

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting
Held Thursday 29 November 2018
7:00pm – Shevington Library**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs W McKnight, C Horridge, J Ball, C Miles and K Shaw
Dist Cllrs J Brown and M Whittham
Four members of the public

Officer in Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting by reading out an invitation from St Bernadette's Primary School. Members of the Parish Council and members of the community were invited to join them for a WWI commemoration morning at the school on Friday, 30 November. The event would be attended by the Mayor of Wigan.

Cllrs C Miles and C Horridge and Mr J Whiteley, Chairman of the WWI Committee, would attend on behalf of the Parish Council. The District Councillors confirmed that they would be attending. The Clerk reported that a group from Shevington in Bloom would also be there.

1012 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs J Fletcher and A Bland
Dist Cllr P Collins

1013 Declaration of Interests

None

Standing Orders were suspended.

1014 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public

Bus Services

A resident of Back Lane in Appley Bridge raised concerns about the unreliability of the No.635 bus service. Issues relating to this were discussed at length.
See Appendix A.

1015 District Councillors' Reports

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

Standing Orders were re-instated.

1016 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (25 October 2018)

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25 October 2018 were approved as a true and correct record.

1017 Chairman's Report

Poppies

The Chairman began by thanking the Clerk, the Caretaker and Cllr C Horridge for putting the poppies on the lamp posts.

'Our Tommy'

Thanks were also extended to Cllr C Horridge for transporting the figure of 'Our Tommy' from one venue to another over a period of time that covered approximately two months.

Remembrance Sunday Services

Lastly, she thanked all members of the Parish Council who had helped with the organisation of and / or had attended the Remembrance Sunday Services at Shevington and Appley Bridge. The one in Shevington had been excellent.

1018 Reports from Councillors

Remembrance Sunday Service at the War Memorial

A member reported that people at the edges of the site could not hear and suggested that a better speaker system was needed. Everyone was very impressed with the Scouts' drumming, especially at the end of the Service. A letter of thanks would be sent to the Scouts and they would be asked to include it again next year.

2018 Achievement Awards

It was reported that one of the recipients of an award earlier this year had recently had a heart attack.

Litter Bin at Longbrook

A member who had been observing the bin at the junction of Longbrook with High Park reported that it had been emptied earlier in the day, but prior to that had not been emptied for two or three weeks.

White Poppy on Lamp Post

The Vice Chairman reported that a white poppy had been attached to a lamp post in Appley Bridge. As a white poppy represented remembrance of all who had died in all conflicts, he had considered it unacceptable and had asked that it be taken down. His request had been granted.

Appley Bridge War Memorial

It had been reported that the new owner of Appley Bridge Community Centre might require the re-location of the War Memorial onto another site and the Vice Chairman suggested that the Parish Council may wish to support objections to this. A Co-opted committee member reported that she had recently heard that the new owner had assured Appley Bridge Community Association that he would protect the War Memorial. The Co-opted committee member was asked to try to persuade the new owner to put this in writing to the ABCA. The Clerk was asked to inform the Clerk to

Wrightington Parish Council that the Parish Council would support an initiative opposing any re-location of the War Memorial.

New Saplings in Vicarage Lane Fields

A dog walker had reported that the new saplings planted at Vicarage Lane Fields appeared to be being ripped up by vandals. He was trying to re-plant as many as possible when he saw them. The matter would have to be kept under observation.

1019 Reports from Representatives

Shevington & District Community Association

The Community Link Worker attached to the Surgery had given a talk. She had reported that most people visiting the Surgery had social issues as opposed to medical issues, so she had to keep intervening.

A Quiz Night had been organised to raise funds for the Friends of Shevington Memorial Park. It would take place in January. There would be another Quiz Night in July to raise funds for an interpretation board to explain about the oak trees planted to commemorate WWI. The Clerk was asked to write to the Community Association and to Mr J and Mrs V Maloney to thank them for organising the quiz nights.

The Project Officer working on the development of the former Shevington Community Primary School site would be giving a talk on the plans at the January meeting. It was suggested that perhaps the project officer could be invited to come along to a Parish Council meeting to deliver the same talk. The matter was discussed. Members recalled that the possibility of an area-wide consultation on the future of the site had once been promised. The Clerk was asked to write to the LA about the matter.

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 results of the North West in Bloom competitions had been excellent – even Memorial Park had received a 'Gold' award in the 'Small Parks' competition. Shevington in Bloom were currently considering whether they would accept the invitation to submit an entry in Britain in Bloom in 2019.

Patient Participation Group

The flu clinics had been very successful. Members of the PPG had been thanked for taking responsibility for crown control.

The Surgery had been inspected by the QCA and had done very well in most areas.

A member of the PPG had offered to show people how to order prescriptions and make appointments online if they were having difficulty.

The Surgery was generally considered to be the best in Greater Manchester.

Shevington Rugby & Football Clubs

There was no report.

Vicarage Lane Fields Developments

Gratitude was expressed to the 80 individuals who had been involved in the planting of saplings on the site.

Water provision had finally been installed and connected at the allotments. The raised beds would be installed the following Spring.

Friends of Shevington Memorial Park

The representative reported on the group's many fund-raising initiatives, which ranged from a Baby Sale to carol singing. They had finally had their bank account confirmed and now had £1,600 in funds.

The group at St John Rigby College who had offered to design the Heritage App were now testing the prototype.

1020 DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees (1 November 2018)

The draft minutes of the meetings of the Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees held on 1 November 2018 were received.

1021 Christmas Tree Railings

The possibility of installing decorative railings around the Christmas tree in Shevington was raised. As there were many issues to be considered before a decision could be made, the matter was deferred to another meeting so that it could be discussed in depth.

1022 Standish Neighbourhood Plan

Elements of the Standish Neighbourhood Plan which might impact on the Parish were discussed. A major cause for concern was the suggestion that signage should be installed at J27 to divert traffic away from Standish town centre. This was likely to have a negative impact on the centre of Shevington.

Resolved: The Council would raise concerns about this in its response to the consultation.

As this type of signage could have a negative impact on other neighbouring parishes, the Clerk was asked to bring the consultation to the attention of their respective clerks.

1023 Allotment Plot Boundary Works

A request by a tenant of an allotment plot at Forest Fold for permission to carry out maintenance work along the boundary between the allotments and the bowling green was considered.

Resolved: The maintenance work referred to above was approved. A risk assessment would be prepared and the plot holder would carry out the work as a Parish Council volunteer.

1024 Clerk's Report

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

1025 Financial Aid Applications

None.

1026 Payments, Income & Bank Balances

The Income / Expenditure Schedules for September / October 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.

1027 Planning Applications

None to note.

1028 Dates of Meetings 2019

Resolved: The schedule of meetings in 2019 was approved.

1029 Next Meetings

6 December (Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees);
13 December (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.

Dist Cllrs J Brown and M Whittham and the members of the public left the meeting.

1030 Bowling Green Perimeter Fencing

Two quotations for fence panels were considered.

Resolved: The quotation of £564.50 (including delivery) from Stan Dawes was approved.

Quotations would be obtained for painting the panels.

1031 Memorial Park Drainage

The site survey and recommendations for the drainage of Memorial Park were discussed.

Resolved: The Council agreed

- a) to select Option 1 as the drainage solution for Memorial Park and
- b) to instruct TGMS to proceed with Stage 2 (the design stage) for a fee of £2,140.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:47 pm.

Chairman