

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting  
Held Thursday 22 February 2018  
7:00pm – Shevington Library**

**Present:** Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs W McKnight, J Ball, C Miles, K Shaw and J Fletcher.  
Dist Cllr M Whitham.  
Eight members of the public.

**Officer in Attendance:** Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

**788 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs C Horridge and A Bland.  
Dist Cllr M Crosby.

**789 Declaration of Interests**

Cllr J Ball w.r.t. Item 803 (*personal*)  
Cllr W McKnight w.r.t. Item 794 (Parking in Woodhook Road) (*personal*)

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

**790 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public**

*Cllr K Shaw joined the meeting.*

**Concerns About Privately Run Children’s Care Home in Shevington Lane**

Residents of a property adjacent to the privately run children’s Care Home in Shevington Lane raised concerns in relation to the anti-social behaviour exhibited by the residents of the Home and the way it was managed. The residents had reported these matters on many occasions to the LA, who had investigated and had found no case to answer. The issues were discussed at length and the Clerk was asked to raise the matter with the LA.

**Post Boxes in Shevington Moor**

It was reported that the times at which the post boxes in Shevington Moor were emptied had been changed to very early in the morning. It was suggested that this could be an attempt to discourage use of the post boxes and bring about their removal. The Clerk would write to the Post Office.

**Parking Along Pepper Lane**

A Co-opted Committee member reported that parking along Pepper Lane near its junction with Broadacre was creating a hazard. Dist Cllr Whitham agreed to deal with this.

**791 District Councillors’ Reports**

The District Councillors’ report, which covered waste management, was received.  
*See Appendix A.*

Dist Cllr Whitham also reported that:

- ways in which the route of the old railway line that passed through both this ward and Standish ward could be developed were being investigated;
- there were a couple of locations in the ward where volunteers, after a period of training, would be observing the speed of traffic using speed watch cameras with a view to providing Traffic Management with a report to see if things could be improved;
- there would be a Spring Cleaning session in the ward at 10am on Saturday, 3 March.

The Clerk reported that Dist Cllr P Collins had written to say that he was in discussion with the LA about the possibilities with regard to changing the play area surfaces in the ward and the costs relating to the exercise.

*Standing Orders were re-instated.*

*Cllr C Miles left the meeting.*

## **792 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (18 January 2018)**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 18 January 2018, were approved as a true and correct record.

## **793 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that:

- She had recently reported the large number of potholes (particularly those on the Z-bends) in the Parish to the LA via the Report It app but had not yet received a reply.
- In her capacity as Chairman of the Parish Council she had been invited to the Induction of the new Vicar and Assistant Vicar of St Anne's, Rev Andrew and Rev Jenny Brown, on 22 April.
- There was a new Diabetes Support Group being formed in the area and the leaders had asked if it could be advertised in the next newsletter.

## **794 Reports from Councillors**

### **Shevington United Charities**

A member reported that she had received a reply to the letter she had sent to the Charity Commission. The letter had not included replies to her questions about the Parish Council's taking over the Charity or about the possibility of selling the land. The reply to her question about re-registration consisted of the information available on the website.

Another member reported that the process of changing the bank signatories for the SUC accounts was now complete. The next phase would involve sorting out the issues in relation to the Charibonds. There would be a further report once all matters had been finalised.

### **Lateness of Papers**

A member expressed concern that several papers for this meeting had been delivered very close to the date of the meeting and observed that this could have an impact on the legality of decisions. The Chairman replied that the Clerk had had a great deal of work to cover in the past week and had received some papers late.

### **Litter Bins**

Concerns were raised that all bins were over-full, as they were not being emptied frequently enough. This was discussed briefly.

### **Play Area at Herons Wharf**

The Vice Chairman reported that he had received a reply from Morris Homes to his enquiry with regard to the play area at Herons Wharf. Work would begin on the installation on 18 February and would, hopefully, be completed in March. He had submitted a further enquiry about the future maintenance regime.

### **Parking in Woodnook Road**

A resident of Woodnook Road had complained on behalf of other residents of the street that, because of the increase in volume of car parking at peak school arrival and leaving times, cars were being parked across their driveways and he had asked if the LA would consider introducing H-bars across driveways the way they had done in Miles Lane. A request to that effect would be forwarded to the LA.

## **795 Reports from Representatives**

### **Shevington & District Community Association**

It was reported that the AGM was to take place on Tuesday, 27 February 2018.

### **Crooke Village Residents' Association**

There was no report.

### **Shevington Youth Club**

Three meetings had taken place with the Northern Area Service Delivery Footprint team and Chris Crosby to discuss the re-opening of the Youth Club. The intention was to change the target audience to Y7-Y11.

### **Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees**

The meeting had taken place on 6 February 2018. There had been no contributions from the Football Club in the previous financial year, but this had been corrected in the current financial year. It had been reported that the recent work carried out in Church Lane had improved the drainage issues.

In reply to an enquiry about the £400 donated annually to St Anne's PCC towards the maintenance of the graveyard, the representative was informed that there was no requirement for St Anne's PCC to submit an application for a grant, as this was a donation that the Parish Council had some years ago decided to make.

### **'in Bloom' Groups**

It was reported that Shevington in Bloom would probably resume entries to the North West in Bloom competition this year.

### **Standards & Audit Committee**

There had been no standards matters to consider at the last meeting.

