

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting  
Held Thursday 28 February 2019  
7:00pm – Shevington Library**

**Present:** Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs C Horridge, J Ball, C Miles, J Fletcher and A Bland  
Dist Cllrs J Brown and M Whitham  
Four members of the public  
Mr D Kearsley, Strategic Planning Team Leader at Wigan Council, was present for Items 1076 – 1078.

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

The Chairman opened the meeting by introducing Mr D Kearsley.

**1076 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs K Shaw and W McKnight

**1077 Declaration of Interests**

Cllrs J Fletcher and I Whiteley w.r.t. Item 1094 (*personal and prejudicial*)

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

**1078 Consultation on the Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Plan**

Mr D Kearsley gave a presentation on different aspects of the proposed Spatial Plan and then took questions. *See Appendix A.*

*Cllrs A Bland joined the meeting part of the way through the presentation.*

Mr Kearsley was thanked for his contribution to the meeting.

*Mr D Kearsley left the meeting.*

**1079 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public**

No matters were introduced by members of public.

**1080 District Councillors' Reports**

Reports were received from District Councillors. *See Appendix B.*

*Standing Orders were re-instated.*

## **1081 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (13 December 2018)**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13 December 2018 were approved as a true and correct record.

## **1082 Chairman's Report**

### **Visit**

The Chairman reported that she had recently visited a former Co-opted Committee member who was unwell and updated the Council on the member's progress.

## **1083 Reports from Councillors**

### **Large Hole Near the Entrance to Abbey Dale**

A member reported that the large hole near the entrance to Abbey Dale that she had reported to the Policy & General Purposes Committee was now surrounded by barriers.

### **Work at J27**

A member raised concerns about the condition of the road surface at the junction of Back Lane with Crow Orchard Road. This led to a short discussion.

### **Recent Health Checks**

It was reported that the recent health checks that had taken place in Shevington had been very successful. Several cases of high blood pressure had been identified and were now being treated. In one case the individual concerned had been in danger of having a heart attack the following day.

### **Bus Service No.635**

A member reported that she had earlier in the day used the No.635 service to travel from Shevington to a garden centre in Back Lane, Appley Bridge. Two buses to Appley Bridge had failed to arrive because they had been cancelled. On the return journey the member and her companion had discovered that the bus stop in Woodnook Road, from where they were to catch the bus back to Shevington, had no sign. Locals knew where the bus stop was, but first time visitors were dependant on local residents to point them in the right direction. The lack of a bus stop sign triggered a discussion and the Clerk was asked to forward a request for one to be installed on the correct side of the road.

Another member reported that the earlier problems with buses had arisen because there had been two breakdowns. Only small buses were used on the No.635 route and breakdowns occurred daily, because maintenance was inadequate. During the discussion that followed the Clerk was asked to write again to the Director of Diamond Bus and also to the Traffic Commissioner.

### **Social and Healthcare Taster Day**

A member informed the meeting that she had recently had several conversations about a taster day in training to work in social and healthcare to be held on 18 April from 6:30pm until 8:30pm at Shevington Methodist Church. The taster day would be run by the Workers Educational Association. Information about this would be included in the March newsletter.

## **1084 Reports from Representatives**

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

The AGM had taken place the previous Tuesday, when the retiring officers had been re-elected. Most of the issues that had been discussed earlier during this meeting had also been raised during the CA meeting.

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

There was nothing new to report.

### **Shevington Youth Club**

There was nothing to report.

### **Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees**

There was nothing new to report since the last Council meeting.

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

Appely Bridge in Bloom would be making a contribution to Wigan's Spring Clean on Wednesday, 3 April. The possibility of the Parish Council's making a contribution to the Spring Clean would be included on the agenda of the Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting the following week.

The group had also erected nine bird boxes.

### **Patient Participation Group**

The PPG meeting had taken place the previous evening. The Committee had received a substantial report about the Wigan & Leigh Strategy for 2019-24. Someone was coming to the next meeting to explain the delivery of acute services.

One agenda item had led to a discussion of great length. This was the one that concerned missed appointments. Each missed appointment cost the Surgery £150 and the total cost of DNAs the previous November and December had come to £2,500. This information would be included in the March newsletter.

The Diabetes Support Group were due to meet the following Monday. The Group was very short of members and a request was made for the inclusion of information about the Group in the next newsletter.

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

There was no report.

### **Vicarage Lane Fields Developments**

The Clerk had included information about the follow-up to the theft of the saplings in her report.

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

An account of progress so far had been sent to Local Life for inclusion in the April newsletter. So far £300 had been collected in the collection boxes.

## **1085 DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy & General Purposes Committee (7 February 2019)**

The draft minutes of the meetings of the Policy & General Purposes Committee held on 7 February 2019 were received.

