

SHIPTON GORGE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER
(Issue2)

Present:

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

In attendance:

County Councillor Ron Coatsworth, District Councillor Mark Parsons, Frank Rogers (homewatch)

140. Apologies:

Gillian Maxfield

141. Minutes of last meeting-10th September:

These were agreed by the council and duly signed by the chairman but with the following amendments:

1. Para 131 Delete 4th sentence and replace with “It is the intent that once the website is receiving income from addresses and advertising there will be a charge for updates.
2. Para 133 Delete word “further” from 4th sentence.

142. Clerk’s Report

1. The Clerk thanked the previous Clerk (John Bredemear) for leaving the records in very good order and assisting with a few problems. This had ensured a smooth change over.
2. Registration of Interest form had been sent off for Brian Lavelle.
3. Home watch signs have been received. These have now all been fitted by Frank Rogers.
4. Letters have been sent to the Insurers, Police and Fire Brigade with respect to the bonfire and fireworks party. Replies had not caused any undue concerns. The event was considered a success.
5. Letters were sent to Chief Execs, MP and Deputy PM reference Council’s concern of escalating Council Tax payments. To date only David Jenkins had replied.
6. Letter was sent to Mrs. Mitchell, on 3rd November, regarding the “fencing off” of land in front of Brook Cottage, Brook Street.
This topic raised several points. This small piece of land has on it the village post box, a telegraph pole, a tree planted by the WI and the village “well”. (R.L. pointed out it was not a well as such but a water source where steam locomotives etc could take on water) It is not believed to be registered as common land and was debated by Council in the 80’s. It is known that the Strangways Estate had owned it but attempts to follow ownership after then had failed.
M.B. to check with a contact in Land Registry.
Clerk to write to British Telecom to enquire on ownership.
7. Registration of intent form for the Parish Plan has been sent off and a reply had been received. (Passed to **C.E.**)

8. Request for maps for the Parish Plan had been sent off and copies have just been received. (Passed to **C.E.**) A copy of the village map was considered an asset to the planning committee.
9. Discussions with Richard Stubbs (Traffic Management) on the siting of the additional playground sign for Port Lane have not been conclusive. An on site meeting is proposed. **M.B.** to confirm availability to clerk.
10. John Bright Ltd is to estimate for a fence at the playing field along Shipton Road on 19th November at 12o'clock. **R.H.** and clerk to attend.

143. Burton Bradstock School

The introduction of Community Governors means that the Parish Council no longer has a representative on the Board of Governors. Shipton provides many pupils to the school and it was felt by all that links with the school would become remote unless something was done. It was decided that the clerk should write to the Board of Governors expressing our concerns and outlining the following: -

1. At least one person from Shipton should be on the Board.
2. Parish Council would like to have a copy of the minutes.
3. Parish Council to offer help and willingness to be involved.

144. Parish Plan

The full application has to be submitted by 6th February 2004 and considerable work has to be done in that time. Action **C.E.** **M.B.** offered to obtain additional copies of the maps.

145. Village Website

Progress has been made with some photographs being introduced on to the website soon. E-mail addresses for the chairman, clerk and planning committee have been organised.

The first few e-mail addresses have been "sold". It was agreed that the **clerk** would raise the invoices. It was not known if VAT should be charged. **Clerk** to contact DAPTC.

A new phone number for the clerk has been raised. It is a "0870" number which is charged at national rates. This number will negate the need to change the playing field sign when the clerk changes. (**Post meeting note** the number is 08707 583272)

146. Dissemination of data within and to the Parish Council

The clerk outlined his views on data and proposed that the minutes are issued quite soon after the meeting and emailed to all councillors with a hardcopy to **J.E.** The clerk stated that it was his intention that the chairman should have sight of the minutes before they are distributed. Correspondence to the Parish Council is ever increasing and the clerk proposed that he would distribute at regular intervals a list of correspondence. The list would, outline content of the correspondence and to whom it had been passed. This he felt would give Councillors much better visibility. The above recommendations by the clerk were accepted.

M.B. expressed concern that although the planning committee would make a decision on a planning application the exact words used on the Parish Council's response was not known except by the Chair of the planning committee (**B.C.**) **B.C.** accepts it is his responsibility to ensure the wishes of the planning committee are faithfully replicated in the formal submission he makes. **R.H.** was unwilling to place further work on **B.C.** and the matter was left unresolved but may be reviewed at a later date.

R.H. stated he wanted the "open forum" to take place at the beginning of the meetings rather than be rushed at the end. This was accepted.

