



Shotteswell Parish Council Chairman's Report 2017



A Year in Review & News:

On behalf of the Parish Council may I extend a warm welcome to all of our new residents and we hope that you are settling in to village life. My thanks to existing residents for their continued support in keeping Shotteswell a nice place to live.

Elections: Sadly, in December 2016, Bart Dalla Mura resigned his position from the District Council. In March this year that vacancy was filled by Cllr John Fielding, we offer our support and good wishes to him in looking after our interests at Stratford.



County Council election will take place on 4th May at Shotteswell Village Hall from 7am until 10pm.

Any new residents that are not on the electoral register, are invited to contact Stratford District Council on 01789 260208. However, invariably our Parish Clerk has normally notified SDC of any changes.

Rural Watch: The Parish Council continues to promote the Rural Watch Scheme and it is easy to register to receive updates directly from the Police. Visit www.shotteswellvillage.co.uk for details.

Please be vigilant, green refuse bins are being stolen, please mark your bins and remove them as soon as possible after refuse collections on Wednesdays.

We have been made aware of oil thefts in the area with this in mind, consideration may be given to promoting the installation of fuel cap alarms –wireless transmitters can be placed inside the screw cap of the fuel tank. A magnetic switch on the device sets off an alarm if the cap is opened or tampered with. More advanced systems can be linked to security lighting or send a text message to the owners or security provider.



An isolation switch allows authorised access to the tank for refuelling. If residents are interested we could request a visit to explore this further from the police, further details are available on the website.

We have also been made aware of cars being broken into at Horley and at Farnborough Lake, so please do not leave valuables overnight in your cars.

As we have many new residents we may consider repeating the Cremarking session, if people would consider this a benefit, please contact the Parish Council if you are interested.

Library Dates for 2017

The mobile library calls at the Bus Shelter between 11.20am and 11.55am (35mins)
To renew your books, order some more, or enquire about Home Delivery service contact
01926 851031

April 4 th & 25 th	May 16 th	June 6 th & 27 th
July 18 th	August 8 th & 29 th	September 19 th
October 10 th & 31 st	November 21 st	December 12 th



I am sure residents will agree that spring time in Shotteswell, is particularly lovely with all the daffodils that have been planted over the years. Our thanks to Gordon Ingram for these displays. Please, will residents not cut the daffodils down until they have had time to die back to produce a flower next year. Our thanks to Cllrs Ingram & Burgess for the pretty tubs.





Shotteswell Parish Council

Accounts for 2015/2016

Receipts		Payments	
Interest	2.18	Auditors	£120.00
VAT Refund	1,179.04	Poppy Wreath	50.00
		Brasenose	350.00
		WALC	94.00
		Election Fees	368.42
		Hire of Village Hall	50.00
		Verge Maintenance	151.20
		Playing Field	234.60
		Plants & Bulbs	133.27
		Insurance	1,051.19
		Printing & Stationery	191.84
		Grass Mowing	1,682.00
		Road Improvements	2,790.00
		RoSPA	110.40
Total	1,118.22	Total	7,376.92
Reconciliation			
Balance B/F	2,786.28		
Precept	5,500.00		
Receipts	1,181.22		
Total Receipts	9,467.50		
Total Payments	7,376.92		
To C/F 2016/17	2,090.58		

Parish Council Finance:

The Parish Council continues its unblemished record with another clean audit.

The Precept for this year has been maintained at the previous three consecutive year's rate, which we are enormously proud of. Many other local parish councils have seen a significant rise, despite the freeze we have delivered on many projects. This is only made possible due to the Parish Council undertaking many of the services themselves.

Poppy Wreath: This was laid on behalf of the parish by Eileen Spencer and held an even greater poignancy this year. This year's collection was £168.13.

In April the story of the lost Airmen appeared in the national press and on the television and contact was made via the www.shotteswellvillage.co.uk web site. The family of the late Pilot Officer William Proffitt White had been traced back to Shotteswell, by the MOD Commemorations team, but the trail had gone cold.

Fortunately help was on hand and the BBC paid the village a visit and filmed at the church. The family was reunited including a cousin John Broughton (who sadly has recently passed away). John brought with him a photograph of the Pilot Officer, which was remarkable to see as every year his name is read aloud with the other war heroes so it was moving to put a name to face.

John also brought with him a photograph of his brother Lionel, who also died during the war. Lionel, who was in the tank regiment died first. As soon as his brother heard, he joined the air force in Rhodesia (William had previously gone to make his mark on the world there before war broke out) and then after training came home and joined the RAF. He was stationed at Chipping Warden. Oddly he had recorded an interview for the BBC a few days before his death.

