

Shottisham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd May 2022
at The Trust Hall, Shottisham

Present: Chairman Ray Kay (RK)

Attendees: Cll P Widdup (PW), Cll P Bouscarle (PB), Cll P Southgate (PS), Cll David Wass (DW), Cll K Emerson (KE), Clerk L Roberts (LR) and seven members of the public.

1-03/05/22 Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Chairman RK welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them all for attending. Apologies were received from (SCC) Cll A Reid (AR) and (ESC) Cll J Mallinder (JM).

2-03/05/22 Chairman's report:

Hopefully we are now over the worst of the Pandemic and can meet normally once again. Like other Parish Councils we implemented a plan to ensure that the members of the Village had help if needed, this was very successful and covered areas such as Shopping, Prescription Collection and Lifts for those in need. Thanks to Lesley Roberts and Pat Southgate for their work in setting this up. We were also very fortunate that relatives of elderly residents rallied round to help.

Parish Council meetings for most of the Pandemic were held remotely by Zoom, fortunately we did get back to Meetings in the Trust Hall eventually. Our thanks to the WI for the continued use of the Hall.

The Parish Council operates on an average Precept of around £4500 per year. One of the major areas of expenditure is the Play Area. This provides facilities for Children in the Village and the many summer visitors to Shottisham Caravan Site. On average we spend around 50% of our precept on maintaining the play area, we have also spent money on replacement fencing (Circa £4000) and a new "Toddlers" Tractor unit. Thanks to Pat and Katie Emmerson. We are in the process of raising money to provide a new piece of play equipment for older children but this may take some time as often matched funds are required which we need also to raise. I would like to thank Pat Southgate for taking responsibility for arranging regular inspections of the play equipment and maintenance of the existing equipment, she is ably assisted by Philip Bouscarle, Peter Widdup and David Wass in repairing equipment, saving the council considerable money.

The other major area of concern in the village is the roads and resultant traffic problems. There have been speeding problems in the Village and on Ford Hill, Peter Widdup continues to charge and move our mobile SID signs and last year arranged a new position near to the Hollesley exit to the Village. These do make some difference but we have asked that the police site a Camera with Automatic Number Plate Recognition near the newest site and at Ford Hill. This was quite successful in Sutton monitoring some 1500 vehicle movements of which more than half were measured in excess of 35 mph. Later this year Andrew Reid our Suffolk County Councillor has agreed to a traffic survey on Ford Hill with a view to implementing further traffic calming measures.

Last but not least the Parish Council could not do its job without the help and guidance of our Parish Clerk, Lesley Roberts, who diligently keeps the Councillors compliant with ever changing rules, looks after our finances and all related Parish Council documentation.

We hold our Parish Council meetings every other month and we welcome members of the village so we are kept apprised of their needs, Lesley also updates the PC website and ensures PC minutes are posted in the village,

3-03/05/21 Reports:

Full copies of all reports received can be found on the website at www.shottisham.suffolk.cloud which includes:

- a) **SCC Report**
- b) **ESC Report**
- c) **Church Warden's Report**
- d) **Village Recorder's Report**
- e) **Women's Institute Report**

4-25/05/21 Finance Report

- At close of business on 31/03/2022 the current account stood at £5,321.32
- The precept for 2021/22 was increased to £4,890.90 from £4,444.09 from the previous year.
- A VAT repayment of £500.33 was claimed for VAT paid in 2020/21.
- Grants for the year included a £10 Tax Grant from ESC and £2,500 from ESC for new playground equipment.
- The clerk's wages of £1,800 remained the same as the previous year.
- The clerk's expenses of £13.52 were considerably reduced in 2021/22 because the purchase of a new printer resulted in a large saving on ink cartridges.
- One donation of a £150 was made in 2021/22 to Shottisham Allotments which went towards the cost of replacement fence posts.
- The cost of maintaining the playground including grass cutting came to £2,526.65 which was similar to the previous year.
- Miscellaneous for 2021/22 came to £489.99 which included of £149.99 for a new printer, £300 for a beacon and £40 for ICO.
- We ended 2021/22 with a net surplus of £1,321.32 which is an increase from 2020/21 where the net surplus was £300.65.

5-25/05/21 Open Forum:

- A query was raised as to what response the Village Association had received from its research into the company that installs mobile phone masts in churches.
 - Response received from the SVA: *"Of the companies who supply and fit Church phone masts none will respond to us. Not a surprise because this is often the response that we get from commercial organisations. We have not given up but we are pretty much down a cul-de-sac."*
- Thanks were given to Cll PW and Cll RK for pursuing the traffic problems in the village with SCC and to the farmers for their work in providing more drainage in Ford Hill.
- Amendments to the Emergency Plan are proving difficult because the Sorrel Horse is no longer the best place to store the Emergency Grab Bag, which has gone missing. It was agreed that the Trust Hall would probably be a more suitable place to store the new grab bag once one has been put together.

Chairman:



Dated: 12th July 2022