

SHIPTON GORGE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th September 2016 at 7.30pm in Shipton Gorge Village Hall

Open Forum There were no questions from the public.

Present Cllr Richard Cunningham (RC); Cllr Hilary Cunningham (HC), Cllr Christine Huxtable (CH), Cllr Gerry Pyke (GP)

In attendance Parish Clerk - Paula Biss (PB), John Russell (JR) District councillor and there was one parishioner in attendance.

16.76 Apologies for absence – Cllr Mary Boughton (MB), Cllr John Porter

16.77 Declaration of Interests – There were none.

16.78 Neighbourhood Policing update – No report received

16.79 Vice-Chairman to sign Minutes of meeting held on 20 July 2016. These had been circulated and placed on the Website. They were unanimously agreed as correct and signed by the Vice Chairman.

16.80 To consider any matters arising from the Minutes, not on the Agenda. There were none.

16.81 Chairman's Report.

I am sorry I am not able to be at the meeting and thank Richard Cunningham, our vice-chairman, for taking the chair.

I am sorry to say that so far no-one has approached either the clerk or myself regarding becoming a councillor, so we still have two vacancies that hopefully we will fill at some time. Meanwhile I am grateful to you all for taking on the various roles and making sure that we represent the parish as well as we are able. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining us, please point them in the right direction.

I have passed the various papers and documents on Rights of Way over to Wally Axford and have also put his details in the Bride Valley News for October, but at the same time reminded villagers that they can report any issues directly to the County Council themselves.

We produced some small A5 flyers for the fete which were handed out to people and these explained what they could do to report highways or other issues directly to the council, who they should contact if they felt there was a potential crime or other safety issue and so on. I would like to suggest that we have sufficient of these printed to be able to put them in the next Bride Valley News for all residents of the village to receive. The cost should not I believe be more than £20 but I am sure these will be useful for our residents and should reduce the number of times people ask the parish council to deal with things that they can report themselves.

The contract with Grayham Rosamond with regard to his work the Playing Field has now been signed and we have a copy of his Public Liability Insurance. Both John Porter as Playing Field Chairman and the clerk have copies of both documents.

Please remember that Grayham's contract precludes him for undertaking any maintenance work on the play or exercise **equipment and this should be done by either a parish councillor as a volunteer or by a professional.**

The second half of the clerk's pay of £696.00 is due this month so this needs to be approved and a cheque raised.

Our next meeting in November is the one where we look at our budget for next year so those of you who expect your area of responsibility to need funds, please come to the meeting with details of what will be needed.

16.82 Clerks Report

- Village Green –Brights have quoted £75.00 + VAT for repositioning of fence and I have asked them to contact Cllr RC to arrange a suitable date and time.
- Cheques to be approved:

Signed.....Dated.....

Chair Mary Boughton

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Bridport Radio Hosting and E Mail services £235.00 – to August 2017 – Ch 809
810 - cancelled
SLCC -£65.00 Ch 811
Viking – Copy Paper £19.02 – Ch 812
P Biss Expenses- Apr/May/June £110.10 – Ch 813
MB Chairman's Expenses - £34.58-Ch 814
Decorator Centre – Playing Field - £26.78 - Ch 815
P Biss – Half yearly pay- £696.0 – Ch 816
G Rosamond – Expenses - £191.79 – Ch 817

- Monthly expenditure over £100.00 updated and put on Website together with draft Minutes – July 2016
- Much Time spent tidying up Computer and filing system meeting with Chair, RFO
- Sorting out paperwork for W Axford as Rights of Way Officer.
- Awaiting decision in consultation with WDDC whether we need a new email address. MB addressing on her return from holiday. Nigel Wheeler aware
- Received resignation from Tom Grace as Chair of working group for Neighbourhood Plan.

16.83 Working Party for regular maintenance in village – GP heard nothing further from parishioners. Poster to be put up asking volunteers to contact GP – to meet on the last Saturday of the month – 10.00am at the Playing Field. **Clerk.** GP reported fan dumped at Peas Hill. He will take to dump if still there after a few days.

16.84 Contract for G Rosamond. This has been completed - see Chairman's report.

16.85 Fingerpost Update. Cllr CH is currently completing the one at Burpitt Lane and a post need straightening at the triangle – otherwise nearly complete. RC thanked CH for her hard work.

16.86 To receive the following reports:

- a) Finance** – CH – nothing to report
- b) Resilience** – One number to be removed as moving from the area
- c) Highways** – HC

DCC Highway Authority is responsible to maintain highways.

Funding constraint means that they are unable to maintain the level of service that they currently do and consequently standards of the highways will drop, repairs etc take longer and this will mean that local communities will be dissatisfied with the level of service provided. These funding constraints have been placed on DCC by the Conservative government and have been accepted by DCC, and now DCC wish to pass on more costing to the local councils who have the power to increase the precept if they wish to undertake work that should be provided by DCC.

DCC has suggested a solution that is that Parish Councils, Town Councils can express a willingness to make a financial contribution towards maintenance. This will mean greater priority for work done, repairs undertaken more quickly and services could be provided at a greater frequency eg more verge cutting, gully emptying, refreshing road markings.

Estimate of cost – White line team - £550 per day
Gully emptier - £450 per day

Before work undertaken an estimate would be given to the Parish Council.

Signed.....Dated.....

Chair Mary Boughton

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The other idea is to have LOCAL VOLUNTEERS. The Parish Council would have to sign up to this and there is a paper on Recruiting and Managing Local Volunteers. Instruction, training, H&S and insurance cover is included if the council sign the agreement.

In adjoining parish of Loders:

Hopefully the subsidence in Shipton Road near A35 will be repaired shortly as the road has been marked up for repair.

Much discussion. RC objected to PC opting to pay extra as felt Highways were not capable of doing road maintenance. Generally ideas not felt to be acceptable.

d) Playing Field Report – JP

With regard to the playground, nothing has really happened over the summer period. I have kept in touch with Graham and it seems to be working well.

The only problems to report is a broken sign for which I will organise a replacement and the broken football frame, I have now taken the broken piece away.

It was queried whether this would be replaced.

e) Planning – RC –

- Echoes – Approved
- Retrospective application - Wayside – Brook Street and Garage at 3 Quarry Close – to be discussed at Planning Meeting arranged for Wednesday 28 September.

f) Neighbourhood Plan – Letter of resignation had been received from Tom Grace. It was understood that there might be another person in the village who is interested in taking this plan forward, although Cllr John Russell felt it might not actually be worth it and RC felt there would be no great benefit.

g) Rights of Way/Footpaths – Nothing to report.

h) Website - NW – Nothing to report

16.87 To confirm date for the next SGPC meeting: 9th November 2016

Meeting ended 8.20pm

Signed.....Dated.....

Chair Mary Boughton