

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting
Held Thursday 27 September 2018
7:00pm – St Bernadette’s School Hall**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs W McKnight, C Horridge, J Ball, J Fletcher, A Bland and K Shaw
Dist Cllrs J Brown and two members of the public

Officer in Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

966 Apologies for Absence

Cllr C Miles

967 Declaration of Interests

Cllr I Whiteley w.r.t. Items 971 and 972 (*personal & prejudicial*)

Standing Orders were suspended.

968 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public

There were no matters introduced by members of the public.

969 District Councillors’ Reports

Dist Cllr J Brown reported that:

Roadworks in Miles Lane

The stretch of Miles Lane at the junction with Broadriding Road that was currently under repair would be closed once again during the coming weekend.

Spring Bulbs

Spring bulbs were going to be planted in Appley Bridge and Shevington Moor. The exact locations had yet to be decided.

Digital Learning

The Digital Learning course had been a tremendous success.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

**970 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council
(30 August 2018)**

Amendments proposed to Item 940 were discussed, but were not approved.

Amendment to Item 945

The following was added after the first paragraph and the resolution:

'The Parish Council's representative was of the opinion that it was essential to be provided with hard copies of supporting papers in order to report back effectively to the Council about proceedings during a meeting and had wished to clarify the role in view of an opinion expressed by Wigan Council officers that "*We do not see it as part of the role of the Parish Councillor co-opted member to report back to their Parish Council on the business of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee.*"

Amendment to Item 947

The minute was replaced by 'Recording of meetings was discussed'.

Resolved: That, subject to the above amendments, the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 30 August 2018 were approved as a true and correct record.

971 Agreement Between the Friends of Shevington Memorial Park and the Parish Council

This item was taken after Item 984.

Cllr W McKnight took the Chair.

Revised proposals for the agreement between the Friends of Shevington Memorial Park and the Parish Council were discussed.

Cllr I Whiteley left the meeting.

Resolved: The previous agreement between the FSMP and the Parish Council would be reviewed by the Policy & General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 4 October. Once approved, the agreement would be circulated to the FSMP for their consideration.

A councillor requested a recorded vote.

FOR: Cllrs McKnight, Horridge, Ball, Fletcher, Bland and Shaw

972 FSMP Banner

This item was taken after Item 984, following Item 971.

A request from the FSMP for the Parish Council's name and logo to be included on their banner was considered. Members had strong views about the use of the Parish Council's logo. They were of the opinion that its inclusion on FSMP items could stifle fundraising. The vote taken by the Policy & General Purposes Committee still stood.

The Clerk would write to the Secretary of the FSMP to advise the group of this.

973 Chairman's Report

Sick Visit

The Chairman reported that she had visited a Co-opted Committee member who was sick in hospital. The Clerk would send a 'Get Well' card from the Parish Council.

Recent Bereavement

The Chairman announced that the elderly parent of a member had died recently. The Clerk would send a Sympathy card from the Parish Council.

974 Reports from Councillors

J27 at the M6 Motorway

A member reported that J27 was grid-locked between 5pm and 6pm every evening and wondered whether the traffic light sequence had been altered. Diversion signs relating to the forthcoming night time work had begun to appear. The LA would be contacted to find out why the Parish Council had not received any information about this work when parishes in the neighbouring county had been provided with considerable detail.

Making a Difference

A member complained that too much time during Parish Council meetings was spent discussing things that were irrelevant, instead of talking about things that would make a difference. The member only wished to receive information that was relevant.

Potholes at Shevington Clinic

A member reported that she had received a response from the Bridgewater Trust to her letter about the potholes in the car park. The GP Practice had re-surfaced their part of the car park, but it seemed that most Practice patients parked their cars in the section owned by the clinic. Dist Cllr J Brown agreed to take this further.

Cold Calling Signs

A member had recently observed that representatives of a religious organisation had been calling on residents who clearly displayed 'No Cold Caller' signs on their doorways. The member had challenged one of the representatives about this and had been told that the signage did not apply to them. The member had written to the organisation's Head Office to bring the matter to their attention.

Sheds at Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments

It was reported that some residents on the nearby estate had expressed concern that there seemed to be no consistency in relation to shed size at Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments. The representative of the allotments group agreed to take this back to her committee. It was suggested that perhaps the group could send a letter to residents on the estate in question to explain what was happening on the site.

Parking on Pavements

A member observed that the situation with parking on pavements in Miles Lane was worsening.

975 Reports from Representatives

Shevington & District Community Association

All members had been very moved by the 'Our Tommy' project. The fifth oak tree in commemoration of WWI was being planted at the entrance to Coronation Road in Standish Lower Ground on Friday, 9 November. The event would be led by Mr J Maloney and the Association had asked if 'Our Tommy' could be there. Refreshments would be served at St Anne's CE Primary School afterwards.

Crooke Village Residents' Association

There was no report.

Shevington Youth Club

There was no report.

Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees

There was no report.

'in Bloom' Groups

The groups were all awaiting the results of their NW in Bloom entries and sorting out future planting and re-cycling.

Patient Participation Group

There was no report.

Shevington Rugby & Football Clubs

There was no report.

Vicarage Lane Fields Developments

There was no report.

Friends of Otters Croft & Crooke Woods

There was no report.

The development of the woodland would be an agenda item at a future Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting.

976 Review of 'Reports from Representatives' List

The list of groups expected to provide reports to Council meetings was reviewed.

Resolved: The 'Friends of Otters Croft & Crooke Woods' were removed from the list as they no longer appeared to be active.

977 DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees (6 September 2018)

The draft minutes of the meetings of the Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees held on 6 September 2018 were received.

978 RHS North West in Bloom Parks Competition

The Parish Council had been invited to attend the awards event at Southport on Friday, 2 November.

Resolved: The Chairman would represent the Council. The cost of her ticket (£27) and mileage would be reimbursed.

Cllr J Fletcher withdrew from the meeting.

979 External Audit 2017/18

The external auditor's report had not yet been received. This was deferred to the next Council meeting.

Cllr J Fletcher re-joined the meeting.

Cllr W McKnight withdrew from the meeting.

980 Clerk's Report

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

981 Financial Aid Applications

None.

982 Payments, Income & Bank Balances

The Income / Expenditure Schedules for August / September were 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.

983 Planning Applications

None to note.

984 Next Meetings

4 October (Policy & General Purposes Committee); 25 October (Council)

Cllr W McKnight re-joined the meeting and took the Chair.

Items 971 and 972 were taken at this point.

Cllr I Whiteley left the meeting during Item 971.

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 left the meeting.

985 Christmas Trees

Resolved: Joseph Noblett's quotation of £1,650 for the provision, installation and removal of four Christmas trees was approved.

986 Christmas Tree Decorating

Resolved: Wigan Council's quotation of £2,284.72 for the dressing of and removal of decorations from four Christmas trees was approved.

987 Forest Fold Entrance and Car Park Boundary Wall

This item needed to be explored further and was deferred.

988 Issues Arising in Relation to the FSMP

The issues were discussed.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:35 pm.

Chairman