

SHIPTON GORGE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY 14TH July 2004

Open Forum:

There was a query on who clears the footpaths should they become overgrown. RL stated that a team could be organised should there be a request. The footpath at the Plot was reported to be overgrown.

A request was made to provide steps to ease getting over the large stones across the footpath behind the church. RL to investigate. MB asked that the current large stones should not be removed.

Present:

Cllrs. Richard Hewlett, Mary Boughton, Robert Langran, Robert Cornish, Charles Errington, Brian Lavelle, Gillian Maxfield

In attendance:

County Councillor Ron Coatsworth, District Councillor Mark Parsons and seven parishioners.

200. Apologies:

Cllrs, John Epplestone, David Smith and Sue Anders (Community Partnership Development Officer)

201 Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of last PC meeting (12th May) were approved and duly signed by the chairman.

202 Clerks Report

1. Amendment forms for Registration of Interest has been given out to those who requested them.
2. The Insurers have been paid. Contents of the shed in addition to the mower are covered up to £250
3. Any Councillor over 75 must obtain medical certificate to say they are fit to be covered by the personal accident clause. No charge for this. Over 80 not covered.
4. Further discussion with bank has yielded the correct form for a Parish Council.
5. Forms for identification purposes have been issued to signatories.
6. Geoffrey Howlett has had the dangerous tree removed.
7. Audit forms have been completed just need signatures
8. Bob White has agreed to provide an independent audit of the accounts.
9. Margaret Fisher was invited as an observer at the last BB governors meeting. Expects to hear officially soon.
10. Sue Anders has asked that a representative go to the Area Partnership Meeting on the 5th August. No representative is available-**Clerk** to notify Sue.

203 Matters Arising

There were two matters arising from the last meeting.

Mud on Icen Lane. RL has spoken to Janice Symes but there has been no change. Cllr Coatsworth stated that mud on the road is dangerous and it is a police matter. However Cllr Parsons stated that if the mud is "off the hoof" there is no requirement to clear the mud up.

MB and BL requested amendment forms for Registration of Interest

204.Appointment of Committees

Planning

Jo Warren has stood down as a lay member. Pam Graham has volunteered to replace Jo. This was proposed by BC and seconded by GM and agreed unanimously. Geoff Shepherd is the second lay member who is willing to continue. All councillors except RH are members of the planning committee under the chairmanship of BC.

Playing Field

The current committee of DS, RH, CE, RL and Grayham Rosamond were agreed under the chairmanship of MB.

205.Parish Plan

Letters have gone out and there is now a need to get more people involved. There is a need to set up a meeting to get all parties together. MB and CE asked for help since they both have heavy work commitments. RH and GM both offered to help.

206 Formal Acceptance of Annual Return for Auditors

Section 1 "Statement of Accounts" were agreed and duly signed by the chairman and the clerk. Section 2 "Statement of Assurance" was agreed and duly signed by the chairman and the clerk. It was agreed that para 5 of section two relating to assessment of risks should be reviewed. Action **Clerk** (Post meeting note:- Bob White has reviewed the accounts and has duly signed section 3. The audit return has now been sent off.)

207.Village Parking

A planning application for 1 Peas Hill includes provision for a parking space that will ease the problem in Shipton Road. The car parking places behind Peas Hill appear to be well used.

208 New Inn

The landlord of the New Inn, John Maurice, is leaving in October. John explained the pub is not viable unless more people use it. He knows that Palmer's directors are concerned about the pub's viability and closure is a real possibility. In the past he has proposed plans to improve the pub but the brewery has not supported him. MB had undertaken to talk to Cleeves Palmer but has not yet had the opportunity. Action **MB**. The Village Society had a meeting on the 6th July and wrote to Cleeves on the 8th July asking for a position statement. They have not yet received a response. RH stated that no one would want to see the pub shut and all must work together. **RH** undertook to talk to Tim Woodrow the Tenanted Trade Director.

209. Reports.

Planning

1. Application No. 1/W/03/001633 – Bonscombe Farm. - Approval granted on the 25 May 2004 for holiday accommodation only.

2. Application No. 1/W/04/000323 – Dairy house, Shipton Road. Convert redundant farm buildings into 4No units of holiday accommodation. Construct new vehicular access. - Approval granted on the 14 May 2004. Schedule of Conditions apply. Clerk was asked to monitor the entrance to the new accommodation for possible problems.

3. Application No. 1/W/04/000054 – Wayside, Brook Street. Demolish existing garage and shed and erect replacement single storey garage. Construct new parking and turning area. Following no objections from the Parish Council or members of the public, approval was subsequently granted on the 02 June 2004.

