



## Shalden Parish Council

**Minutes** of Virtual Shalden Parish Council meeting held using Zoom on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 8.00 pm.

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

**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 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020 were reviewed, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising:**

- i. Planning: Parish Council objection to application number 57504/003 was returned by the Clerk.
- ii. Alton FC pitch hire cost for 2020/21 season agreed (£500 for the season split into four payments) and hire agreement is in place.
- iii. Clerk submitted annual return to the auditor, receipt and completion for the 2019/20 accounting year was confirmed.
- iv. Cllr Stewart asked whether the Environment Agency have been able to inspect the material deposited at Sunacres Cottage, Shalden Green Road, following on from discussions at previous Parish Council meetings. Clerk has not received any further correspondence on this matter so will investigate.

**5a. Correspondence:**

- i. EHDC have written to the Parish Council offering support for Tree Wardens in their area. The Clerk asked whether Shalden has a tree warden. The Chairman responded that in the past Jenny Ospici has been active in this role and asked the Clerk to contact her to pass on the information offered by EHDC.
- ii. Clerk has received details of a Government consultation on a white paper ('Planning for the future') relating to proposed changes to the planning system. Clerk to share with Councillors.
- iii. The Parish Council's registration for the 2020/21 year with the Information Commissioners Office (GDPR) has been renewed and confirmed.

**5b. Planning:** One planning application is currently active 30190/005 (Southfield House, Froyle Road) variation of condition 6 of application number 30190/002, which is to allow the use of the first floor space above a triple garage to be used as rented accommodation separate to the main house.

This application was discussed and the Parish Council voted to object to this application and the following comments were returned to the planning officer:

'Shalden Parish Council response to planning application 30190/005 at Southfield House, Froyle Road. Shalden Parish Council object to this application for the following reasons.

The original application (30190/002) was for a single storey extension to the rear and a triple garage with accommodation in the upper level, this was granted in line with the details of the application. Condition 6 in the permission granted was a clear direction to ensure that the triple width, two storey garage, which is a sizeable building in its own right cannot be treated as a separate entity to the primary dwelling but merely ancillary to it.

We feel that the removal of this condition from the original application would in essence create a separate dwelling and amounts to two properties on the site with the sitting tenant of the garage also having rights over the building which are contrary to the intentions of the original permission. We feel that this would constitute 'back yard development' of a new dwelling which is contrary to the Local Plan in this rural location and fails to guarantee that the building remains part of the original dwelling.

As such we support the original condition 6 and oppose the application to permit rented accommodation above the garage'.

**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 very healthy; the balance of the current account is £4235.65 and reserve account is £2068.95. The Clerk has received confirmation of the second Precept payment of £3500 and has given cheques of £400 for the painting of the pavilion and £360 to Ian Todd for mowing the grass at the Recreation Ground. These will appear on the next bank statement. The Clerk's pay for months April-September was £1020.25 for 92.75 hours.

**6b. Alton FC hire 2020/21:** The Parish Council's proposal of a discretionary charge of £500 for the 2020/21 football season was agreed with Alton FC.

## **7. Hampshire Highways Update**

**7a. Golden Pot Crossroads:** Ahead of this meeting, the Clerk contacted County Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee and Steve Woodward from Hampshire County Council Road Safety team asking for an update on planned work to reduce the Avenue approach to a single lane with a buildout of the kerb and improvement of the safety of the bus stop. Steve Woodward's response was shared with the Parish Council at the meeting. To briefly summarise, Steve had recently driven through the junction. He observed that the hard vegetation cut back that had been planned in the spring had not happened, he will chase this up. In terms of the hard remodelling of the junction (opening up the junction to improve visibility, reducing the Lasham approach to a single lane and improvement of the bus stop) this work is on hold as required surveying work has been delayed due to the Covid-19 outbreak. This is likely to delay any survey work for some time to come.

The Parish Council discussed this update and asked the Clerk to respond to both Steve Woodward and Mark Kemp-Gee based on a number of key points;

- i. The build out to reduce the Lasham approach (Avenue) to a single lane was believed to have already have been given the go-ahead some time ago. Funds from the Will Hall Farm development CIL money were committed to this project as the building of this estate has a direct impact on traffic volume at this crossroads. Why has this not happened and where have the funds gone?
- ii. How is Hampshire Highways spending prioritised? Why does it seem relatively easy to access funding to spend days repairing potholes on the Old Odiham Road this summer, but little to progress work at an accident hotspot in our Parish?
- iii. Safety improvements have been proposed at this site a number of times in the past, but have not come to fruition – the Parish Council feel that it is important that the current project is completed in good time.
- iv. Vegetation clearance at this crossroads and indeed at other main road junctions within Shalden is often done poorly, and certainly not seemingly in any very well organised manner through the year.

**7b. Signage at Junction of Upper Anstey Lane and the Old Odiham Road:** The Clerk met with Mark Kemp-Gee, Ian Janes who is a representative from Hampshire Highways and resident Sue Bottomley to have a look at the no through road signage at this junction following on from reports from residents that it is not effective. The Clerk reported that having inspected the junction, in particular the visibility of the signage from the Basingstoke approach, it was felt that visibility of this is currently poor, although the signage type itself is correct.

The suggestion from Hampshire Highways is to make the existing sign more visible and to add an additional matching no through road sign onto the opposite signpost. Also, they will look into putting a small sign a way before the junction warning that it's a no through road visible from the approach from the Basingstoke end.

#### **8. AOB:**

- i. The oven in the Pavilion is now unusable. Clerk requested funding to source a suitable replacement, which should be possible for around £180. The Parish Council agreed to this as the oven is used by the Football Club and for the Fireworks display.
- ii. The Clerk suggested that the Parish Council use some of the £200 compensation recently received from Natwest to buy some litter pickers and yellow vests that could be borrowed from the Parish Council by residents organising litter picks. The Clerk reported that it was becoming increasingly difficult to get support from EHDC for this and that Rosalind Ommannney had suggested this idea to help. The Clerk had found a company that these could be purchased for £2.34 per picker and £2.05 per vest. The Parish Council agreed to do this. They suggested that the Clerk put a note in the Villager to let residents know that these are available to borrow.
- iii. The Chairman thanked Cllr Orme for setting up today's virtual Parish Council Meeting.