

Shotteswell Parish Council

Minutes of Shotteswell Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 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: 5

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 Omer.

Matters Arising

Highways: Various defects have been reported.

Due to bad weather, resurfacing that was due to start on the 11th July, was changed to commence on 20th July 2015. The Parish Council alerted WCC that a Fire hydrant repair was necessary on the Back Hill and this was to be squeezed in under the current road closure, to avoid interrupting this work.

Road closures will be in place on a staggered basis from 3rd August, due to undergrounding electrical supply, to alert residents to these works the Parish Council distributed a letter around the village. There was to be an open meeting with Western Power and the County Council but this was deemed unnecessary, given the amount of information already provided and the contractor, therefore cancelled the meeting before it had been advertised.

The Clerk attended the site visit with Western Power and was able to point out the potential problems of a complete shut down of the area for a month. As a result a phased/staggered shut down will now take place to avoid inconveniencing residents. Consideration of bin collections was also taken in to account and has been resolved. Residents in Bury Court Lane will suffer the greatest inconvenience due to the "no through road". Special arrangements have been put in place, Bury Court Lane residents will be able to exit through the neighbouring farmyard, albeit this will be at their own risk. The possibility of parking in the Village Hall car park for the duration of the works has been explored, on the understanding that Western Power would make a donation to the hall. The workers will not arrive until 8.30am/ 9am and leave around 3pm. Access to frontages will be maintained. The residents of Bury Court Lane have been consulted and advised on the planned procedures.

Bench on Mollington Road not yet moved, however damage to the verge seems to have settled, this will continue to be monitored.

Verges appear to be recovering in Mollington Lane.

Grass verges: Complaint sent to SDC over quality of cut although the last cut showed slight improvement. The grass was strimmed and cleared by the Parish Council from around the base of the Coronation Tree, due to serious concerns over visibility. The Parish Council is grateful to the owner of Lancaster Farm for cutting the verge between the two turns on the B4100, to improve visibility.

Trees: What appears to be a dying ash tree has been reported to WCC, nothing further to report on Coronation Lane trees but nesting is only just coming to an end and works can not be undertaken during this season.

Bus shelter: Water butt installed, but needs some adjustment.

Playing Field: The tree house had been washed down in preparation for painting, a small repair to the door needs to be made and an adjustment to the guttering.

A number of fencing posts have to be replaced and these have been delivered and will be installed shortly, when weather conditions allow.

The rest of the play equipment and bench was also washed.

Repair to skier has been booked, the ball bearings have gone, and the repair is estimated at £215.92 excluding VAT.

RoSPA inspection had not yet taken place.

The Playing field facilitated the Annual Village Fete, the Chairman congratulated the stall holders, attractions, fete committee and all who supported the fete. The proceeds will be split between the Church and Village Hall. The beer/tea tent has been purchased for future fetes and will be shortly be available for hire.

Dog Fouling: This appears to be a problem throughout the village. In particular on Back Hill, Mollington Road, Middle Lane, Snuff Lane and also by the New Road garages. Reports of dog mess again reported in the playing field. The Parish Council asked residents to advise them if they witnessed persons responsible for not clearing up after their dog.

Finance

Fence Posts	£111.59
Plants for tubs	£133.27
Insurance	£1,051.19
Rent	£350.00

Proposed by Cllr Faulkner and Seconded by Cllr Pearson.

AOB

Wind Turbine Appeal. A five-hour site visit took place in June. This included visiting Shotteswell, Mollington and Farnborough Hall. Cllr Burgess & Cllr Ingram attended. The Parish Council was invited to make further representations to the Planning Inspectorate, and this had been sent. It will be some weeks before the decision is announced.

Planning Applications: Application in respect of foam cladding of properties in New Road, these plans are now withdrawn. This took the Clerk some considerable time to resolve but as a result the applications from Warmington, Farnborough Radway and Ratley were also withdrawn. This saved the District Council and other consultees a lot of time on commenting etc.

Planning application for the Old Forge has been withdrawn.

The Manor tree applications has been granted

Woodbine Cottage LBC for repairs to windows and replacement of three front windows to match existing hardwood frames, has been made, there are no objections to this proposal.

