



Shalden Parish Council

Minutes of Virtual Shalden Parish Council meeting held using Zoom on Wednesday 25th November 2020 at 8.00 pm.

Present: Andrew Shirvell, Rosemary Hartgill, David Orme and Bernard Stewart.

Also in attendance: Rob Wood (Clerk)

1. Apologies: None.

2. Open Session: No residents in attendance.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 30th September 2020 were reviewed, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising:

- i. The Clerk has enquired with HCC whether the Environment Agency have inspected the material used to fill in the menage at Sunacres Cottage, Shalden Green Road. This is being chased up by the Enforcement Officer who is handling the case.
- ii. Golden Pot crossroads: the Clerk contacted Mark Kemp-Gee (County Councillor) and the Steve Woodward (Safer Roads Team, HCC) to feedback the Parish Council's comments following on from the discussion at the last meeting. The Clerk has had no response from either party despite reminders via email and telephone. The Clerk asked what the Parish Council would like to do to follow up on this, given that there is a high level of public support for improving safety at this junction. The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk should in the first instance contact Steve Woodward asking for a commitment to the planned improvement works and timescale. If no response is given, the Clerk is to invite Steve Woodward to the next Parish Council meeting to give an update.
- iii. The Clerk contacted Jenny Ospici following on from the correspondence from the local tree warden network. Jenny is still active as our local tree warden and the Clerk has passed on the information received.

5a. Correspondence:

- i. Hampshire Highways contacted the Clerk to advise of 'Operation Resilience' road resurfacing on the Froyle Road and badly damaged section at the junction of the Old Odiham Road/Froyle road junction. This work was completed in October.
- ii. The Clerk has been contacted by our footpath warden, Helen Dudley and a user of footpath #1 to ask whether the stile shortly past Southwood Park could be repaired please and also whether it could be altered to allow easy access for dogs. Clerk to contact Countryside services.

5b. Planning: One planning application is currently active 39928/001 (Rowans, Old Odiham Road) for a single storey extension and external staircase to access first floor. There were no comments on this application.

6a. Current Financial Position: The Clerk shared copies of the accounts as they currently stand with the Parish Council ahead of the meeting. The current position is still healthy; the balance of the current account is £5891.11, reserve account is £2068.95 and there is £22.07 petty cash. This gave a balance of £7982.15 which was reconciled with the latest bank statements.

6b. Budget and set precept for 2021/22 year: The Clerk presented a proposed budget to the Parish Council, which will be shared on the website. The Clerk suggested a reduction of the precept for the 2021/22 year as the projected end of year total funds available to the Parish Council were felt to be sufficient (predicted to be over £6500). The Parish Council discussed this and decided to maintain the precept at £7000 for the next financial year, mainly due to the uncertainty in terms of income from use of the Recreation Ground by Alton FC and also that there is likely to be pressure to reduce spending in the coming years. It is also worth noting that the precept will have not been increased since 2018. This was agreed unanimously and the Clerk is to request a precept of £7000 from EHDC.

7. AOB:

- i. Cllr Orme suggested that the link for the online Parish Council meeting could be posted on the website to allow easier access for residents to join, removing the barrier of needing to contact the Clerk first. This was agreed and will be done ahead of the next meeting.
- ii. Cllr Stewart asked whether the Clerk had purchased the litter pickers and vests yet. The Clerk responded that these and the oven for the Pavilion have not been purchased yet as he felt it might be better to purchase them closer to the time they might be needed.
- iii. Cllr Hartgill commented that she had spoken to the Clerk who was able to give advice regarding flooding of the Village Hall car park.
- iv. The Clerk asked whether Parish Council meetings should be held on the same day in 2021, the Parish Council agreed to keep the dates of meetings going forward as the last Wednesday of the month on alternate months, giving the following dates for 2021:

27th January 2021

31st March 2021

26th May 2021

28th July 2021

29th September 2021

24th November 2021

- v. The Chairman thanked Cllr Orme for setting up today's virtual Parish Council Meeting.