It was noted that it was the intention to place the Minutes of the Meetings on the website but only when they have been formally approved.

147 Reports

Planning

1. Wayside, Brook Street – Planning Committee meeting has taken place and views forwarded. A letter from the District Council has gone to the owner basically saying the case officer is happy with the application but the owner should allay the concerns of the Parish Council. B.C. stated he has had no correspondence on this and feels it is an inappropriate means of progressing a planning application. He has tried to contact Simon Ludgate (Principal Planning Officer) on several occasions but has failed. Councillor Coatsworth suggested a letter is sent to the Chief Executive, since all letters are logged and their response monitored. Councillor Parsons said he would make enquires. **(Post meeting note:** - The next day following a visit from Councillor Parsons, Simon Ludgate e-mailed B.C. stating that it was decided to recommend refusal of the development, under delegated powers, on the basis that the building would be overpowering and significantly detrimental to the character of this part of the conservation area. Unless the District Planning Committee overrules this decision a refusal will be issued around the 20th November.)
2. Bonscombe Farm has been approved according to the local paper. The Parish Council has not received notification of this.
3. Peas Hill End. Planning Committee proposal is to approve.
4. St. Lukes Farm. Planning Committee proposal is to approve.

Finance General

Two cheques have been raised and signed since the last meeting: -

CHEQUE N ^o	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT £
000336	OHE Horticulture	135.18
000337	Dorset C C	59.93

The clerk stated he had reviewed the likely spend to the end of the financial year and a surplus of approximately £100 was estimated. This estimate was made before the mower was stolen.

Playing Field

1. The mower has been stolen and the shed door has been severely damaged.
2. Police are aware and have issued a reference number.
3. The insurance cover is new for old on the mower and the door will be replaced but only to its original standard.
4. Recommendations of the Crime Prevention Officer must be carried out to reduce the excess to the original £75. It currently is £250 until the work is done.
5. John Bright will be asked to quote for the door replacement.
6. Short note will be placed in BVN reference the theft.
7. D.S. was thanked for painting the gates.
8. The waste bin has again not been emptied. **Clerk** to write again.
9. The sign may be amended to reflect the clerk's new phone number rather than replaced.
10. **M.B.** to pursue possibility of Countryside Grant for hedge laying.

DAPTC

B.L. attended the AGM and found the meeting interesting. He tabled resolutions that were presented at the AGM and stated he thought delegates were being asked to vote on topics they had little knowledge of. B.L. felt that there should be two representatives from Shipton, which has been the case in the past. They would, however, only have a single vote. B.L. tabled the subscriptions for 2004/2005. The Shipton subscription for next year will be £76.05.

Right of Way

A stile has been reported broken and a letter needs to be written. The rail, off Brook Street has not yet been repaired. It is thought that the path by the rail has become overgrown and the grass needs clearing. **R.L.** to action

Village Hall

Twelve new tables have been purchased and can be used outside. They are also available for hire. B.C. asked if an easel could be provided for the planning meetings. **R.H.** to enquire.

(**Post meeting note:** An easel previously donated by B.L. was located after the meeting in the hall.)

Highways

The new road Maintenance Unit was briefly discussed. **B.L.** to present at the next Parish Meeting how the village needs can be collected and prioritised. B.L. stated that the condition of the roads is poor due to mud and leaves. The village roads were due to be swept at the beginning of November. This has been delayed due to priority being given to clearing leaves in the towns. B.L. has voiced his opinion to District Council that the road sweeper vehicle did not impress him, with its symbolic brush attached at the rear! and the following van apparently containing specialised cleaning equipment. **B.L.** undertook to enquire if plans existed of village gullies and drains. The stones outside Periwinkle have not been removed and it was noted that rainwater from the garage roof is directed straight on to Chapel Street. **R.H.** to pursue.

148 Charitable Donations

To be discussed at next meeting.

149 Correspondence

1. West Dorset Profile, passed to R.H.
2. Request from Air Ambulance for donation.
3. C.P.S. annual report.
4. 2004/2005 precept form.
5. Letter from Police reference the theft of the mower.
6. Small grants for sports form, passed to M.B.
7. Letter from Colin Green informing Parish Council of peal of bells at St Martins on 18th December from 9.30am.
8. Dorset Community Action Questionnaire passed to R.H.

150 Date of Next Meeting

WEDNESDAY 14TH JANUARY 2004

(Note: precept to be discussed at this meeting)

151 Open Forum

Frank Rogers requested a copy of the mobile library questionnaire.