

**Minutes of the Shevington Parish Council
Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting
Held Wednesday, 1 September 2021
7pm Virtual Meeting**

Present: Councillor William McKnight (Chairman), Councillors Ira Whiteley, Christopher Horridge, John Whiteley, Michael Grimes, Michael Crosby, Vicky Galligan and Jessica Higham

Co-opted Committee Members: Dist Cllr Janet Brown, Mrs Eileen Longmore and Mr Charlie Neve

Ms Olena Woolfall (Healthy Routes) and Ms Donna Lancaster-Symes (Community Link Worker attached to Shevington Surgery)

In Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk to the Council)

1. Apologies

Cllr John Ball

2. Declaration of Interests

None

Cllr Jess Higham joined the meeting.

Standing Orders were suspended.

3. Healthy Routes

The Chairman welcomed Ms Olena Woolfall (Healthy Routes) and Ms Donna Lancaster-Symes (Community Link Worker attached to Shevington Surgery).

Ms Woolfall presented the Healthy Routes offer and explained the nature of the service, which was delivered on a one-to-one basis either face-to-face or virtually via MS Teams or telephone.

The service covered Health Improvement and provided support for:

- Weight Management
- Stop Smoking (Including Harm Reduction)
- Physical Activity
- Mental Wellbeing
- Alcohol Reduction

Delivery of the services included working with partners such as Wigan Council Leisure Services and Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Support was tailored to an individual's needs.

Ms Woolfall took questions.

The support could be accessed through self-referral by telephone or online via Wigan Council's website. At present only some sessions were free – others were subject to fees. People over a certain age could access concessions. The service had been available since 2007, but to date many people were still not aware of it. Outcomes had been assessed as being quite good since the service's inception.

The Parish Council had agreed to include information about Healthy Routes in the September edition newsletter.

Donna Lancaster-Symes explained that she was the Community Link Worker attached to Shevington Surgery. The service was started a few years ago by a small team and had now grown to include 26 staff. Each surgery in the Wigan area now had a dedicated Community Link Worker. The service was born because 40% of patients attending GP's surgeries were attending for social issues, not medical ones. The service was intended to take the social demand away from general practice, secondary care and other professional services.

Community Link Workers worked closely alongside GP's surgeries, SDF managers and as part of neighbourhood teams. An initial appointment lasted one hour. There is then a follow-up appointment lasting half-an-hour. Ms Lancaster-Symes explained how she approached her role and shared examples of cases she had handled and how they had been resolved.

A range of appointments were offered to suit individuals' needs. As a result of the approaches taken new friendship groups had been born and were developing. Referrals came through a variety of routes.

Ms Lancaster-Symes also took questions from members about the social impact, value and cost of the service provided.

When Shevington Library was open both Ms Woolfall and Ms Lancaster-Symes used that as a base for appointments.

The Chairman thanked both guests for their presentations.

Ms Woolfall and Ms Lancaster-Symes left the meeting.

4. Matters Introduced by Members of the Public

There were no matters introduced by members of the public.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

5. Reports from Committee Members

Damaged Hydrant in St Anne's Drive

A member reported that he had received a phone call from a resident who had witnessed accidental damage to a hydrant located outside his property in St Anne's Drive. He had reported the incident to United Utilities, who had undertaken repairs, but he wished the Parish Council to be aware of the identity of the entity causing the damage.

Shevington United Charities

A member drew the Committee's attention to the situation relating to the SUC and asked if the matter could be placed on the agenda for a meeting in October. The Chairman observed that the incumbent Trustees would need to be invited to the meeting.

East Quarry

The owner of East Quarry had asked if he could address the Council to explain his plans for East Quarry. The Clerk was asked to make arrangements for a virtual meeting with members of the Council, which he could attend.

Annual Parish Walk

Twenty people had joined the Walk on Bank Holiday Monday, when £50 had been collected for Winston's Wish.

6. Reports from Representatives

Shevington & District Community Association

It was reported that seven people had attended the virtual meeting held the previous evening.

Nine tablets were currently out on loan. Recipients received support from Tech Mates. Two wheelchairs had been purchased by the CA for short term loan.

