

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting
Held Thursday 28 June 2018
7:00pm – Shevington Library**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs W McKnight, J Ball, C Horridge, J Fletcher and A Bland
Dist Cllrs J Brown and M Whittam
One member of the public

Officer in Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

910 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs C Miles and K Shaw
Dist Cllr P Collins

911 Declaration of Interests

None.

Standing Orders were suspended.

912 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public

None.

913 District Councillors' Reports

The District Councillors' reports were received. *See Appendix A.*

Cllr A Bland joined the meeting.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

914 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council (24 May 2018)

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 24 May 2018, were approved as a true and correct record.

915 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (24 May 2018)

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 24 May 2018, were approved as a true and correct record.

916 Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Council (7 June 2018)

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 7 June 2018, were approved as a true and correct record.

917 Chairman's Report

Shevington Vale Community Primary School

The Chairman reported that she had recently attended the official opening of the new buildings at Shevington Vale Community Primary School.

Vision for the Future of the Village

The Wigan North Service Delivery Footprint Manager was currently making arrangements to hold a meeting in Shevington Youth Club in late Summer. She would be inviting representatives of all village organisations to discuss their vision for the future of the village.

Rats in Church Lane

The Chairman had been contacted by a resident who had reported sighting rats in Church Lane. She had referred the matter to Dist Cllr Whittam and the issue had been addressed.

918 Reports from Councillors

Hedge at Exit from Shevington Clinic Car Park

A member reported that Shevington Clinic staff had asked Wigan Council to prune back the hedge at the boundary with the exit to the clinic car park, as it had been causing an obstruction. When driving past on her way to the meeting the member had formed the impression that it had possibly been done.

Parking in School Grounds

The Clinic staff had also enquired about the use of the school grounds as a staff car park. The Clerk explained the arrangements that had been agreed. As the Clinic staff were not aware of them, the Chair would contact Cllr C Miles, who represented the Council on the PPG, and ask her to look into the matter.

Problems with Rats

A resident had reported witnessing a large group of rats running along a street in Shevington Moor. A member reported this to Wigan Council, whose officer had investigated and had advised that it was up to the owner of a property to deal with the matter. The member observed that problems with migrating rats were likely to increase because the large amount of building in the area had resulted in their nests' being disturbed.

The Quarry

It was reported that, due to the period of hot weather and despite the known dangers, the quarry had become a very popular venue for swimmers again. This was discussed.

Moorland Fires

Concern was raised about the dangers posed by the moorland fires currently burning. Members expressed their admiration for the dedication and bravery

demonstrated by Fire Service personnel in carrying out their work in what were arduous conditions.

Hérons Wharf Playground

A member dealing with issues with the new Herons Wharf playground had tried to contact the Planning Department about the matter and reported that he had been told by the officer he spoke to that he should communicate with the Department by email. This led to a discussion about the difficulties experienced by parish councillors when trying to contact officers of Wigan Council.

Tree in the Raised Bed Allotment Enclosure

A member reported that a small tree – a self-seeder - had grown within the enclosure and needed to be removed before it became very much larger. There were also several over-hanging branches that needed to be pruned back. This would be looked into by the Clerk.

919 Reports from Representatives

Shevington & District Community Association

Shevington Fete and the Dementia Friendly Network had been on the agenda. The Quiz Night had raised £500 for the planting of the last WWI memorial tree in Standish Lower Ground – this would take place on 9 November. The Chairman reported that she had been asked whether there would be any spare display poppies for lamp posts in Standish Lower Ground for the occasion of the planting.

Crooke Village Residents' Association

There was no report.

Shevington Youth Club

It was reported that 30 young people were regularly attending the club's meetings.

Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees

There had been no meeting.

'in Bloom' Groups

There was no report.

Audit, Governance & Standards Committee

There had been a meeting on 21 June, when there had been no Standards reports. Most of the long report that had been circulated had been devoted to the Annual Governance Statement and the proposals for improvements in the following year.

Patient Participation Group

There was no report.

Shevington Rugby & Football Clubs

A member of the Rugby Club had been selected to play for England.

Vicarage Lane Fields Developments

The planning application for the community building had been submitted.

The grass seed for the pitches had been sown, but now needed rain to sprout and grow.

It was reported that the grass on the landscaped area bordering the road and the fields had not been cut for some time and was quite tall. The sports clubs'

representative was trying to establish who was responsible for ensuring that it was cut.