A service was held in Berlin and some of the Proffitt White family attended, where the British ambassador to Berlin was also present full military honours were accorded at the ceremony. The Halifax bomber, in which there were seven crew members was shot down into a lake near Berlin in January 1944 on their way to a raid at the city. Four members of the crew were retrieved and identified and buried at the time. Then in 1959 when the wreckage of the plane was salvaged, the bodies of the two of the remaining three crew members were found and buried. Because none could be identified and one body was missing they could not be formally commemorated.



Telephone Kiosk:

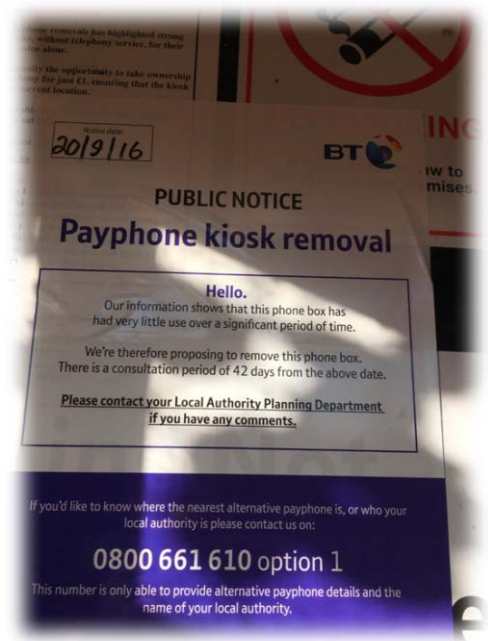
Our telephone kiosk has seen many threats to its removal over the years and has in the past featured in a national newspaper, when one such attempt to remove it was thwarted by villagers, one early Sunday morning.

Imagine our horror when this notice was luckily spotted in October last year.

The only way to secure the kiosk future, which is an important part of the Street Scene seemed to be to try and have it listed. Past applications had failed, so we were very naturally concerned.

The application process is quite laborious, but in November we received confirmation that the listing had been successful.

I would like to pass on our thanks to Cllr Ingram for her diligence in securing the kiosk's future in the parish for all to enjoy.



Dear Cllr Ingram,

K6 Telephone Kiosk, Back Hill, Shotteswell, Banbury - Awarded Listed Building Status

Following your application to add the above building to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, we have now considered all the representations made and completed our assessment of the building.

I am delighted to inform you that having considered our recommendation, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has decided to add K6 Telephone Kiosk, Back Hill, Shotteswell to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest.

The building is now listed at Grade II.

Traffic Speeds:



Last summer, it was announced that the B4100 near Banbury would be closed for six weeks whilst a new sewerage system was installed. This caused considerable concern for the Parish Council over the likely impact to our residents. We initiated contacting and working with surrounding Parish Councils and the companies involved and were able after significant lengthy negotiations to reduce the road closure period to just a few days. Our thanks to Cllr Ingram for the time spent dealing with this on our behalf.

Speed limit changes on B4100: It would appear that Cllr Williams was asked by residents at Temple Herdewyke to make their junction onto the B4100 safer (right turn). Rather than looking for engineering works to achieve this, Cllr Williams requested the imposition of a 50mph speed limit from Gaydon to the county boundary.

Warmington, Shotteswell and other Parish Councils objected to these proposals. Amongst the reasons for objecting were that the reduction does not appear to fit in with the prescribed criteria for reducing speed limits. The police had indicated that they would be unable to enforce the speed limit and therefore it had to be self regulating. It was considered that some people would slow down and travel at 50mph but that others would not; potentially leading to frustration and the chances of more people overtaking and increasing risk rather than reducing it.

The B4100 does not pass through any villages on this stretch and the quality of the road is good. Blanket coverage of 50mph speed limits tends to undermine driving skills. Some see a speed lozenge as the target speed and indeed this has been the cause of complaints from residents in the Lighthorne area causing significant problems, for residents.

An overriding objection from the Parish Council was that both Shotteswell and Arlescote have no speed limits and by the installation of 50mph speed lozenges this necessitates it appears the unrestricted sign to be installed at our junctions.

Warwickshire County Council recently undertook a survey of potential traffic calming measures in our village. These included investigating a potential 30mph speed limit, coloured tarmac, dragons teeth road markings and new welcome plates, " Shotteswell, please drive carefully" considered to be gateway measures. A cost of £10,000 was mooted

for such a scheme of which, Cllr Williams wished the parish to contribute half, yet we have discovered that other nearby villages have not had to contribute towards costs.