4. Application No. 1/W/04/000763 – Home Cottage, Brook Street. New application to erect extension. – A planning committee/public meeting was held on the 19 May 2004 to consider the third set of plans submitted for this property. The outcome of the meeting was unanimous in recommending refusal on the same grounds as the previous plans. The WDDC subsequently advised that the application would go to committee and that the Case Officers recommendation was to approve the plans. The meeting took place on the 24 June 2004 and a number of villagers took up their entitlement of the 3-minute speech to object to the proposals. Cllr Boughton represented the Parish Council. When it came to the planning committee to discuss, Cllr Parsons immediately recommended a site visit and this was seconded and confirmed. A site meeting took place on Monday 12 July 2004 and a group of

villagers stood nearby to show there were real concerns over this issue. The plans go to committee once again on the 15 July 2004.

5. Application No. 1/W/04/000914 – 14 Rockway. - Erect garage extension.

A planning committee/public meeting was held on the 23 June 2004 to consider the above application. The committee raised no objections and were unanimous in recommending approval.

6. Application No. 1/W/04/001044 – 1 Peas Hill. – Erect two-storey extension and modify existing vehicular access. - A planning committee/public meeting was held on the 30 June to consider the above application. The committee discussed the proposed development in detail and no planning issues were raised.

Points discussed included: The plans show a balcony on the rear of the extension, which gave concerns over the possible intrusion of privacy for adjacent properties in Rockway. The revised vehicular access was a topic for discussion as well as the gravel driveway, which it was felt could create a possible hazard if allowed to migrate onto the highway. These views were added to the report. The recommendation of the committee was to approve the plans.

7. Application No. 1/W/04/001146 – Field North of Bucklers Bid, Shipton Lane. – Erect barn for use as stables, and ménage. Modify existing vehicular access. –

A planning committee/public meeting was held on the 07 July 2004 to consider the above application. There were no planning issues raised and the committee recommended approval. A note was added to the report that the applicant, who was present at the planning meeting, had agreed to introduce adequate planting/screening to the area in question, when completed, to minimise the impact on the views from the village and surrounding property's.

8. Application No. 1/W/04/001167 – The Nook, Chapel Street. – Renewal of 1/W/1999/0599 – demolish extension and erect new extension.

A planning committee/public meeting has been arranged on 14 July 2004 to consider the above application. A site meeting was found to be required since the available plans were inadequate.

The new owner of Heathfield has met with the planning committee and received some feedback on development of the site.

RH stated that BC needed help due to the volume of work involved in planning. The Clerk has offered to help and a meeting will be set up to define responsibilities.

General Finance

A spreadsheet of the 2004/2005 accounts was tabled. MB asked for clarification of “spend” Clerk to action.

New cheques issued since the last meeting are: -

CHEQUE No	RECIPIENT	AMMOUNT
356	J Fisher (security)	£34.55
357	G Rosamond	£91.21
358	Allianz Cornhill	£247.19
359	J Fisher (clerks Wages)	£475.53
360	DAPTC	£78.26
361	Playground Management Ltd	£72.26

Playing Field

1. The Charity Commission Form has been sent off.
2. Mower had been returned after repair.
3. Maintenance day will be 7th August and will be advertised in the BVN and also by posters.
4. Terry Hunt had sent a letter about balls going into his garden. **RH** undertook to get signs laminated instructing parents and children not to go into Mr Hunt's garden without permission. The proposal to reduce the ball going into the garden is to move the goal nearer the netting. It was reported that one of the parents was going to put

netting also on to the goal. This was not acceptable without consultation with the Parish Council due to liability issues.

5. **MB** to obtain a new basketball board.
6. Weekly checks have identified that one of the seats is cracking.
7. RoSPA report has been received and is similar to last year.
8. The roundabout is getting worse and will need attention soon.
9. Waste bin is being emptied weekly.
10. Cost of getting electricity to the field is likely to be high and will need justifying.

DAPTC

JE has been to one meeting and will report at the next PC meeting.

Rights of Way

Stile next to Home Cottage has been removed.

Village Hall

RH reported that the hiring of the hall was at a record level. The old staging is for disposal and will be advertised in the BVN.

BC asked for a key for the village hall. **RH** to review, but stated there is concern on the number of keys already in circulation.

Highways

There has been a fair amount of patching the roads.

The PMU scheduled for April did not happen. Councillor Coatsworth made the comment that the Bride Valley in general seems to be getting a poor service. BL asked that he spoke to Blair Turner first before any formal letters of complaint were sent. Action **BL**. Clerk to write should BL not get a satisfactory response.

GM noticed that the sign stolen in Cuckoo Lane stating “unsuitable for heavy vehicles” had been replaced with a sign “unsuitable for vehicles”. This was accepted as being a satisfactory mistake!

RH to progress the 30mph signs in the village. RH stated that this does now need to be progressed since high tech. mapping will be introduced at some stage.

BL to progress the replacement of signs that were stolen in the village.

Village Website

CE reported steady progress with the Church services now included. The Village Society is soon to be added.

210. Correspondence

There were no queries or requests for any correspondence. RH presented various brochures that the Clerk had passed onto him over the last few months. An urgent response was required by the 30th July on whether the PC was going to be represented at a public inquiry on changes to the Local Plan. **CE** was actioned to urgently compare the PCs comments with the plan.

211. Dates of next Meetings

The next meeting will be on **8th September 2004**