The Chairman had received formal notification from the Woodlands Trust that the saplings for the hedgerows would be delivered in the Autumn.

Friends of Otters Croft & Crooke Woods

There was no report.

A member suggested that a proper survey of the woodlands should be carried out. This would be an agenda item in the Autumn.

920 DRAFT Minutes of the Meetings of the Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees (7 June 2018)

The draft minutes of the meetings of the Policy & General Purposes and the Finance Committees held on 7 June 2018 were received.

921 Shevington Fete Display - Memorial Park Project

(a) Timeline

The Chairman gave a short presentation on the suggestions for a timeline to be incorporated into the proposals for the park. The timeline was still in an embryonic form, but it had been suggested that it should involve incorporating carvings of events, buildings and dates in some of the flags that made up the footpath.

(b) Shevington Fete Display

The Chairman provided a verbal description of the display that had been prepared for the Council's stall and the consultation that would take place at the Fete on 30 June. This led to considerable discussion amongst the members.

Resolved: Expenditure of £20 for the printing associated with the display was approved.

Approximately 300 signatures had so far been obtained in support of improving the drainage, but residents had to be consulted over other aspects of the project. A parish-wide consultation would be needed.

Resolved: A parish-wide consultation over the project would take place in the Autumn. Proposals for a leaflet, to be circulated with the newsletter in September, would be presented to the Council at the end of August.

(c) Grant Funding Sources & Estimates

An update on progress with the identification of grant funding sources and obtaining estimates was included in the Clerk's Report. *See Appendix B.*

922 July Newsletter

The text for the July edition of the newsletter was considered. A request from a new author that the Council should publish a review of her first novel was refused on the grounds that this would not be appropriate.

Resolved: The text for the July edition of the newsletter was approved.

923 Risk Assessments

The previously circulated risk assessments were reviewed.

Resolved: The risk assessments were approved.

924 Effectiveness of Internal Audit

The effectiveness of the Internal Audit for 2017/18 was reviewed.

925 Brighter Borough Expenditure

Following a request made by the members who attended the Training for Parish Councillors, information had been provided by Wigan Council's Democratic Services Department about expenditure and grants in the Ward over the past two years relating to the Brighter Borough scheme. The information was received.

926 Funding for WWI Projects

Information about small grants being made available by Wigan Council to the Remembrance Sunday areas for the purpose of enhancing the parades in 2018 was received and discussed.

Resolved: The Clerk would obtain costings for the renewal of the War Memorial plaque and submit an application for a grant.

927 Training for Councillors

The two members who attended the recent training delivered by Wigan Council's Democratic Services reported that it had been a refresher course and had covered similar topics to previous training sessions. Amongst other things they had been told how The Deal and the Cabinet worked.

During the training the members had mentioned that they did not receive notification of planning applications from Wigan Council. The Clerk explained that the same weekly list that was sent to District Councillors was also sent to the Clerk. The Clerk was responsible for bringing planning applications to the attention of the Council or the Policy & General Purposes Committee meetings as required in line with Council policy. The details of each application were not circulated by the Planning Department – the Clerk and all councillors had to access them via the Wigan Council website.

The Clerk reported that the Democratic Services Manager was checking to see if there was any possibility that parish councillors could be allowed access to the 'Cllr Report It' app because the Department had been made aware that, if parish councillors used the external one, they did were not advised when something had been dealt with.

928 Trees at Gathurst

Information on this matter had already been received and discussed and could be found in the Clerk's Report. *See Appendix B.*

929 NALC Consultation – Shaping Our Future

The Council would respond once clarification about 'The Vision' had been received.

930 Clerk's Report

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

931 Financial Aid Applications

None.

932 Payments, Income & Bank Balances

The Income / Expenditure Schedules for May / June 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.

Resolved: The transfer of £2,130 from the 'Christmas Decorations Reserve' to the active 'Christmas Decorations' cost centre was approved.

933 Planning Applications

- **A/18/85577/FULL: Open Land North of Vicarage Lane – Erection of building for recreational use including changing rooms, function room, toilets and kitchen**
The application, prepared by the sports clubs and submitted by the Parish Council, was noted.

934 Next Meetings

2 August (Annual Inspection of Property); 30 August (Council)

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:08 pm.

Chairman