is in danger of collapse on the B4100, reported to WCC.

Western Power had completed the undergrounding of electrical supplies in some parts of the village, and made good the repairs to the roads and properties; all appeared to go without incident. No progress on water leakage in Bakehouse Lane, Clerk will follow up. Bench not moved on Mollington Road, it was felt that this may need moving further down the lane and the area where the bench now stands made into a passing bay.

Traffic Calming, WCC were contacted regarding a break down of the costs, but have stated that they are unable to supply this. It also appears some misinformation was supplied to the county suggesting that the Parish Council intended to go it alone, and install the signs ourselves, this was not the case and this has been corrected.

BT had been contacted to replace a cover on the telegraph pole in Bakehouse lane and this was promptly rectified.

Trees: These have been reported to highways but as yet no progress had been made.

Western Power had attended to some of the trees interfering with the electric wires, but as yet not completed all the additional trees had been added to the list for clearance.

Bus Shelter: Nothing to report

Dog fouling: Still seemed to be an issue on the footpaths and in the playing field.

Grass Cutting: SDC were contacted regarding the verges, although the last cut was better it still left much to be desired.

Playing Field: The RoSPA report had been received back and all was found to be satisfactory, with a risk rating of "Low". A slight repair is to be made to the tree house door but this was already in hand. The Chairman had agreed to weed kill around the stilts to the treehouse to avoid damage by the strimmer. The fence posts had not yet been replaced due to the ground being too hard. The alterations to the entrance to the field in terms of leveling will also be addressed, as previously agreed. The decoration to the tree house was well underway and would be completed before the bad weather sets in. Thanks were recorded to Mr Ingram for painting the tree house on behalf of the village. It has been noted that some of the bird deterrents had been removed and needed replacing above the swings, these help keep the swings clear of bird mess and had been very successful. Complaints of dog mess in the field had been made again. Wicksteed had suggested replacing the piece of apparatus (skier) rather than repairing it, it was agreed to see if the blacksmith could look to see if this could be mended in the first instance. The field continues to be well used and was even visited by the boys New Zealand touring team recently, who played an impromptu game of rugby in the field.

Finance: The external Audit Report had been received and once again Shotteswell had a clean audit. The report had been displayed on the notice board for the requisite period. It was Proposed that the report be adopted by Cllr Burgess, and Seconded by Cllr Faulkner agreed unanimously.

Paid since last meeting

WALC	£94
RoSPA	£110.40
Grant Thornton	£120

Proposed by Cllr Faulkner, Seconded Cllr Pearson, agreed unanimously.

Parish Plan:

The Parish Council had received a copy of the further draft and had been asked to adopt the Parish Plan in order for it to be sent to SDC for consideration. Cllr Burgess had made some suggestions, which had already been agreed and the changes made. The Chairman stated that some residents had expressed their concerns to him over the document and in particular over planning. There was a discussion regarding the concerns covering the section on the Village Hall. Following discussions it was agreed that the plan be adopted on the proviso of some further tweaks. It was agreed that Cllr Ingram was to meet later in that week with the Chair of the Parish Plan group to resolve these matters.

Proposed by Cllr Burgess and seconded by Cllr Pearson, that the plan be adopted subject to the further tweaks.

Village Hall Committee Member: Although the Parish Council had not formally taken up the place of Committee Members, the Chairman and Clerk had attended every meeting for the past ten years and felt that they had made a significant contribution. Cllr Omer suggested that this place be taken up and it was agreed that at the next Village Hall AGM, a member of the Parish Council would formally join the Committee.

Enforcement: The two cases that had been sent to SDC for the attention of the Enforcement Officer. There was nothing further to report in terms of progress.

Correspondence: A resident had challenged the decision not to reveal tenders for grass cutting during the Annual Inspection period. The complainant had written to the external auditor and then forwarded his complaint to the Information Commissioners Office for further consideration. The Parish Council would await the case from the ICO and respond accordingly.

Wind Turbine at Mollington: The Appeal had been dismissed. The National Trust and Mollington Parish Council had thanked Shotteswell Parish Council, for their help in this matter. Cllr Faulkner thanked Cllr Ingram & Cllr Burgess for all of their hard work. It was noted that a proposed Solar Farm had been indicated at Great Bourton parish, the ground on which the development may take place is by the M40 lying very close to Hanwell Village. The council will continue to monitor.

Cllr Reports:

WCC Cllr Williams gave his report before the meeting opened, due to having to leave early. This related to Devolution, Warwickshire has 3 options.

1. To join with Greater Birmingham Authority, Coventry and Solihull.
2. To form a separate authority with Coventry and possibly Solihull
3. To create a joined up agreement with surrounding shire authorities, i.e. Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Leicestershire.

Option 1 was discounted. Option 2 would be the preferred option but seems unlikely. Option three is being pursued.

In the meantime, WCC is implementing further savings as a result of the reduction in government grants especially in housing related matters.

SDC: No report received

The meeting was then closed

Next meeting will take place on 24th November at 7.30pm