

# SHIPTON GORGE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 January 2019

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**Open Forum** There were no parishioners present.

**19.01 Present.** - Cllr Mary Boughton (MB) - Chairman, Cllr Richard Cunningham, Vice Chairman, Cllr Hilary Cunningham (HC), Cllr Gerry Pyke (GP), Cllr Christine Huxtable, Cllr John Porter, Cllr Andrew Fry, Cllr David Bass

**In attendance** - Parish Clerk, Paula Biss (PB) Cllr John Russell - District Councillor

**19.02 Apologies for Absence** – There were none.

**19.03 Declarations of Interest.** There were none.

**19.04 Chairman to sign as correct record the minutes of meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018.** Unanimously agreed and to be signed by the Chairman after amendment to “Apologies”. Pro HC, Sec GP.

**19.05 To consider any matters arising from the Minutes not covered by this agenda.** Item 18.94 - Information Board on Village Green. MB had spoken to Chris Griffiths Hardman explaining the reasons why this could not be agreed.

**19.06 Elections** – Shipton Councillors to be re-elected – Cllr RC confirmed that he would be standing down. Cllr GP was unsure due to health reasons. The rest of the Councillors were intending to stand for election.

### **Revised list of important dates:**

Notice of Parish Elections

Friday 15 March 2019

Receipt of Nominations

Wednesday 3 April 2019 – 4pm

Publication of persons nominated

Thursday 4 April 2019 – 4pm

Publication of notice of Poll

Wednesday 24 April 2019

**Polling Day**

**Thursday 3 May (7am-10pm)**

Nomination forms for Councillors to fill out will be obtained and if possible a volunteer is needed to take Shipton's forms to WDDC, Dorchester on Wednesday 3 April by 4pm

The forms are presently being updated and should be available week beginning 21 January 2019. (Clerk will get copies of Nomination Pack asap).

**19.07 Draft Policy for filling vacancies by co-option.** MB went through the draft and as various points in the draft needed to be checked by the clerk it was agreed an amended copy would be circulated to Councillors, and put on the Agenda for July for adoption by the new parish council.

### **19.08 Chairman's Report – January 2019**

*Firstly, a very Happy New Year to you all and thank you for your work on behalf of the village as a parish councillor during 2018.*

*Looking back, as we do at this time of year, I am pleased to see that we managed to achieve quite a number of things during the year, all of which have and will continue to benefit the village and our residents. For a small parish with very limited income we certainly punch above our weight as far as the amenities and facilities that we are able to provide, and this is due*

SIGNED.....CHAIR)

DATED.....

*to everyone's hard work and contribution over the year. I would also like to thank our clerk, Paula Biss, for her work in keeping us all on track and dealing with the never ending number of emails and correspondence.*

*I do not have a lot to report since our December meeting. Due to my recent incapacity, I want to thank John Porter who very kindly took over arranging the card and present to Grayham Rosamond and also to record our thanks to Philippa Young who donated one of her lovely paintings as a gift for him.*

*There is little to be put in the Bride Valley News for February so there will not be an entry this time.*

## **19.09 Clerk's Report**

1. Various updates completed on website.
2. Wally Axford reminded of date of next meeting.
3. Axe Valley Ring and Ride – Donation of £50 agreed
4. Further donation. This will be decided at next meeting as no other requests received.
5. Garden Party nominations? MB has expressed interest in previous years so email forwarded to her. I will have copy at January meeting.
6. Details of dates for proposed election on Agenda. These are now amended on the minutes 19.06
7. More applicants needed for CPR and Defibrillator Awareness training on 16 January. See 19.12 below
8. Electoral Roll sent to MB and GP
9. Details received from Vision ICT about encryption and back up details see 19.13.

Item 5 above. No nominations were requested.

## **19.10 Finance Report – (CH)**

Cheques to be approved

				Backups and Encryption
014	22/12/18	Vision ICT	354.00	
015	6/1/19	Paula Biss	23.46	Dec Expenses

Cheques approved. Pro JP, Sec GP

CH – gave brief report on accounts. As expected towards the end of the financial year, the current account was a bit low but should be OK up to the end of the year. .

INITIALLED.....

- 19.11 To update Playing Field Budget for 2019/20 and finalise Precept for 2019/20** Grant of £3629.00 received for new equipment and once various invoices paid from Playing Field Account there would be £3164.00 left in that account.

It was agreed to increase the PF Budget by £500.00 to £2800.00 for the coming year. JP proposed Clerk's wages be increased as he felt it was better if wages went up a small amount each year. MB reported that she checked the number of hours worked, from the clerk's monthly expenses sheet, and these were in line with the 200 hours contracted. It was agreed to increase the pay rate to £10.00 per hour, from the current £9.34, therefore increasing the annual pay to £2,000 for 200 hours. Pro JP, Sec HC

- 19.12 Defibrillator/AED/CPR training arrangements.** All arranged with EXE Training Solutions for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm – 9.00pm and posters done and distributed. Still some vacant places and it is hoped some of these might be filled as it had been understood that there were quite a few people interested. PB to make tea and coffee on the day. CH/MB to open up the hall and to be on hand during the evening.

