

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting
Held Wednesday 22 January 2020
7:00pm – Shevington Library**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs C Horridge, J Higham, J Whiteley and M Grimes
Dist Cllrs M Whitham and J Brown
Three members of the public

Officer in Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

182 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs J Ball, W McKnight, V Galligan and M Crosby

183 Declaration of Interests

Cllrs J Whiteley, C Horridge and J Higham w.r.t. Item 198 (*personal & prejudicial*)

Standing Orders were suspended.

184 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public

Additional Bins Along the Parade of Shops in Vicarage Lane

In response to a request from a resident about the possibility of the introduction of another bin along the pavement in front of the parade of shops in Gathurst Lane, the Clerk explained that the Parish Council provided bins on its own properties and in green spaces, but it was Wigan Council's responsibility to provide bins in streets and shopping precincts. The District Councillors present agreed to look into this.

Telephone Box at Vicarage Lane

In reply to a question from a member of the public in relation to the enquiry about the future of the telephone box the Clerk informed the meeting that there had been no news. The resident informed the meeting that the glass had recently been smashed. This had been removed, but the box was still there.

Telephone Box at Randalls Corner

The Clerk confirmed that she had also not received a reply to the enquiry sent earlier in the year about the usage of the telephone box at Randalls Corner and the future of the facility.

Drainage at Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments

The Secretary of Shevington H&A Society asked if there had been any progress with respect to the drainage situation at the allotments. The Clerk replied that she and Cllr Horridge had investigated and had reported back to the Council. She explained that at the present time the Council had very little in the way of spare funds, but had set aside £2,000 in the 2020/21 budget for use at Vicarage Lane Fields. The cost of the option that involved digging out the ditch along the boundary with the footpath was an unknown factor at present and whether that amount would be sufficient to cover it would need to be established. The Chairman asked the Secretary of the Society to forward details of all the options that they had considered.

185 District Councillors' Reports

Reports were received from Dist Cllrs M Whitham and J Brown:

Age-Friendly Award

Dist Cllr M Whitham was going to Manchester with two other Shevington residents to collect an award, which the area had won jointly with Standish.

Departure of Wigan in Bloom Co-ordinator

Disappointment was expressed about the news that Tracey Williams was leaving.

Double Yellow Lines

Double yellow lines were being introduced along the opening stretch of Church Lane from its junction with Shevington Lane and also along part of Shevington Lane in the vicinity of Shevington High School to try to reduce the parking of cars at peak school times.

Parking on Pavements

Vehicles parked on pavements were being booked by Greater Manchester Police in some parts of Manchester, but this was not happening locally, despite all the photographs that were being sent to the ward councillors.

Rubbish on Z-Bends

The volume of rubbish on the z-bends was now quite high.

Wigan Council's Events List

This would be sent to the Clerk for circulation.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

186 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (18 December 2019)

The previously circulated Minutes were considered.

Resolved: That, subject to the above amendment, the Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 18 December 2019, were approved as a true and correct record.

187 Chairman's Report

Christmas Shop-Front Awards

The Chairman reported that she had had a pleasant time the previous Friday afternoon when presenting the prizes for the Christmas Shop-Front competition. The judge had also joined the group.

188 Reports from Councillors

Parish Council Litter Bins

A member reported that the Parish Council litter bins had not been emptied the previous weekend. The Clerk advised that, because there had recently been three bank holidays that had occurred on weekdays, the bin emptying schedule would have been re-arranged.

189 Reports from Representatives

Shevington & District Community Association

The meeting and the Quiz Night were both the following week. In future 'Environmentally-Friendly Shevington' would be a standard item on the agenda.

Crooke Village Residents' Association

It was reported that the CVRA wished to install CCTV in the village, but they had to secure the funds and obtain the consent of residents before they could do this.

A mirror was being introduced at the entrance to Crooke Approach Road.

They planned to have a stall at Shevington Fete and also at the VE Day event in Wigan, when they also proposed to have a float in the parade.

Shevington Youth Club

The floor had recently been scraped and waxed.

The Community arm of Wigan Athletic were sending three people to the Youth Club on a weekly basis to run activities for the children.

Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees

A meeting had been arranged for the following Monday.

'in Bloom' Groups

There was nothing new to report.

Patient Participation Group

A circular had been forwarded to the Clerk for sharing with other members.