### **Patient Participation Group**

There was no report.

### **Shevington Rugby & Football Clubs**

Two of the Rugby Club's senior players had been selected to play for England and at County level.

### **Friends of Otters Croft & Crooke Woods**

There was no report.

It was agreed that reports would be made by Shevington United Charities as and when there was something to report.

### **796 DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy & General Purposes Committee (1 February 2018)**

The draft minutes of the meeting of the Policy & General Purposes Committee held on 1 February 2018 were received.

### **797 CCTV Data Plan and On-Going Maintenance**

In December the Council had agreed to support the purchase and installation of a permanent CCTV system for the ward by the District Councillors by funding the Data Plan and on-going maintenance, subject to the project's going ahead. To this end the Council had set aside £1,000 in the 2018/19 budget. It had now been confirmed that Brighter Borough funding has been approved and the system would be ordered once the Parish Council has selected a Data Plan.

The Council discussed three options.

**Resolved:** The Council approved Option (c) - 32GB 4G at a cost of £2,100 for two years' airtime plus annual maintenance of £200.

### **798 Preparations for the Annual Parish Meeting**

The format for the 2018 meeting was discussed. It was agreed that the status quo would be maintained. The format for future Annual Parish Meetings would be discussed informally.

### **799 March Newsletter**

The contents of the newsletter were discussed.

**Resolved:** The following were approved for inclusion in the March edition of the newsletter:

- a) Shevington in Bloom
- b) Forest Fold Bowling Green information
- c) 2018 Budget and Precept
- d) Dog Fouling Around Millbrook School
- e) Shevington Fete information
- f) Diabetes Support Group
- g) Open Day for Youth Club Children
- h) Fete Information
- i) Dog Fouling Elsewhere in the Village – no more doggie bags to be issued free of charge.

j) Standard items

### **800 Shevington Fete Stall**

**Resolved:** The Parish Council would have an information stall at the Fete. A booking at a cost of £15 was approved.

### **801 Shevington Fete – Use of Parish Council Car Park**

**Resolved:** The closure to the public and the use of the Parish Council car park in Gathurst Lane to service the Fete was approved.

### **802 Christmas Decorations**

Consideration of this item was delegated to the Finance Committee meeting in March.

### **803 Permission for Memorial Plaque on Bench**

**Resolved:** A resident's request to place a memorial plaque in memory of her late brother-in-law on an existing bench in Memorial Park & Garden and to plant a buddleia was approved, subject to the bench being one of those that were not already dedicated.

### **804 Vicarage Lane Fields – Community Building**

A representative of the sports clubs reported that they were very close to securing a considerable amount of funding for a community building. A grant of £400,000 was being offered by the LA. £50,000 had been raised previously – a further £100,000 needed to be raised in partnership funding. The one thing the FA had stipulated was that the building should be a solid brick building with foundations rather than a modular building.

The sports clubs were thanked for their hard work in securing grant funding for the project.

### **805 Vicarage Lane Fields Working Party - Update**

Members of the working party had met with the LA's Trees & Woodlands Officer earlier in the week. It was a very positive thing for the working party to have done, as he had made suggestions for the different areas. He had encouraged the Working Party to apply to the Woodlands Trust and order the 420 Autumn Pack.

Arrangements had been made for a similar meeting of 7 March with Graham Workman, the LA's Ecology expert.

Mrs J Brown had been looking at wooden play equipment. Other members of the working party were looking into sources of funding for a variety of things.

## **806 Clerk's Report**

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

## **807 Financial Aid Applications**

The Clerk reported that she had received an application for a grant from the Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees.

## **808 Payments, Income & Bank Balances**

The Income / Expenditure Schedules for January / February were received.  
*See Appendix C.*

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

## **809 Planning Applications**

None to note.

## **810 Next Meetings**

1 March (Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees);  
15 March (Annual Parish Meeting)

**Resolved:** To enable the Clerk to take annual leave the date of the next Council meeting was changed from 29 March to 22 March.

## **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.

*Cllr Whitham and the members of the public left the meeting. Representatives of the Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments Society remained for Item 811.*

## **811 Vicarage Lane Allotments Lease**

(a) **Resolved:** The amended lease plan was approved.

The Allotments Society were given permission to order the fencing and erect it.

(b) It was reported that the Parish Council's solicitor had spoken to the National Allotments Society's Legal Officer and that they had agreed arrangements. The final version of the lease would follow in the near future.

### **812 Achievement Certificates**

Nominees and citations were considered.

**Resolved:** Seven nominees and their citations were approved. The Clerk would organise certificates.

### **813 Memorial Park Maintenance Contract**

Two out of the three contractors from whom quotations had been sought had provided submissions. These were considered.

**Resolved:** The Council awarded the contract to the value of £3,822 to Envirocare MS Ltd.

A councillor requested a recorded vote.

FOR: Cllrs Whiteley, Ball, McKnight, Shaw

AGAINST: None

Four out of the five members present voted. One member was not present for this part of the meeting.

### **814 Planters Maintenance Contract**

One quotation was considered.

**Resolved:** The contract to the value of £5,850 was awarded to Moss Bank Nurseries.

### **815 Litter Collection Contract**

One quotation was considered.

**Resolved:** The contract to the value of £7,342 was awarded to Wigan Council's Greenspaces Division.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:06 pm.

**Chairman**