

Shotteswell Parish Council

**Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 25th March 2025 at the Village Hall, Shotteswell.**

Present were: Cllrs Faulkner (Chair), V Ingram (Clerk) M Pearson & B Zammett. Cllr Gist (SDC), Cllr Mills (WCC)

The meeting opened and Cllr Faulkner announced the sad passing of our colleague Cllr Burgess. Cllr Burgess will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Cllr Burgess served the community well and was a hard working, compassionate and committed Cllr who could always be relied upon.

Cllr Mills gave his report owing to being committed to other meetings. A considerable amount of the councils budget some 70% is spent on social care. Cllr Mills reiterated that if anyone is struggling with their bills to contact the council. Some additional support was being made for people with autism. The potential proposals of a unitary authority were discussed briefly. The county is now in purdah due to the May elections and anyone who is not registered to vote was encouraged to do so, the election will be on 1st of May. Warwickshire County Highways Dept came second and won an award for their highway standards out of 29 peers. The parish council agreed with the accolade and thanked the department for all of their care of the village.

Cllr Mills left the meeting at 7.42pm.

Apologies: None

Members of the Public: 2

Declaration of Interest: None

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Cllr Faulkner and Seconded by Cllr Ingram

Matters Arising:

Highways and Trees:

Various pot holes had been reported, these included both First Turn and the B4100 between the two turns. A request had been made to have the gully's dug on the Mollington Road to allow the surface water to drain off the highway during episodes of flooding. Patching had been undertaken on the Mollington Road on the day of the meeting which involved a road closure. WCC were thanked for these works. A request was to be made to get the slow signs repainted as these seem to work effectively, it was suggested that we approach the council to see if a similar sign could be painted on Second Turn. The passing bays are to be sprayed and a few missing marker posts needed replacing. A leak on the Back Hill by the property known as Sunny View, had been reported and the Clerk was pursuing this with STW. Bury Court lane salt bin was not being filled as a matter of course, this had been resolved and added to the list. The annual tidy up had taken place and the contractor had

done a very good job. Unbeknown to the parish council two trees had been planted on the triangle with the junction of Coronation lane and First Turn. it was discovered that these were a sweet gum and a walnut tree both of which could cause issues as they matured, a request to move them to a more suitable location had been made and this had been agreed and indeed the trees had been moved on the day of the meeting. The replacement trees on the verge where the cherry trees have died still needed to be resolved. After many years of trying to get the land at New Road, the Parish Council were delighted to announce that this is now in the Parish Council ownership. Some damage had been caused on the verge opposite the junction to New Road, this had been repaired and roped off temporarily to allow the verge to regenerate. Our thanks to Gordon Ingram for cleaning the path up to the post box. Our thanks to Cllr Faulkner & Cllr Pearson for clearing fallen trees over the winter months both on the Mollington Road and Middle Lane. The horse warning sign on the Mollington Road needed replacing as it had faded.

Bus Shelter: The majority of the ivy had been cleared from the Back Wall leaving which just left the sides still to be cleared. The bus shelter had been swept out and the outside cleared by Cllr Ingram.

Fly tipping a few incidents reported since the last meeting and a report had been made to Cherwell District Council regarding rubbish thrown by the motorway overbridge several bags had been left. It was reported that a significant amount of rubbish had been left in the lay-by on the B4100.

Dog fouling, a request had been made by the owners of Laurel Farm that dogs are kept on leads as they have had some dog fouling in their field. A request to remind people to be sure to close the gates when crossing the footpath both across to Warmington way and also when heading towards Hanwell as some sheep had been let out as a result of the gates being left open.

Playing Field The hedge around the playing field had been cut back both inside and outside of the field. The tree house needed to be dismantled, it was hoped that this might happen later on in the week of the meeting and the pigeon guards fixed. Play equipment needed to be cleaned.

Finance: Paid since last meeting: Proposed by Cllr Pearson Seconded Cllr Zammett

Annual Tidy £308	Poppy Wreath £58.40	Varnish & Postage £41.27
Grass £1,878	Playing Field £830	

To confirm that the precept was set for £6,500 for the year ended 2026

Proposed by Cllr Zammett & Seconded by Cllr Pearson

Planning Applications: Tree applications from the Bury Court Farm, Lane House, Manor Cottage, Request for an EIA to Cherwell District Council

It was proposed and agreed by all the Cllrs to arrange for a commemorative tree in memory of the late Cllr Burgess to be planted and a plaque. The hope is that this tree will be

decorated each Christmas in her memory as she loved Christmas. This suggestion had been discussed with her husband and was received favourably. The Clerk would arrange this.

The 80th Anniversary of VE Celebrations were discussed and it was decided that the Clerk would gauge whether there was an interest in the village and move forward from there.

The vacancy would be advertised for a parish councillor

District Councillor Report: The unitary authority options were discussed again and the various potential options. There may be an opportunity for some trees for the parish councils, but no details as yet. The response by Cllr Gist and Cllr Rock for the SWLP had been circulated. The Council tax bill equates to SDC 7.1% Police 12.8% Parish Councils 3.5% (general overall figure) WCC 76.6%. A spate of burglaries were prevalent in the area for people to be aware. Sheds and cars being targeted.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Next Meeting provisionally arranged for 27th of May 2025