



Great Shefford Parish Council

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GREAT SHEFFORD MINUTES

MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9th JANUARY 2020 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.40pm.

Present: Cllr. Ackrill (Chair), Cllr. Bell (Vice-Chair), Cllr. Knass, Cllr. Williams and Cllr. McCarthy.

Parish Clerk: K. Lloyd.

Attendance: No members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Cllrs. Storey and Clive Hooker the District Councillor sent their apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS

No Declarations of Interest raised.

3. OPEN FORUM- un minuted

None.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

To review the three planning applications.

19/02990/FUL-Land at East Shefford Farm - The demolition of six silos and construction of a steel portal framed building to be used as a general purpose store.

<http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=19/02990/FUL>

The Members of the Parish Council agreed to 'Support' this application.

19/02939/HOUSE -River Cottage, Wantage Road. -Proposed single storey rear extension, internal alterations and new front entrance porch. Replace all windows. New detached garage and alterations to widen existing access.

<http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=19/02939/HOUSE>

The Members of the Parish Council agreed to 'Support' this application.

19/03139/HOUSE -Oakhanger Park, Baydon Road, Shefford Woodlands - Demolition of three outbuildings and construction of replacement outbuildings.

<http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=19/03139/HOUSE>

The Members of the Parish Council agreed to 'Support' this application.

To note, 19/03168/House Shefford Park Farm, Erection of pool house, garage and kennels, creation of swimming pool and construction of garden wall.

<http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=19/03168/HOUSE>

This planning application was received 8/01/20. The Members of Parish Council had no time to review the application and the agenda was already published. No comments were made and no reasons were raised to hold an extra-ordinary meeting for this application.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to confirm and adopt the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5 December 2019.

6. PARKING ON THE GRASS ENTRANCE TO THE PLAYING FIELDS

The Clerk received an email from the owner of the property and the area in question, regarding the parking of vehicles on the grass area in front of the playing field. This had been brought to the owner's attention that it was causing an inconvenience to people using the playing fields. A gate had been suggested wide enough to stop cars, but room at the side for pedestrians. The Members of Parish Council agreed as it is not Parish Council land they don't have any involvement in what could be done. Cllr. Knass reminded Council that 'No Parking' signs were added by the Parish Council some time ago to help. Cllr. Ackrill said that he mows this area of grass at no cost to anyone, and if something was put in place it would need to be removable to enable him to carry on mowing this area of grass.

The Members of Parish Council agreed if the owner of the land wanted to install a gate at their own cost the Parish Council would have no objections. The Clerk was asked to reply to the email.

ACTION: CLERK

7. FINANCE

a) Bank Accounts

Balances on 11 December 2020

Parish Council	£16,187.83
Recreation Ground Account	£10,221.59

b) Payments approved in this meeting

S/O	Kim Lloyd (Parish Clerk)	£612.17
100455	FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd	£25.40
100456	Autela Payroll Services Qtr. 3	£47.08
D/D	SSE Street Lights Electricity 10/01/20	£144.90

8. STREET LIGHT QUOTE – SOX REPLACEMENT TO LED

Following the last meeting when the Members of Parish Council agreed to ask the Clerk to request a new quote for 9 lights only, excluding the disconnection of Lamp 1 in Long Willows.

The Clerk had a response from SSE stating that their understanding is that if lamp number 1 isn't disconnected it will still need to be on the inventory for energy usage and therefore the parish council will still be billed for the energy it uses whether it is working or not. This was also confirmed with the unmetered distribution team at SSE Networks. SSE asked for the Parish Council to discuss the following options further before revising the quotation again.

It was mentioned that if the property behind the light is objecting they could provide a rear light shield. The following options were then given;

- Disconnect and remove the existing light. This removes the energy usage from the inventory, reducing energy usage from 272.20 kwh per annum to 0 kwh per annum.
- Replace the lantern with an LED lantern (with rear shield if required), this reduces the energy usage from 272.20 kwh per annum to 80.22 kwh per annum.
- Leave the light connected and continue to pay for the energy usage, (although the lamp isn't operational the control gear and photocell still uses energy). No energy saving as the light will continue to use 272.20 kwh per annum.

After a full discussion it was agreed to disconnect and remove the existing light to save further costs to the Parish Council. The street light had not been working for many years and all agreed it would not be missed.

The quote for disconnecting lamp 1 (in Long Willows) was £214.61.

The quote for replacing the nine parish owned lights to LED was £3,538.61.

The Clerk was asked to contact SSE to accept the above two quotations and find out the next course of action.

ACTION: CLERK

9. FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

Cllr. Ackrill attended the last Flood Alleviation Forum meeting on 11/12 and reported that the agreement for the work is still being negotiated and re-written.

Cllr. Ackrill said the amount of heavy rain we have had lately is obviously making people anxious but said whilst levels are high they are not yet a cause for serious concern. Cllr. Ackrill reminded everyone the areas to look out for as red flags are flooding at the bottom of Buckham Hill and the ditch between Mount Pleasant and the village being full/ overflowing both of which historically have happened prior to the village itself being affected.

Cllr. Ackrill said the Bore Holes both at Northfield Farm and South Fawley are constantly being monitored. Cllr. Ackrill then spoke of the Groundwater levels from data shown on his phone.

10. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS AND REPORTS.

The Members of the Parish Council asked to give their Sincere Condolences on behalf of the village to the family and friends of Ashley Howard.

11. CLERK CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk received a letter the Parish Council was copied in from a resident to BT. The letter read that on 22/12 a vehicle demolished the telecommunication pole at the junction of the A338/Newbury Road and asked for it to be re-located. After discussion the Parish Council agreed to support and asked the Clerk to also write to BT to ask if the telecommunication pole could be relocated following it being damaged numerous times by vehicles.

ACTION: CLERK

The matter of the fence along the same part of the road which had also been damaged by a vehicle was discussed, the Clerk was asked to obtain a quote.

ACTION: CLERK

12. MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION.

None.

13. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Mr Robert Hale-Power previously emailed the Clerk to ask to be considered for Co-option. The Parish Council welcomed Robert.
Robert signed the Declaration of Office.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is confirmed for Thursday 6 February 2020.

Closed