

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting  
Held Wednesday 26 February 2020  
7:00pm – Shevington Library**

**Present:** Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs C Horridge, J Higham, J Whiteley, M Crosby, M Grimes, W McKnight and V Galligan  
Dist Cllr M Whitham  
Three members of the public

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

**203 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs J Ball  
Dist Cllr J Brown

**204 Declaration of Interests**

None

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

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

**Lack of Footpath Along the Z-Bends**

A resident expressed concern that, because there was no footpath along the z-bends, it was too dangerous to walk from Shevington to Standish Lower Ground, except via Vicarage Lane to Croke Village. Several years ago there had been plans to purchase land from local landowners in order to make alterations to the road and introduce a footpath. This was discussed. The Clerk was asked to submit an FOI request to Wigan Council to try to establish why the purchase of the land did not go ahead and then to make enquiries as to whether the LA would consider funding a footpath along this route.

**Proposal to Introduce Double Yellow Lines in Church Lane**

Another resident raised concerns about a proposal for the introduction of double yellow lines along a section of Church Lane along its boundary with Memorial Park and directly opposite the shops. The resident was of the view that 24 hour restrictions on parking at this location were unnecessary, as the issues with congestion only occurred at peak school times and when there were funerals. He was concerned that the restrictions would drive parents to park their cars to the other side of the road and this would have a negative impact on the businesses in that area. The resident was invited to put his concerns in writing and send them to the Clerk. This would be an agenda item at the Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting.

**206 District Councillors' Reports**

A report was received from Dist Cllr M Whitham:

### **Burglaries**

There had been an increase in burglaries and the District Councillors were working closely over this with the Police. The Police were due to attend the next councillors' surgery.

### **Funding for VE Day Celebrations**

Grants were available for VE Day celebrations and community groups were being encouraged to apply for them to aid with smaller local celebrations.

### **Great British Spring Clean**

Locally this would be taking place on Saturday, 28 March. Volunteers are asked to meet outside Shevington Library at 10 am.

### **Parking in Wilton Road**

A parish councillor enquired about progress with dealing with the matter of cars being parked near the entrance to Wilton Road. Cars travelling from Lyndon Avenue towards Shevington Lane were being forced to travel on the wrong side of the road and were blocking it. To date Wigan Council had not provided a reason why double yellow lines could not be introduced along this stretch of road. Dist Cllr Whitham agreed to follow this up.

### **Cycle Lanes**

A Co-opted Committee member asked whether cyclists could be enforced by law to use them. He was referred to Rule 63 of the Highway Code which stated that the use of cycle lanes was not compulsory.

*Standing Orders were re-instated.*

## **207 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (22 January 2020)**

The previously circulated Minutes were considered.

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 22 January 2020, were approved as a true and correct record.

## **208 Chairman's Report**

### **Flowers**

The Chairman reported that she had arranged for flowers from the Parish Council to be delivered to Mr Jim and Mrs Veronica Maloney.

## **209 Reports from Councillors**

### **Mill Lane Footpath**

A member reported that the footpath from Mill Lane to Herons Wharf was very muddy and needed to be tidied.

### **Ormerod's Fields**

In answer to a question from a member, the Clerk replied that she had only recently written to the resident who had sent an enquiry about the possibility of re-naming Vicarage Lane Fields as Ormerod's Fields, as she had only recently managed to establish the name and address of the resident.

### **VE Day Service**

Cllr V Galligan reported that she had been in contact with the Clergy from St Anne's Church to discuss the VE Day Service on Sunday, 10 May.

### **Community Watch**

It was reported that there were 11 Community Watch WhatsApp groups in the village. Anyone wishing to join one of them should contact Cllr Galligan. Crimes could then be reported directly via the App. Cllr Galligan would write an article for publication in the next newsletter.

### **Play Area in Stockley Park**

Another member reported that he had received a complaint about the play areas in Stockley Park. The surfaces were in poor condition. Cllr M Crosby would look into this.

## **210 Reports from Representatives**

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

The AGM had taken place the previous day. The existing officers had been re-elected.

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

Discussions about arrangements for VE Day celebrations were still on-going. To date the costings obtained for some of the things the CVRA wished to do would take them well over budget. At the moment the groups needed more volunteers from the village to get involved.