Audit, Governance & Standards Committee

Cllr Grimes had been contacted and informed that he did not need to attend this month's meeting.

Shevington Rugby & Football Clubs

There was no report.

Vicarage Lane Fields Developments

There was no report.

Friends of Shevington Memorial Park

The members were working hard on preparing the application for the HLF bid.

Letters about the Heritage Day had been delivered to local schools and had met with positive responses.

The Co-op Community Fund collection had so far exceeded £300.

All present were encouraged to shop at Tesco and add tokens to the Memorial Park container.

190 Draft Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting (8 January 2020)

The draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on 8 January 2020 were received.

191 Buckingham Palace Garden Party

There were no expressions of interest in attending the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

192 Parish & Town Training 2020

Information about courses in general in 2020 and about the Chairmanship and Finance courses specifically was received. Cllrs McKnight and Grimes were available to attend the two courses respectively and both wished to attend.

Resolved: Cllr McKnight's and Cllr Grimes's attendance at the Chairmanship and Finance courses respectively was approved. The Council agreed to pay course fees and settle mileage claims.

193 SLCC: Website Accessibility Training

Resolved: The Clerk's attendance at the Website Accessibility training at Garstang was approved. The Council agreed to pay the course fee and settle the mileage claim.

194 Shevington Fete Stall

Resolved: The Parish Council would book a stall (for the purposes of community engagement) at Shevington Fete on Saturday, 13 June for a fee of £10.

195 Vicarage Lane Playing Fields Signage

The Council considered a request from Shevington Sharks ARLFC in conjunction with Shevington FC for permission to be granted to the clubs to erect several signs at Vicarage Lane Fields. The designs had been previously circulated. The large sign was to be fixed to the top of the barrier at a high level and the dog fouling signs - 4 in number – were to be placed around the site entrances or in prominent positions. The cost of the signage and its erection would be covered by the clubs.

During the discussion the acceptability of dogs being brought onto the playing fields was raised in view of the fact that children were playing there.

Resolved: The design of the signage and its erection were approved, subject to the addition of 'Please keep dogs on leads' being added to the signage dealing with dog fouling.

Dist Cllr M Whitham left the meeting.

196 Budget & Precept 2020

The budget and precept for 2020/21, as recommended by the Finance Committee, were discussed.

Resolved: The Council approved a budgeted expenditure for 2020/21 of £110,724 (including an expenditure contingency of £5,000) and a precept of £77,098.

The Clerk was asked to provide information about amounts not invoiced or claimed by suppliers and hence owed to them by the Parish Council to a future meeting.

197 Clerk's Report

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

A members observed that, following the issues experienced in 2019, a new supplier for Christmas trees should be identified for 2020.

Dist Cllr J Brown informed the meeting that the Boundaries Commission would be consulting the Parish Council about Wigan Council's ward boundary changes locally.

198 Financial Aid Applications

None.

199 Payments, Income & Bank Balances

The Income / Expenditure Schedule for December 2019 / January 2020 was received. *See Appendix B.*

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

Resolved: Members approved the following virements from the 'Contingency' cost centre:

1. £104 to the 'Website' cost centre to cover the additional cost of the new website.
2. £400 to the 'Financial Aid' cost centre to cover the s137 grant to Shevington Fete.
3. £500 to the 'Forest Fold Site Contracts' cost centre to cover a projected overspend in the coming two months.
4. £450 to the 'Caretaking Salaries' cost centre to cover the projected overspend in the coming two months.

200 Planning Applications

- **A/19/88279/FULL – Open Land North of Vicarage Lane Shevington - Installation of 2 storage containers, bin store and new 2.4m high paladin fence enclosing the community facility**

The Council noted that the above planning application for Vicarage Lane Fields to which the Parish Council had recently given its approval had now been submitted and was awaiting a decision.

201 Next Meetings

5 February (Policy & General Purposes Committee); 26 February (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 J Brown and the members of the public present left the meeting.

202 Memorial Park Drainage & Tree Survey

The LA's Trees & Woodlands Officer had studied the plans for the drainage in Memorial Park and the report on the tree survey. He had also discussed the latter with the arboriculturalist and had provided the Parish Council with a report containing his observations in relation to both.

The Council discussed and noted the report of the Trees & Woodlands Officer.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:15 pm.

Chairman