

**SHIPTON GORGE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER**

Present:

Cllrs. Richard Hewlett (chair), Mary Boughton, Robert Cornish, John Epplestone, Charles Errington, Robert Langran, Brian Lavelle, Gillian Maxfield, David Smith.

In attendance:

County Councillor Ron Coatsworth, Ann Thompson.

125. Apologies:

Mark Parsons (on holiday), Frank Rogers.

126. Minutes of last meeting-9th July:

These were agreed by the council and duly signed by the chairman.

127. Clerk's Report

1. Code of Conduct and Registration of Interest for Gillian Maxfield has been completed and sent to Legal Services WDDC.
2. List of Parish Councillors and Contacts was circulated, minor changes were noted.
3. Playground signs on the Port Lane approach road to the playing field have been requested from WDDC.
4. The audit commission has agreed audit for 2002/2003. In this respect the clerk's task is complete and up to date.
5. Disclosure form from the CRB has been received and requires completion by Grayham Rosamond. **Form passed to R.H. for action.**
6. WDDC have been reminded of the need to empty the litterbin in the playing field.

128. Appointment of Clerk

One application has been received from Jeff Fisher. R.H. and John Bredemear had met with Jeff and were satisfied that he could ably fulfil the position of clerk. Jeff was unanimously elected to the position of clerk.

R.H. stated that there was a need for a meeting to discuss: -

1. Contract for the clerk.
2. Equipment for the clerk.

R.H. to organise meeting with clerk, M.B. and C.E.

129. Burton Bradstock School Governor.

The question of representation has not been resolved since the school governors meeting has not yet taken place.

130. Village plan.

An outline strategy now exists. The registration of intent form is to be sent off.

(Action Clerk) A list of likely members of the steering committee has been drawn up. It is now necessary to identify the exact addresses of those members and letters to be sent. **(Action Clerk with assistance from M.B. and C.E.)**

131. Village website.

A volunteer has been found to construct the website for free. There is some information to start. Old photographs will be requested in Oct. and Nov. Bride Valley News. It is the intention to use the “volunteer” for future updates for which there will be a charge. This was agreed subject to some checks on acceptable rates.

132. Bonfire Night.

R.H. had met with Sally Parker (Village Society) and was impressed with her reasoning and resolve to have a bonfire night in Shipton. There is a long tradition of bonfire nights in the village, which all villagers can enjoy. R.H. firmly believed that the Parish Council should organise the bonfire night. A letter from the insurers spells out quite specifically the conditions that must be enforced. There was concern that it is not usual for the Parish Council to organise social events. This was considered an exception, which could become an annual event. The council agreed to organise the bonfire night with the following agreements and provisos: -

1. R.H. and C.E. to organise it with a representative from the Village Society.
2. It is an event for villagers only. Flyer to be placed in BVN.
3. Parish Councillors to be kept informed of progress and plans.
4. Insurers to be informed of intent to organise a bonfire night.

(Action Clerk)

133. Request to discuss Council Tax.

D.S. gave a short presentation on the increases of council tax and that it could double in less than five years if recent escalation continues. He believed there was genuine concern in the village with many of the villagers on fixed incomes. There was general agreement on D.S.’s findings but it was unclear what the council could do since much of the escalation is due to government directives. Mindful of the “Fair Deal for Dorset” campaign Councillor Coatswood was asked if any further lobbying was planned for the future. He was not aware of any such campaign but undertook to advise the council of any.

It was agreed that the council would write to the Chief Exec. of district and county councils expressing our concerns and a willingness to participate in any future lobbying. Copies to be sent to MP and deputy PM. **(Action Clerk)**

134. Reports.

Planning.

1. Planning application for a conservatory at Sea View (Chilcombe) - WDDC Approved.
2. Application received, following withdrawal of earlier application, to demolish existing garage and shed, erect new garage with garden room over. Create new parking and turning area, at Wayside, Brook Street.
3. Application received, for change of use from storage/annex building to 1 unit of holiday accommodation at Bonscombe Farm.
4. Application received, to demolish existing porch/conservatory and erect new conservatory, at Boundary Cottage, Icen Way.
5. WDDC rejected the 2nd application relating to "The Fairings", Chapel Street.

The Council were concerned that the “Fairings” application had been rejected on grounds totally new to the 1st application.

Playing Field

The condition of the field has improved due to the work put in by Grayham Rosamond. A new inspection rota has been drawn up. A new sign needs to be drawn up due to change of clerk. Meeting needs to be set up to discuss next years budget. **(Action M.B.)** It was agreed no other people need to be co-opted on to the playing field committee.

Finance General.

Cheques raised since last meeting.

CHEQUE N^o	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT £	SIGNED
000344	HLB AV	58.75	At meeting
000333	Grayham Rosamond	40.00	Signed

Request from Frank Rogers for three Home Watch signs at £17.50 each +VAT was agreed.

Village Hall.

First Artreach event will take place on 22nd October it being “The Year Clock” with Tim Laycock. This year the tickets are only available from Doris Benselin or from the New Inn.

The tables in the hall are to be replaced. The old tables will be advertised in the BVN for offers.

Highways

1. Stones out side Periwinkle may cause flooding **(Action R.H.)**
2. Building rubble is being dumped in Burbitt Lane, which will result in blocking the drain/grips further down Shipton Road.
3. Lorries dumping off BonscombeLane has this been authorised?

Council to be informed on items 2 and 3. Notice to be put in BVN on item 2.

(Action Clerk)

Rights of Way

1. Plans outlining requests to divert some rights of way near Lower Sturthill Farm, Chilcombe were passed to R.H. for examination.
2. The guardrail by the footpath next to Home Cottage in Brook Street is in a dangerous condition. WDDC to be asked to rectify. **(Action R.L.)**

DAPTC

Nothing to report.

135. Budget Preparations

Playing field committee are planning to prepare their budget. (see report)

136. Charitable Donations

Not discussed.

137. Correspondence

1. Letter from Jeff Fisher applying for position of clerk.
2. Letter re Bridleways passed to R.L.
3. Rural Revival Consultation passed to M.B.
4. Summary of Draft Community Strategy for Dorset.
5. DAPTC Circulars 19/03 & 20/03
6. Interim Supplementary Housing-Affordable Housing (M.B. has responded)
7. Standards Board-Guidance for Monitoring Officers and Standards Committees.
8. Dorset Local Access Forum-Appeal for Volunteers
9. Mobile Library Service Review and Questionnaire **(R.H. to reply)**
10. Letter regarding insurance of Grayham Rosamond (passed to R.H.)
11. Best Value Performance Plan
12. A Future for Countryside Access in Dorset. (Passed to R.L.)

138.Date of Next Meeting-WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2003

139. Open Forum.

Nothing to report