

**Minutes of the Meeting of Shevington Parish Council
Held Wednesday 27 October 2021
7:00pm – Vicarage Lane Fields Community & Recreation Centre**

Present: Councillors William McKnight (Chairman), Christopher Horridge, John Whiteley, Jessica Higham, Ira Whiteley and Michael Grimes
Dist Cllr Janet Brown and two members of the public

Officer in Attendance: Mrs Krystyna Pilkington (Clerk)

571 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Mike Crosby and John Ball

Dist Cllr Janet Brown joined the meeting.

572 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Chris Horridge w.r.t. Items 577 & 578 (*personal*)

Standing Orders were suspended.

573 District Councillors' Reports

Dist Cllr Janet Brown's report was received. *See Appendix A*
Members engaged in discussion with regard to elements of the report.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

574 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council (29 September 2021)

The previously circulated Minutes were considered.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 29 September 2021, were approved as a true and correct record.

575 DRAFT Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees (6 October 2021)

The DRAFT minutes of the Policy & General Purpose Committee of 6 October 2021 were received.

576 Recommendations from the Committees

Policy & General Purposes Committee

The recommendations from the Policy & General Purposes Committee were discussed briefly.

Minute 7

Resolved: The Council approved the Committee's recommendation that the following should be treated as priorities:

- the future use of Otters Croft Wood
- the re-painting of the Parish Council's planters in Crooke Village
- lobbying Wigan Council with respect to improving the lighting provision along the footpath through Stockley Park
- writing to Wigan Council about the quality of the maintenance of Whiteacre and Stockley parks
- the repair of the Parish Council's notice board outside Gathurst Station
- the repair of the pothole along the road at Forest Fold.

The management of Otters Croft Wood would be an agenda item at a future Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting.

Minute 8

Resolved: The Council approved the Committee's recommendation that the following articles should be included in the November edition of the newsletter:

- Jean Fletcher Obituary
- Responsible Dog Owner poster – *rollover from September*
- Give Wildlife a Local Home – *rollover from September*
- RHS 'In Bloom' Results
- CVRA Volunteers Wanted appeal
- Shevington Wellbeing Hub
- Remembrance Sunday
- Shevington & District CA Wheelchair Loans
- GM Clean Air Zone

Disr Cllr Janet Brown had recently attended a presentation about the proposals for the Greater Manchester Clean Air Zone and offered to try to make arrangements for a speaker to talk to the Parish Council about the implications for the local area.

577 Shevington United Charities

The Council received a report on the history and the current position with regard to Shevington United Charities. The report was accompanied by several other documents relating to the Charity, including the minutes of the two meetings held by the trustees since it had been revived.

The terms of office of the three trustees appointed by the Parish Council in 2018 were due to end in mid-January. One of the trustees was present and declared that he was not seeking re-appointment. The other two were not present and their intentions still needed to be established.

The trustees that were appointed in 2018 had been charged with investigating and unravelling the administrative issues facing the SUC. Prior to her retirement from the Parish Council the Late former Cllr Jean Fletcher had carried out a significant amount of research. The minutes of the meetings of the trustees indicated that considerable inroads had subsequently been made by the SUC's Treasurer.

Possible ways forward were discussed. The Clerk advised that the Legal Department of the National Association of Local Councils provided advice to member councils.

Resolved: It was agreed that the Clerk would seek advice from the legal team at NALC about

- (a) the Parish Council's role in relation to the SUC and the four Charities the latter was responsible for administering and
- (b) what the Council could legally do with respect to the future administration of the four Charities that formed the SUC.

578 Allotment Matters (FFTA)

The FFTA Committee had asked for a meeting of the Forest Fold Allotments Working Party. The list of matters that they wished to discuss like to discuss had been included in the Clerk's report.

Resolved: The Council agreed that the Forest Fold Allotments Working Party meeting should go ahead. The Clerk was asked to arrange a date for the virtual meeting.

579 'In Bloom' Invitation

The Council had received an invitation to send two representatives to the 'In Bloom' Results / Awards Ceremony 2021 on Monday, 15 November. The event would be taking place at Sunshine House Annexe from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. This was discussed.