It transpired the following recommendations were discounted by WCC: A 30 mph was considered too fast, the dragon's teeth road markings were discounted as the roads are deemed of insufficient width, coloured tarmac rejected as too expensive and no longer recommended by highways. New welcome signs remaining as the only option. The Parish would have to pay £3,000 to install 3 new welcome plates, this being half of the revised sum of £6,000 costs. The Parish Council were understandably concerned. Therefore, we approached the counties supplier and discovered the signs cost £371.88, allowing for installation, by their contractor would have resulted in £1,000 in total. Reasonably, as the parish council are custodians of your council tax money, via our precept we felt that this was entirely unreasonable for you to pay three times the cost.

Despite our best efforts to get Cllr Williams to provide us with a break down to justify these costs this has failed to materialise.

We are left with the situation that were a 30 mph speed limit installed, which we consider to be too fast, this would be viewed as a target speed, repeater signs would have to be installed throughout the village, (due to no street lighting) destroying the rural and attractive nature of the village. Given the police do not have the manpower to enforce the speed limit on the B4100 it would be highly unlikely that they would come to Shotteswell either to enforce a 30mph limit, which from the traffic monitoring no one was exceeding.

This matter is being raised and considered again, but it appears our incumbent county councillor has made no move to sort out the situation, despite this being raised with him repeatedly.

In the meantime, can we please encourage all residents to please continue to drive considerately through the village, as you always have done.



HORTON HOSPITAL UPDATE:



On January 16th phase 1 of 'The Big Consultation' opened. The acute services at the Horton General Hospital are interdependent and to be considered piecemeal will be prejudicial to the overall outcome.

The proposal to permanently downgrade Consultant Led Maternity services at the Horton would mean the loss of SCBU, put 24 hour pediatrics in jeopardy and ultimately lead to the demise of all acute services. For example, the removal of the 24hr In House, Consultant Anesthetist, a necessary post for emergency C Sections and epidurals, would seriously affect the continuity of A&E.

Recent events with babies being born at the roadside is a consequence it appears of the temporary closure and illustrate that it is unsafe to continue this policy, retention of a consultant led maternity unit, is essential to the long term acute services at the Horton.

To dispense with consultant led maternity at the Horton will put additional pressure on neighbouring hospitals such as the JR & Warwick hospital, with all the new build in the surrounding areas, expansion of services is needed.

The pressure on beds, with one elderly lady waiting more than 14 hours in an overflowing A & E, also demonstrate that it was short sighted to remove the 45 beds in September 2016, and they should be reinstated as soon as possible. The alternative is untried, untested and as revealed in the National Press appears not to be working.

Additionally, it was proven in 2008 by the IRP (independent Reconfiguration Panel) that the changes were considered too dangerous due to the distance needed to be travelled by patients. As the geography has not changed, it was then and is still too far to travel to the JR.

The provision of additional outpatient and diagnostic appointments would be welcomed, but not as a trade-off for losing the above services.

At the meeting of the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) on February 2nd, the decision was made to refer the issue of maternity at the Horton to the Secretary of State for Health.



At this stage it is unclear what effect this decision by the HOSC will have on the consultation. The consultation also includes making permanent the removal of 45 beds which took place in September 2016 as part of the exercise to prevent Delayed Transfers of Care. A pilot of an 'acute hospital at home service' is running in Oxford to support people at home in order to prevent them being admitted to hospital.

The removal of so many beds (including 101) from the John Radcliffe Hospital has resulted in chaos at the A&E departments on both sites. The consultation also includes the removal of the acute stroke service and the intensive care unit.

The sweetener is bringing more outpatient and diagnostic appointments to the Horton, but this will mean the loss of the above services. The likely result if the consultation goes through.

The changes form part of the Transformation Programme for Oxfordshire which is part of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) for Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB). Although the BOB document reports in very general terms, it does single out the Horton Hospital for change.

You will have received a leaflet and template letter, for you to either add your name and address and sign (return to the OCCG at the Freepost address) or you can use this as a guide to write your own.

The Consultation closes on the 9th April, it can not be stressed enough how important these responses are, views of the public have to be taken into consideration.

At a meeting held in Stratford Upon Avon District Council, it was discovered that in excess of 27,000 South Warwickshire residents had been missed from the consultation process.

The local campaign group have delivered over 63,000 leaflets to Banbury Town and 139 villages in an attempt to raise awareness of the threat to your local hospital.

