



Great Shefford Parish Council

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: Mrs Sandi Ackrill,
 Brookside, Wantage Road, Great Shefford,
 Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 7DB
 Tel No.: 01488 648605
 E-mail: parishclerk@greatshefford.org.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Great Shefford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 4 th December 2014 at 7.40pm		Present Cllr Carter (Chairman) Cllr Ackrill Cllr Winfield, Cllr Whiting and Cllr Parsons. Parish Clerk S Ackrill
	2 members of the Public were present	Action
1)	Apologies: Cllr Knass	
2)	Declarations of Interest on Agenda items -Cllr Ackrill declared personal and financial interest in Clerks fees and grass cutting discussion on the budget	
3)	Open Forum Sue Benn informed the meeting that the re lining of the sewers which is as a result of the Lambourn Valley Flood action group had commenced in Spring Meadows.	Clerk
4)	Planning – No Items to discuss	clerk
5)	Minutes – the minutes of the meeting of the 6 th November 2014 were proposed for adoption by Cllr Ackrill and seconded by Cllr Winfield	
6)	Finance - Cheques to be approved and signed a) 100177 W N Goldstraw £55.50 100178 FCC Recycling £21.50 100179 John Fletcher £320.00 see item 9 100180 Jane Mason £35.00 100181 Liz Saunders – see item 12 agreed during the meeting Griffins DD - to be amended following budget discussion will be noted in January minutes once new sum totalled J Mason had returned cheque for £160 explaining did not want to cash it for that amount - councillors were all in agreement that there must be some remuneration for fuel for cutting footpath and issued cheque 100180 to be sent with a letter – Cllrs very appreciative of help b Current Account £1711.58 Recreation Ground £9221.59 HMRC VAT Claim money now showing in bank £2922.13	

7)	<p>Budget Clerk has produced a forecast of spend up until the end of the current financial year –using this councillors discussed a budget for 2015/16 and 2016/17.</p> <p>Items to note</p> <p>Grass cutting will be staying the same rates – for next season but would go up approx. £140 the following year, Rec ground maintenance some money was put into the budget for possible repair of the fence in 2016 season and for the hedges to be cut again in 2015 so £350 for 2015 and £1200 for 2016. Litter picking remained the same at £1000. S137 emergency expenditure allowance stays the same at £2000. Clerks salary (Cllr Ackrill withdrew from the meeting) the new pay rates which were supposed to come into force in April 2014 had been received in the last 10 days. Following debate it was agreed to back date the clerk to the correct rate of £11.54 for 8 hours per week from April 2014 and then go onto the new rate in April 2015 of £11.92 8 hours per week. The clerk is required to work out the back pay and readdress her time sheet.</p> <p>Cllr Ackrill returned to the meeting.</p> <p>The new payroll company charges are higher at 40.00 per month - this will also be taken into account in the budget .</p> <p>Hall hire – we were given a rate of £20 per meeting for a lot of our meetings this year clerk will write to Hall Committee and ask what the coming year would be charged at in order we can budget for it in Januarys meeting.</p> <p>Subscriptions went up to £200, Insurance increased by £100 to 1400. Electricity kept the same at £600. Legal and Audit to remain the same next year £300 increased slightly for following year. A sum was put in for Churchyard maintenance. And the Youth Club, Village general maintenance kept the same</p> <p>We will need to budget for new bus shelter Cllr Parsons is going to get one estimate for the next meeting</p>	Clerk
8)	<p>Flooding Forum / EMT</p> <p>Cllr Ackrill had held a meeting of Team Leaders in the Emergency Teams – who will be contacting their relevant members to ensure everyone ready for Winter and possible situations. An email had been received explaining the jetting under the petrol station would take place before Christmas.</p> <p>Cllr Ackrill had been in touch with WBC and they have been provided with some preliminary information and will be now organising their own Topographical survey. It is the intention of the EA that WBC will lead on the project but an agreement has not yet been finalised.</p> <p>There is an allowance for the scheme in next year’s programme which Cllr Ackrill clarified with WBC was for the works as well as the surveys - and was told it was for both. No figures have been mentioned to us.</p>	Cllr Ackrill

9)	<p>Bus Shelter Clerk tried different avenues to get the Bus shelter looked at by someone qualified - The clerk and Cllr Ackrill met with local builder over the weekend - it was agreed the shelter was leaning quite badly – following discussion with Cllrs Carter and Parsons it was agreed to use Clerk emergency discretion and funds from S137 emergency expenditure to remove the tiles from the roof asap/ sure up the wooden frame and replace damage roof felt to at least allow the shelter to be useable until we can get quotes for replacement. Cllr Ackrill offered trailer and has taken the tiles to be stored 2/3rd s of which we can now re-use. The emergency work came in at £320 as noted in Finance section. Public Liability certificate was obtained. It was agreed we need to replace with a nice structure as this is one of the focal points in our village. Cllr Parsons will try and obtain one estimate ready for the January meeting – then in the new year we will need to obtain quotes, decide stiles and look into grants.</p>	Cllr Parsons
10)	<p>Christmas - Tree – Cllr Ackrill and the clerk have picked up the Tree - which is really wonderful this year – it will be going up on the weekend of the 13th December. The children from the preschool and our Primary school will decorate it the following week. Cllr Ackrill has tested the lights which work - we just have to rely on good day light for charging !!! The parish council would like to publically thank M & S Ambulance Service for generously sponsoring our Tree on the Green this year. Carols around the Tree Thursday 18th December 6PM – Cllr Winfield has arranged with The Swan to meet there to sing if its wet and have refreshments there afterwards. Bring torches!</p>	ALL
11)	<p>Salt Bins – Clerk has asked the Council and it’s simply a case of hitting salt hard with fork – Cllr Carter has done this and the bins in The Close and Fetit Place are ready to be used – Cllr Winfield will try and find someone to take care of the bin in Shefford Woodlands - will let Cllr Carter know if unable to sort it.</p>	Cllr Winfield
12)	<p>Parish Archives - We have a letter from our archivist Liz Saunders – Liz explained that she has purchased some display boards for the recent Exhibition and has covered half the cost of these from Donations during the Exhibition – Liz asked the council to consider contributing £70 towards the cost of these boards – following discussion this was agreed and Cllr Whiting proposed the expenditure seconded by Cllr Winfield.</p>	
13)	<p>Cllr Questions – Cllr Winfield - reported that the Notice Board in Shefford Woodlands was leaning - clerk will ask Nigel Goldstraw to have a look at it. Footpath blocked between Shefford woodlands and A338. Clerk will report the damaged sign at bottom of Hungerford Hill. Clerk will check on the repair Streetlight in The Close</p>	Clerk Clerk

14)	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Penny post had been emailed around National Salary Awards for Clerks</p> <p>Email from Chaddleworth - asking if we would like to attend a Meeting with WBC to discuss any planning issues we may have. – following discussion it was agreed a Councillor would try and go depending when the date was.</p> <p>Flood Newsletter</p>	
15)	<p>Matters for Future Consideration – No matters were raised not included in the minutes</p>	
16)	<p>Date of the Next Meeting – 8th January 2015 7.40pm meeting closed 9.20pm</p>	