Resolved: Cllrs Christopher Horridge and William McKnight (if he was available) would represent the Parish Council at the 'In Bloom' Results / Awards Ceremony 2021.

580 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was received. *See Appendix B*

581 LALC Annual General Meeting

The LALC's accounts for the year 2020/21 and the Treasurer's notes were received. The Council discussed an invitation for members to attend the AGM, which was being held on Saturday, 20 November 2021. It was reported that all members could attend the meeting, but only three would be entitled to vote.

582 Financial Aid Applications

None.

583 Payments, Income & Bank Balances

The Income / Expenditure schedule for October was received. *See Appendix C*

Resolved: That the Accounts be approved, the cheques signed and internet transfers made in payment, due notice being given to the bank statements exhibited.

In reply to a question from a member the Clerk informed the Council that she would prepare a year-end projection for the Finance Committee meeting in December.

584 GMPF Authorised Contact

It was reported that the Greater Manchester Pension Fund had recently introduced a new Employer Website ([Homepage - GMPF](#)) which required each employer and user to have unique logins. The Parish Council did not yet have access to the website and the GMPF required the Council to nominate a superuser in order to gain access. The matter was discussed briefly.

Resolved: The Council agreed that Cllr Mike Grimes should be nominated as its superuser.

585 Future Airspace MAN

Members were reminded that the Council have been consulted in the past about the Manchester Airport Future Airspace project. Despite the impact of COVID-19 on the aviation industry, the need to modernise the UK's airspace remained a clear priority for the Government. The potential benefits were significant. Upgrading airspace was essential for taking advantage of new technologies and could offer opportunities to reduce noise and emissions, enhance capacity, reduce delays, and ensure that aircraft continued to operate to the highest levels of safety.

Manchester Airport personnel were currently working on Stage 2 of the seven-stage, fourteen step, Airspace Change process outlined in the Civil Aviation Authority CAP1616 document. At this stage, a comprehensive list of route design options was to be produced, developed through reference to the design principles that were agreed through stakeholder engagement at Stage 1.

The Council had received an invitation to an online discussion session to update stakeholders on the next steps of the design process and hear their views. The consultation manager needed the Council to confirm whether any of its members wished to participate. The Council were invited to join one of 7 online sessions to be held via Microsoft Teams on dates in November.

Following a short discussion it was agreed that Cllr John Whiteley would join one of the sessions on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Whiteley would make the arrangements himself.

586 Planning Applications

None

587 Next Meetings

3 November (P&GP and Finance Committees); 24 November (Council)

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Resolved: That, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Dist Cllr Janet Brown and all members of the public left the meeting.

588 Forest Fold Allotment Plot Matters

The Council discussed matters relating to two allotment plots and noted that the tenant of a plot that had previously been brought to their attention had decided to relinquish their tenancy by the end of December. The Council also noted that the tenant of the other plot was only cultivating part of the plot. This was discussed briefly.

Resolved: The Council asked the Clerk to contact the tenant of the partially cultivated plot and ask them if they would be willing to reduce the size of their plot by half, so that the other half could be offered to someone on the waiting list.

589 Winter Gritting

Quotations for reactive snow clearing and the gritting of footpaths on a pay as you go basis were considered.

Resolved: The Council accepted and approved the following quotations from Envirocare MS Ltd:

- (a) Reactive snow clearing at our request of the footpaths in Memorial Park and of Gathurst Lane car park on a pay as you go basis - £168 for the initial hour and £73.50 for subsequent hours.
- (b) Gritting of the footpaths in Memorial Park and of Gathurst Lane car park in response to a phone call from the Council on a pay as you go basis - £132.30 per visit.

590 Member's Attendance at Meetings

The Clerk reported that by 18 November Cllr John Ball would have, because of the Covid situation, been absent from meetings for a further 6 months. An extension of Cllr Ball's tenure of office was discussed.

Resolved: The Council approved the extension of Cllr John Ball's tenure of office by a further six months to run until 18 May 2022.

There being no further business, the Vice Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:25 pm.

Chairman