



## Great Shefford Parish Council

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### Minutes from Thursday 2 November 2017

**Present:** Cllr S Ackrill (Chairman) Cllr G Knass, Cllr S McCarthy, Clerk K. Lloyd and 3 members of the public.

- 1) **Apologies** -Cllr B Williams
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** - none
- 3) **Open Forum** (time limit at Chairman's discretion)

A representative from a company called GHE Homes Ltd, [www.ghehomes.co.uk](http://www.ghehomes.co.uk) a local property developers based in Newbury which have been building affordable family homes across the UK for over a decade gave a talk. They are looking for the opportunity to discuss the potential for rural exception sites to build affordable homes for local people.

- 4) **Planning** – None
- 5) **Minutes** Cllr McCarthy proposed and Cllr Knass seconded the minutes for the 19 October 2017 to be a correct representation of the meeting. Cllr Ackrill signed the minutes.
- 6) **Finance**
  - a) Bank Accounts on 12 October 2017

Great Shefford Parish Council	£28,948.33
Recreation Ground Account	£10,221.59

b) Cheques to Approve

100343	K.Lloyd Parish Clerk	£554.98
100344	Great Shefford Flood Alleviation Association	£6,695.51
100345	FCC Recycling Ltd	£24.40
100346	The Royal British Legion –poppy wreath	£50.00
100347	Great Shefford Pariochial Council (contribution towards the tree work in lime avenue)	£250.00

- 7) **Discussion on contributing to PCC for works carried out to Lime Avenue**

Following a request for a contribution towards the tree work in Lime Avenue it was agreed to contribute £250.00 from the S106 fund. Cllr Knass proposed and Cllr Ackrill seconded. The Clerk raised a cheque in the meeting.

## 8) **Flood Alleviation Scheme**

Cllr Ackrill reported following an email from the Environment Agency he was informed the contractors had to demobilise on site due to health and safety issues as they identified asbestos lagging, to reduce risk to staff they plan to return to site mid to late November with a revised method to survey and precede with the works.

The meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> November is an open meeting to bring the village up to speed with the plans, with the EA giving a short presentation concerning the various options and explaining where we currently are with the scheme. **The next fundraising meeting is 12th December.**

## 9) **Budget**

### **Review of the 2018/19 Budget**

The 2018/19 budget was reviewed.

Subscriptions were increased from £235 to £250 following the increase this year from Berkshire Association of Local Councils (BALC).

The Wantage Bus contribution was lowered to £100 from £1,250.

The total for 2018/19 budget is £19,407

Cllr Ackrill also said the forecast budget for Recreation Ground Mowing to the end of this financial year (31.03.18) would be £2,250 instead of the forecast amount of £2,700 being 15 cuts proposed to 18.

### **Setting the budget for 2019/20**

The 19/20 budget was reviewed. Cllr Ackrill proposed to increase the Clerks salary by 1 point on the NJC salary scale commencing 1 April 2019. Cllr Knass seconded.

The payroll figure was increased to £190 due to a possible increase of 10%.

The total for 2019/20 budget is £19,668.

### **Setting Precept for 2018/19**

The Precept was discussed and Cllr Ackrill proposed to keep it the same this year as last at £16,000. Cllr Knass seconded and Cllr McCarthy and the Clerk agreed. The Clerk will submit the relevant precept paperwork in January 2018.

## 10) **Cllr Questions and reports - none**

## 11) **Clerk Correspondence**

The Clerk reported she had not added the minute in the October minutes on the matter of low flying helicopters that were reported by a parishioner to Cllr Ackrill last month. The Clerk apologised and said she would add a note to the November minutes. The Clerk, before the last meeting, contacted RAF Welford to ask if low flying helicopters especially at night was anything to do with the base. They reported this activity is not from RAF Welford and they do not have any sort of aircraft on the base, as they are a munitions storage site for the USAF and don't have a runway or any sort of landing place! After further discussion the Councillors did not have any further thoughts.

The Clerk reported the railings in Station Road were scheduled to be repaired now on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November by WBC.

## 12) **Matters for future consideration**

During the open forum three matters was raised to PC.

Great Shefford Farm – Concern of a footpath (no. 6), which runs from the chalk pit at the bottom of Hungerford Hill southwards through the bluebell border and on to Dalldridge. A parishioner is concerned it is intended to be a tarmac road running up to Park Farm and was this intended as a carriage drive for the new house. Parish Council discussed the matter and it was agreed to contact WBC to ask if this new access track requires planning permission following this matter being raised to PC.

**Clerk**

A member of the public asked PC for support and backing concerning the drainage channel to back a small starter home housing scheme on the land behind the filing station as part of the flood relief. After a full discussion Parish Council agreed they are going to continue working with the Environmental Agency and West Berkshire Council with the preferred option.

GE Homes (as above under Open Forum )

Parish Council ask the question to Great Shefford, if there is a need for low cost housing in the village?

**Close of meeting-9pm.**

**Next meeting Thursday 7 December 2017**

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