Potential Breaches: Complaint received regarding the barns on First Turn allegedly being used for storage of buses. This complaint has been passed to the Enforcement Team at SDC.

Complaint received regarding Corner Cottage, allegedly using premises for separate dwelling. This appears to be contrary to the planning consent. This complaint was passed to the Enforcement Team at SDC.

Parish Plan: No meetings had been held but the council did have some news on the proposed traffic calming measures.

Cllr Burgess reported that she had encountered difficulty getting a reply from one of the County's Officers but has, had better success with her successor.

An email from a Parish Plan member had suggested that the gateway measures would cost £10,000; with the expectation being that the Parish Council fund half of these costs. This was it was suggested conditional upon the Parish Plan being adopted.

The revised gateway measures would consist of new road nameplates stating "*Welcome to Shotteswell please drive carefully*" and a pedestrian footway sign, only. Coloured tarmac was no longer considered an option due to our roads being deemed too narrow to accommodate dragon's teeth markings.

The Parish Council did not consider it necessary to replace the existing "pedestrian in footway" sign, as there was nothing wrong with it.

The Council Officer had confirmed that the revised scheme for the four signs would be £6,000 of which the Parish Council would have to fund £3,000 of this cost and Cllr Williams the remainder. This was also subject to the Parish Plan being adopted.

The Parish Council was concerned as to why such large signs had been proposed. Cllr Williams stated that these were the same size as the Warmington signs. However, the signs had been measured and the proposed signs were not the same specifications as Warmington.

Cllr Williams stated that the County would only supply match funding and only if supported by an adopted Parish Plan.

This was queried by the Parish Council as Warmington had recently had new nameplates installed and did not have an adopted Parish Plan. Cllr Williams stated that they did and had provided match funding and that a Parish Plan was necessary to have such innovations. The Chair of the Parish Plan group also confirmed that Warmington had an adopted Parish Plan in place. Cllr Williams stated that you had to have an adopted Parish Plan and without one there would be no money.

Cllr Williams stated that Warmington were to receive further road improvements and these would have to be match funded too.

The Parish Council were concerned that the proposed signs were so expensive and had made enquiries to ascertain the costs. The results are tabled below:-

Proposed sign Shotteswell	Existing sizes
Proposed new sign 7ft 6inches x 2ft (2305mm) x (790mm)	
First Turn	1,093mm x 229mm (3ft 7 inches x 9inches)
Second Turn	1,549.4mm x 254mm (5ft 1inch x 10inches)
Mollington Road	1,093mm x 229mm (3ft 7 inches x 9inches)
Warmington Parish new signs	1195mm x 510mm (3ft 11 by 1ft 8)

Warmington Signs	£76.18 each (actual cost)
Three signs	£228.54
New posts and clips	£156.30
Carriage	£10
Total Cost	£394.84 plus VAT (reclaimable)

Allowing for the Counties larger signs: 7ft 6inches x 2ft 7inches (2305mm) x (790mm)

Price per sign	£227.61
Three signs	£682.83
New Posts and clips	£156.30
Carriage	£10
Total Cost	£849.13 plus VAT (reclaimable)

Balfour Beaty had suggested that approx. £200 would be required per sign for installation. It was thought that county highways would probably charge less. Basing this on the Warmington specifications this would equate to a cost of £1,000 including the installation.

Cllr Williams said he thought that the proposed cost included the dragon's teeth. Cllr Burgess stated that this had already been discounted as an option in the e-mail she had received, due to the width of the roads being inadequate.

It was resolved to ask the County Council for a break down of their costs for the proposed new signs and to bring this information back to next meeting.

District Council Report: None Received

County Council Report: Warwickshire disposes of all the waste that is collected by the Districts and Boroughs. All material collected from the black bins is sent to landfill at a cost of £80 per tonne. It is believed that the amount that is collected could be reduced if the public were more aware of what can now actually be recycled. Rural areas appear to be better at recycling, it was intimated that there is a possibility of reducing the black bins to a smaller size. An exercise is taking place, whereby residents will be telephoned and be asked if they understand what can be recycled. It is hoped that by educating the public that things will improve.

Cllr Williams has a fund of up to £500 per project available, for projects that would benefit the community.

The meeting was then closed.

DRAFT