### **Shevington Youth Club**

It was reported that the Senior Club was still open, but an application for a grant to keep it running was being submitted, the reserves were being depleted.

### **Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees**

It was reported that the wildflower area was in need of maintenance.

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

Mrs E Longmore and Cllr C Horridge had attended the farewell event held for the out-going Wigan in Bloom Co-ordinator and had met her replacement.

Appley Bridge in Bloom would be working with Appley Bridge Community Association on the Great British Spring Clean and would include Mill Lane footpath in the area covered.

### **Patient Participation Group**

There was no report.

### **Audit, Governance & Standards Committee**

There was no report.

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

There was no report.

### **Vicarage Lane Fields Developments**

There was no report.

### **Friends of Shevington Memorial Park**

The Chairman reported that the HLF bid had been submitted.

*Dist Cllr M Whitham left the meeting.*

### **211 Draft Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting (5 February 2020)**

The draft minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting on 5 February 2020 were received.

### **212 Precept Information for Council Tax Letter**

**Resolved:** The precept information to be included in the Council Tax Letter was approved retrospectively.

### **213 New Planters for Shevington Moor in Bloom**

**Resolved:** Cllr V Galligan would arrange a site meeting between the members of the new Shevington Moor in Bloom group, the North Ward parish councillors and the Clerk to discuss the group's needs and the way forward.

### **214 March Newsletter**

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

- (a) Quiz Night
- (b) Bowling Green advert
- (c) Precept & Budget 2020
- (d) VE Day Anniversary Celebrations in Wigan/Shevington
- (e) Annual Achievement Awards
- (f) Fashion Exchange at All Saints Church, Appley Bridge
- (g) Shevington Fete 2020
- (h) Appley Bridge CA Duck Race & Village Festival 2020
- (i) Greater Manchester Walking Festival
- (j) Car Park at Woodnook Shops
- (k) Break-ins – Community Watch WhatsApp Groups
- (l) Elnup Wood Developments
- (m) Great British Spring Clean
- (n) Standard items

### **215 Annual Parish Meeting**

**Resolved:** The agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on 11 March 2020 would be as follows:

1. APOLOGIES
2. MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
4. CLERK'S REPORT
5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
6. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
7. MATTERS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

## **216 Memorial Park Drainage**

Several months ago the Parish Council gave a resident permission to install a memorial bench beside the former trimtrail footpath in Memorial Park at a location overlooking the play area. The resident originally selected a bench similar to one of those already there, but had since then had a change of mind and had selected a different design. The proposed bench was made of re-cycled plastic.

**Resolved:** The proposed design was approved. However, the resident was to be informed that the bench could not be installed until the exact position with regard to the drainage was known.

## **217 Churchyard Donation**

**Resolved:** The Council approved a donation of £500 towards the costs of the upkeep of St Anne's churchyard.

## **218 LALC Annual Conference**

The Council noted the information received about the LALC Annual Conference.

## **219 Clerk's Report**

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

Information included about the Parbold Landfill Plan was noted and discussed. The Clerk was asked to re-object to the proposals.

## **220 Financial Aid Applications**

None.

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

The Income / Expenditure Schedule for January / February 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.

## **222 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 had been approved with conditions.

- **A/20/88490/FULL – Conversion of one retail shop into two, single storey extension to rear together with dormer to front – 4 Gathurst Lane, Shevington**

The application for changes to the premises at Manor Pharmacy was discussed. The application was noted.

## **223 Next Meetings**

4 March (Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees);  
11 March (Annual Parish Meeting); 25 March (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.

*The members of the public present left the meeting.*

## **224 Achievement Awards**

Eight nominations for achievement awards were considered.

**Resolved:** All nominations were approved for an award.

## **225 Memorial Park Drainage**

**Resolved:** The Council approved the appointment of PSD as Construction Phase Managers of the Memorial Park Drainage project, subject to the funds being available, for a fee of £5,118. Additional site visits would be charged at £853 per visit.

## **226 Member's Absence from Meetings**

By the end of March Cllr J Ball would have been absent from meetings due to ill-health for six months. An extension to his tenure was discussed.

**Resolved:** In the event that Cllr J Ball had not attended a meeting by the end of March, his tenure of office would be extended to 30 September.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:45 pm.

**Chairman**