A member observed that two corrections needed to be made:

- (1) Item 5 – second paragraph - 'sew' should read 'sow';
- (2) Item 5 – seventh paragraph – 'attached' should read 'attacked'.

## **1086 Repairs to Wall at Forest Fold Boundary & Entrance**

It was reported that the condition of the wall at the boundary and entrance to Forest Fold was continuing to deteriorate. Options for a solution were discussed. Some members suggested that enquiries should be made with the Prince's Trust and Wigan & Chorley Groundwork Trust to establish whether they could provide assistance.

## **1087 March Newsletter**

The contents of the newsletter were discussed.

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

- (a) FSMP Quiz Night
- (b) Asda Token Scheme
- (c) Footpath Route
- (d) New Christmas Decorations
- (e) PC Elections
- (f) Bowling Green advert
- (g) Bowling Fun Day
- (h) Proposals for the Former Shevington Community Primary School Site
- (i) Age-Friendly Recognition
- (j) Precept & Budget 2019
- (k) Shevington Surgery DNAs
- (l) Workers' Educational Association
- (m) Social and Healthcare Taster Day
- (n) Diabetes Support Group
- (o) Standard items

## **1088 Shevington Fete Stall**

Shevington Fete 2019 would be on Saturday, 22 June and would be open from 11am until 4pm. The booking of a stall by the Parish Council was discussed.

**Resolved:** The Council approved the booking of an indoor stall at a cost of £15 and vired this amount from the 'Contingency' cost centre to the 'Chairman's Allowance' cost centre.

## **1089 Memorial Park Play Area SLA**

The new SLA for 2019/20 had been previously circulated. This was discussed.

**Resolved:** The Council approved the SLA with Wigan Council's Greenspaces Division 2019/20. The annual fee, payable in the new financial year, would be £723.

## **1090 Memorial Park Renovation: Grant Funding Enquiries**

Pre-application enquiries had been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Lottery Community Fund and the War Memorials Trust. Information relating to the enquiries was received and noted. Each funder had a different response time and a response from the HLF was anticipated to be the first.

## **1091 Asset Register 2018/19**

The Asset Register was reviewed.

**Resolved:** The Asset Register 2018/19 was approved.

## **1092 Financial Risk Assessment 2018/19**

The previously circulated document was reviewed.

**Resolved:** The Financial Risk Assessment for 2018/19 was approved.

## **1093 Clerk's Report**

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

## **1094 Financial Aid Applications**

*Cllrs I Whiteley and J Fletcher withdrew from the meeting and Cllr J Ball took the Chair.*

- **Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees**

An application for a grant to support routine maintenance of the Recreation Ground was discussed.

**Resolved:** The Council approved a s137 grant of £2,940 and vired £440 from the 'Contingency' cost centre to the 'Recreation Ground Maintenance' cost centre.

*Cllrs I Whiteley and J Fletcher re-joined the meeting and Cllr Whiteley returned to the Chair.*

- **Shevington Gardening Club**

An application for a grant towards the cost of a notice board for the Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments was discussed at great length.

*Cllr C Miles withdrew from and re-joined the meeting.*

**Resolved:** The application was rejected.

**Resolved:** The Parish Council agreed to provide a notice board at Vicarage Lane Fields for use by the Allotments Society and the sports clubs.

## **1095 Payments, Income & Bank Balances**

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

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

**Resolved:** The virements listed below were approved:

- £60 from the 'Contingency' cost centre to the 'Chairman's Allowance' cost centre to cover the overspend of £26 and the cost of certificate frames for the Achievement Awards.
- £6 from Allotments income surplus in General Reserves to cover the overspend of £6 in the 'Allotments' cost centre.
- £300 from the 'Contingency' cost centre to the 'Caretaking Salaries' cost centre to cover an overspend of £9 and anticipated future staffing costs to the end of the financial year.
- £1,503 from the 'Planning, Legal Fees, etc' cost centre to the active cost centre of the same name to cover the cost of legal fees in relation to the Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments lease.

## **1096 Planning Applications**

None to note.

## **1097 Next Meetings**

7 March (Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committee);  
20 March (Annual Parish Meeting)

## **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 Cllrs J Brown and M Whitham and the members of the public left the meeting.*

## **1098 Achievement Awards – Citations**

**Resolved:** The Council approved the Policy & General Purposes Committee's recommendations.

## **1099 Wigan CEO's Retirement**

Donna Hall, Wigan Council's Chief Executive Officer, had recently retired.

**Resolved:** A letter thanking Ms Hall for her support during her period of time in office would be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.

A councillor requested a recorded vote.

FOR: Cllrs Whiteley, Miles, Horridge and Ball  
AGAINST: Cllrs Bland and Fletcher

## **1100 Staffing Matter**

Cover arrangements during the leave of absence of a member of staff were discussed.

**Resolved:** The Council noted the information about the leave of absence of the member of staff and approved the cover arrangements.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:21 pm.

**Chairman**