**19.13 Website Backups and Encryption Certificate**

Instructions and SSL Certificate now received. Backups to be actioned. Clerk and MB's computers to be backed-up. It is understood that email is backed up if IMAP server is enabled.

- 19.14 Parish Assembly** – Proposed date of 10<sup>th</sup> April, but to be changed to 17 April, if possible, to enable DB to be there. Clerk to check if hall is available and report back. If not available on the 17<sup>th</sup> then will revert back to 10<sup>th</sup> April. *17th Confirmed.*

- 19.15 Litter Pick.** Agreed 13<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am would be a suitable date/time. Clerk to write to Council Waste Partnership to let them know date and request tabards/waste bags etc. It was agreed that the overgrowth around the finger posts should also be cut back on this date – particularly in Burbitt Lane and the crossroads at Markets Lane. Also that the event be promoted this year as a "Litter Pick and Village Tidy-Up Day" as other small maintenance items could also be included. To put on March Agenda and flag up any further items needing attention. Posters to be done (clerk) and it will also be advertised in BVN and on the parish website.

- 19.16 Confirmation of next year's meeting dates** – 9/1, 13/3, 8/5, 10/7, 11/9, 13/11 and 8/1/20. *To be confirmed with Graham after first meeting of new Council on 8 May.*

**19.17 To receive the following Reports:**

**Resilience** – *Nothing to report*

**Highways** – HC – *A parishioner contacted Blair Turner (Highways, Dorset) to report an issue of an ambulance finding it difficult to find an address in either a Rosamond Ave or Chapel Street. I will contact the parishioner to discuss this issue and hopefully the new proposed signage at top of Chapel St / Cuckoo Lane will alleviate this issue. I will give feedback to Blair Turner.*

*Buses - Service C2 (Shipton Gorge to Sir John Colfox Academy) can be used by the public if space available. Bus timetables will be placed on notice boards. No concessionary passes can be used on the morning run, but are valid on the afternoon return journey. Service only runs on school days. Fares - £3.50 adult single, £5.00 adult return, £2.50 child single and £3.50 child return*

INITIALLED.....

*HC has spoken with parishioner about signage problems re. Rosamond Avenue and he is now happy with proposals. HC to chase council re this signage.*

*Another parishioner had sent a letter to HC to say she had been walking in the dark in Cuckoo Lane and was hit in the eye with an overhanging tree branch. Councillors noted that this was an on-going issue that was now becoming a real hazard. Clerk to write again to Highways suggesting they send out enforcement notices.*

*It was reported by a number of councillors that horses regularly came down Cuckoo Lane, going the wrong way on this one way lane. This was a dangerous hazard to both riders and horses and anyone else using the lane. They were thought to originate from the Livery Stables at Bonscombe Lane and it was agreed that the clerk should send a letter to Roger and Rose Sorrell at Manor Farm, who own the stables, pointing out the dangers and asking them to make those exercising the horses aware that Cuckoo Lane is one way – up not down and that horses should comply with the Highway Code in this respect, as well as highlighting the dangers riders were putting themselves and the public in. It was felt this should be pointed out as a safety issue before there was an accident.*

**Playing Field** – Mr G Rosamond was presented with an original picture by Phillipa Young by the council on behalf of the village for his work looking after the Playing Field for 17 years. Also, a card, signed card by the organisations in the village, showing their appreciation of his dedication.

*The Rota Webb has now been installed by Wicksteed and a completion certificate issued.*

*The Mower company have been informed that we no longer want the strimmer back in lieu of their charges and the Leaf blower has been sold for £70.*

*The faulty child's seat on the swings has been removed and we are awaiting the cost of a replacement.*

*There is a problem with the Roundabout, this has been checked and no obvious fault been found. Townsend engineering have been asked to have a look as they renovated it several years ago*

*It had been queried by a parishioner why dogs couldn't be kept on leads in Playing Field. It was pointed out that dog mess was a health and safety hazard and people couldn't be relied upon to clear up behind their dogs.*

**Planning** – RC – Little to report on Planning. Still two applications pending in Chapel Street. It was pointed out but not generally felt necessary for the council to report the fact that it appears the holiday cottages, at St Lukes Farm, on the right hand side of Icen Lane, are now lived in permanently.

**Rights of Way/Footpaths** – No Report received. At the meeting, Reported there was lethal quagmire on the footpath off Burbitt Lane, towards Bennett Hill Farm, as the gate was tied back

**19.88 To confirm date for the next SGPC meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

Meeting ended 9.20pm.

INITIALLED.....