Further information can be found on the Face Book page

"Save our Horton", or contact Cllr Ingram, who serves on the Keep the Horton Campaign.



Fly Tipping:

Sadly, this still happens but not so frequently, this year it has been predominately, tyres that appear to have been dumped on the Mollington Road and the occasional item in the layby on the B4100. Please, report any incidence to the Parish Council



Footpaths:

Plans are underway to replace the stiles on the well-used, relatively flat, circular walk footpath by the M40 motorway. The Parish Council paid for three kissing gates to be installed, which will make the path more accessible for all age groups to enjoy. We would like to extend our thanks to the landowner for agreeing to work with the Parish Council to make this possible.

We would greatly appreciate if dogs could be kept under close control and not allowed to leave the footpath, so as not to jeopardize the use of the permissive path. The field margin is set- aside for wildlife in particular ground nesting birds. We are grateful to the footpath volunteers for agreeing to install the kissing gates on behalf of the Parish Council, unfortunately the installation has been delayed due to some guidance being sought for the installation. We look forward to working with them and will endeavor to support the team whenever possible.



Village Hall:

The hall is used for a variety of parish functions and as such is valued by the community. The Parish Council is always keen to help with contributing towards parish assets and we consider the village hall to be a key one

The main hall recently underwent a complete redecoration, with mood lighting and new curtains and is available to hire at the modest fee of £6 per hour.

During the year, repairs to the old school wall to the rear of the property had to be undertaken and as such the Parish Council contributed towards the cost of the repairs.



The Parish Council has recently purchased a new fridge, for the Village Hall as the old one needed replacing. The new fridge has the added addition of an ice box so will come in very handy in the summer months for ice creams!

Shortly the introduction of flying the flag for special occasions, like anniversaries, birthdays and such like will be re-launched. For £5 the flag will be flown for your special day, this will include a small gift for birthdays. Your event will include an announcement on an easel outside of the hall.



Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations:



The Celebration was kicked off by the lighting of the beacon, on April 21st the Queen's actual birthday.

This was followed by a wonderful party in the barn at Laurel Farm, in June, by kind permission of the Kipping family.



The event was largely covered by fundraising activities and our grateful thanks to all that donated. The Parish Council made up the shortfall. Villagers gathered together and made all the lovely food for the birthday bash. Pimms was served and a toast was made to her majesty the Queen.

The children and adults alike were agog at the magician who provided the entertainment for the afternoon, everyone that attended had a magical and memorable time, creating another part of village history.



Refuse Collections for 2017/18 Wednesdays

Month	Green/Blue Garden Waste	Grey Household Waste
April	5 th /19 th	12 th /26 th
May	3 rd /17 th /31 st	10 th /24 th
June	14 th /28 th	7 th /21 st
July	12 th /26 th	5 th /19 th
August	9 th /23 rd	2 nd /16 th /30 th
September	6 th /20 th	13 th /27 th
October	4 th /18 th	11 th /25 th
November	1 st /15 th /29 th	8 th /22 nd
December	13 th /27 th	6 th /20 th
January	10 th /24 th	3 rd /17 th /31 st
February	7 th /21 st	14 th /28 th
March	7 th /21 st	14 th /28 th

For further details of refuse collections and what you can recycle, please check www.shotteswellvillage.co.uk

Provisional dates for Parish Council Meetings:

May 16th / July 18th / September 21st / November 21st/ January 23rd 2018

Shotteswell Fete, will be held in the Children's Playing Field, on Saturday 1st July.



Fete 2016



To come at this year's fete 2017 (subject to weather)

Currency Changes



£1 coins, the new coin was introduced on the 28th March 2017.

**The current £1 will
cease to be legal tender
from 15th October 2017**



Shops have been told not to accept old £1 coins or distribute them in change from **October 15**.

After October 15, for a limited period, banks and post offices will still allow customers to deposit old £1 coins into their bank account.

The old £1 coin becomes worthless after that.

Old £5 notes

After this date, banks and retailers can refuse the old notes, it will be entirely at their discretion, will your old fiver be worthless after this date?

The only way of changing old notes after the cut off date is to take the note to the Bank of England's Head Office in London. A long way to go so be sure to swap your notes in good time.





Your Parish Councillors:

Les Faulkner Chairman: 01295 730576

Val Ingram (Clerk): 01295 730203

Michael Pearson,

Jan Burgess

& Anne Omer.

For a colour version of this report, please visit www.shotteswellvillage.co.uk