Shevington Garden Club meetings had resumed. Next year's Annual Show would be held in the Autumn.

In 2022 Shevington Fete would be held on 8 June.

Crooke Village Residents' Association

The representative reported that the missing signage on the field was being re-instated.

It had now been confirmed that towpath improvements were to go ahead.

Some form of deterrent to prevent parking near Crooke Green was still needed.

Shevington Youth Club

The Youth Club was open daily for hire.

Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees

There was no report.

'in Bloom' Groups

The representative reported that the in Bloom groups were working to maintain their displays and waiting to receive news of the outcome of the judging.

Patient Participation Group

David Brown, the Chair of the PPG had intended to step down, but was now going to continue.

One member was planning to resign, creating a vacancy. Cllr Mike Grimes had registered his interest. This was discussed briefly.

Vicarage Lane Fields Developments

A meeting to discuss a proposal that the Community & Recreation Centre should become a wellbeing hub was being arranged. The Chairman would be attending the meeting.

Friends of Shevington Memorial Park

The FSMP had not been very active recently, as they were waiting for the drainage to be dealt with. Collection boxes had recently been emptied and proceeds of £70 had been banked.

7. Minutes of the Last Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting (2 June 2021)

Resolved: The Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 2 June 2021 were approved as a true and correct record.

In reply to two questions from a member the Clerk informed the Council that:

- the enforcement officer had made contact with the owners of the overgrown conifers at Cressell Park and had asked that they be pruned.
- an article about progress with the development of the former Shevington Community School site in Miles Lane had not been included in the September newsletter, as there was nothing new to report.

8. Annual Inspection of Property - Report

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

It was reported that, because Mr Charlie Neve had been away during the week of the inspection, the members had not visited Crooke Village. In view of this the Clerk would make arrangements with Mr Neve for an inspection of Parish Council property in the village to take place later in the month.

9. Places for Everyone - Consultation

Places for Everyone was a long-term plan of nine Greater Manchester districts (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan) for jobs, new homes, and sustainable growth. It had been published by the GMCA on behalf of the nine districts.

The plan was a joint development plan of the nine districts which would determine the kind of development that would take place in their boroughs, maximising the use of brownfield land and urban spaces while protecting Green Belt land from the risk of unplanned development.

It would also ensure all new developments were sustainably integrated into Greater Manchester's transport network or supported by new infrastructure.

A previously circulated paper prepared by Cllr Mike Grimes was discussed. The Chairman reported that Cllr John Ball had asked that Cllr Grimes should be congratulated on the quality of the document and the hard work that had gone into it.

Resolved: The Committee recommended that the points put forward in Section 4 of the document should be submitted in response to the consultation.

Cllr Mike Crosby joined the meeting.

10. Remembrance Sunday

Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday were discussed.

Resolved: The Committee recommended to the Council that

- a. Cllr Mike Grimes would represent the Council at the Service at Appley Bridge.
- b. The Caretaker would be responsible for setting up the PA system and checking the equipment beforehand to ensure that it was in good working order.
- c. The trumpeter who played in 2019 would be invited to play during the service in the first instance.
- d. The lamp post poppies would be put on display by Parish Council staff – the routes that they covered would depend on the number of poppies remaining in stock.
- e. 'Our Tommy' would be brought to the Service at the War Memorial.

11. Christmas Shop-Front Competition

Resolved: The Committee recommended to the full Council that the Christmas Shop-Front competition should be held once again in 2021 and that Mrs Pam Powell should be invited to act as the judge.

12. Review of Standing Orders

The Standing Orders were reviewed.

Resolved: The Committee recommended to the Council that

- on P.12 the reference to the Standards Board should be removed, as the Board no longer existed;
- the sections relating to the Coronavirus Regulations on P.15 should be removed, as they had ceased to apply in May;
- SO.74 – relating to Planning Applications - on P29-30 should be amended to reflect the current situation.

13. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to consider.

14. Dates of Next Meetings

29 September (Council); 6 October (Policy & General Purposes Committee)

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8:35 pm.

Chairman