

Shottisham Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Tuesday 14th November 2017 at Shottisham Trust Hall

Present: Chairman M Hazelwood (MHZ), Cll P Bouscarle (PB) and Cll P Widdup (PW)

Attendees: (SCDC) Cll C Block, Clerk L Roberts (LR) and 1 member of the public

1-14/11/17 Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

Apologies received from Cll K Dunnett (KD).

2-14/11/17 Public Forum:

Miranda Harrison (MHR) attended the meeting and was formally co-opted as a parish councillor onto Shottisham Parish Council following the recent resignation of Nigel Good.

3-14/11/17 Councillors' Declaration of Interest: None

4-14/11/17 Reports:

a) Suffolk CC:

b) The main topics covered in Cll A Reid's report were:

- Health officers in Suffolk are reminding people to get a flu vaccination to ward off the worst effects of a potentially debilitating illness. England's Chief Medical Officer has warned flu and the complications associated with it cause, on average, 8,000 deaths a year. Visit www.nhs.uk/staywell or www.healthysuffolk.org.uk for more information.
- Provisional GCSE and A level results published recently by the Department of Education show that 62.4% of students achieved the expected standard in English and Maths GCSEs this year. Suffolk has risen 24 places on national league tables and is now 85th out of 151 authorities. The provisional A level figures show that Suffolk pupils have performed well again this year and results are above the national average figures.
- Suffolk County Council's Fostering Service will launch a series of campaigns over the coming months to encourage more Suffolk residents to become foster carers. 820 children currently live in care in Suffolk and there is an urgent need for more people to come forward to foster. For more information visit www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk.

c) SCDC Report:

- Cll Christine Block told the meeting that the SCDC are still finalising their budget for next year but are concerned about government cuts to funding which are having a negative impact. They are looking at ways of increasing their budget by developing more money making ventures and car parking charges are likely to increase to help meet the deficit. Parishes will need to do more for themselves in future too.
- The Waveney & Suffolk Coastal merger is still moving ahead and it is likely that both authorities will be combined by 2019. The SCDC budget may well be phased out.
- SCDC require more houses to be built to meet their government target, which has still not been met. They are keen to encourage more housing to be built locally as it will help to build up the budget.
- SCDC are running a pilot scheme costing £7000 that will keep Bawdsey Ferry running over the winter. A dial-up service is available as long as 24 hours' notice is given.

- Archaeologists are holding an Open Day on the 8th December at Woodbridge Community Centre to demonstrate their findings from their dig at the Scottish Power site near Bawdsey. Karen Thomas will be giving the talk.
- An improvement scheme is required between Bawdsey Ferry and Ramsholt to prevent flooding in Flood Cell 1, as part of the floodwall needs rebuilding. Flooding of the cell could affect the mouth of the river as far as Woodbridge. Landowners will be encouraged to give over some of their land to develop housing using the enabling development funding, which will help fund this. They will be watched over carefully by the treasury to ensure that they are not making extra money from the scheme by developing additional housing.

5-14/11/17 Signing of Minutes:

The minutes of the regular parish council meeting on the 4th October 2017 were duly signed off by chairman MHZ as accurate records.

6-14/11/17 To consider draft budget for 2018-19 prior to setting precept in January

Councillors spent some time discussing the draft budget for 2018-19 and also looked over the half-yearly figures for this year's expenditure. The chairman MHZ left the meeting at this point and councillor PW was voted in as acting chairman for the duration of this meeting. The budget for last year was then re-visited and an agreement was reached that the likely expenses for next year would be somewhere in the region of £4,025. LR will make the amendments agreed and circulate a copy of the updated draft budget to the council. Councillors agreed that it would be best to keep the tax charge the same as 2017/18 (i.e. £51.38) which would generate a precept of £4,372.95. A final decision will be taken at the January meeting to enable the precept request to be returned by the 19th January deadline.

7-14/11/17 To receive update on Highways Issues:

- Councillors discussed what impact the closure of Wood Lane has had on traffic getting onto the A12 via Woodbridge or Melton and agreed that the impact had not been as bad as first expected, especially at off-peak times. However, it has been reported to councillors that the school buses are experiencing some problems with the result that school children are 10/15 minutes late to school in the morning and it can take up to an extra hour to get home at night.
- All councillors agreed that the traffic lights on the bridge coming into Shottisham are doing an effective job of slowing down the increased traffic from the Scottish Power site. Cll PB questioned why so many cones were required and argued that they were an eyesore in an area of natural outstanding beauty. There was also some query as to why there is a no-parking sign and a bank of cones alongside the Wilford Bridge as this has never been an area for parking.
- Cll MHR expressed concern about the nettles and brambles that are growing across the land near Mill House/Mill Cottage and narrowing the path, which is making it difficult to walk into the village, especially with a pushchair. Cars are tending to drive in the middle of the road to avoid the nettles making it even more dangerous. Councillors agreed that it needs cutting back by the landowner James Adine rather than being done by parish councillors or local volunteers. Cll MHR has agreed to contact Matthew Hague at Strutt and Parker to discuss the issue on behalf of the parish council.
- Councillors discussed the problems of speeding through the village again and agreed that white lines painted down the middle of the road were unlikely to have much effect in slowing traffic down in the village. They decided that a SID similar to the one being used in Sutton would be more effective. Cll CB suggested that SCC and SCDC would be prepared to help out with the

cost of this as they did with Hollesley. Cll PW has offered to speak to David Chinnery from Highways Safety at Suffolk District Council to find out where one could be sited in the village. LR has been tasked with doing some research to find out the cost of a suitable flashing sign.

8-14/11/17 To receive update on playground issues:

- The playground has had its first cut this year courtesy of Joe Buswell who will be paid £60 for completing the job successfully. Clls PW and PB have volunteered to produce a grass cutting specification and will organise for three quotes to be provided in readiness for the spring.
- The recent RoSPA report has judged the risk rating for the play space as Medium but this may be reduced if works and recommendations are undertaken. The bin is not being emptied very regularly either so Cll MHR has taken on this job temporarily. Cll PB has agreed to go through the report and produce a prioritised list of the repairs that need doing. He will forward this on to Cll MHZ and the rest of the council once complete.

9-14/11/17 Clerk's report and Finance Report:

This and all other documentation relating to the Parish Council can be seen on the Shottisham Village website shottisham.onesuffolk.net in accordance with the new Transparency laws.

a) Financial Report:

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| Current Account: | £11,582.78 |
| Savings Account 1: | £1674.78 |
| Savings Account 2: | £193.90 |

b) Signing of cheques:

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| Clerk's wages: | £200.00 |
| HMRC: | £50.00 |
| Clerk's expenses: | £50.63 |
| One Suffolk Hosting: | £60.00 |
| Shottisham WI hall hire: | £120.00 |
| RoSPA inspection: | £109.20 |
| Joe Buswell (grass cutting): | £60.00 |

10-14/11/17 To receive updates on the action points from the previous meeting in October

- Some progress has been made on enlisting new councillors onto the council with the recent successful co-option of Miranda Harrison. However, there are still two places available that require filling. Rather than sending a letter out to the village which is unlikely to get much response Clls PW, PB and MH have agreed to speak to people in the village personally to see if this will have more success.

11-14/11/17: Matters to be brought to the attention of the council:

N/A

Date and Time of next meeting: January 9th 2018 at 7.30 at the Trust Hall

Chairman:

Date: January 9th 2018