

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council
Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting
Held Thursday 1 December 2016
7:00 pm Shevington Library**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (Chair), Councillors W McKnight, J Ball and J Fletcher.

Co-opted Committee members: Mr B Lomas and Mrs E Longmore.

No members of the public.

Officer in Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

1. Apologies

Cllr J Calderbank, C Horridge, C Miles, A Bland.
Mr B King

2. Declaration of Interests

None.

**3. Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting
(3 November 2016)**

Amendment to Item 4 (Mill Lane Street Cleaner): “.....had a Wigan Council wheelie bin.” To be replaced by “.....was an employee of Wigan Council.”

Resolved: Subject to the above amendment, the Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 3 November 2016 were approved as a true and correct record.

4. Village Issues

Street Lighting in the Vicinity of the Memorial Park Christmas Tree

A member reported that one of the street lights near the Christmas tree in Shevington Lane and the light in the Memorial Garden both appeared to be not working. The Clerk advised that this was probably related to the fact that the tree lights had not been connected.

Road at the Back of the Parade of Shops

The condition of the road at the back of the parade of shops was reported as creating a serious Health & Safety issue. The issues were discussed. It was suggested that the LA be asked to serve notice on the owners of the shops to ask them to repair the surface. As the district councillors were working on this, they would be contacted to find out what the current position was and

informed of what the Parish Council intended to do if there had been no progress in the near future.

Annual Achievement Awards

It was reported that Cllrs John Ball, Chris Horridge and Mr Kevin Topping had each received an Achievement Award from Shevington & District Community Association.

- Cllr John Ball: for 30 years' dedication to the Parish Council and the local community;
- Cllr Chris Horridge: for work in the community;
- Kevin Topping: for his work in the woodland.

Sad News

The sad news of Mr & Mrs Derek Keen's recent loss was announced. The Council would send their condolences.

Large Vehicles Speeding Along Back Lane and Skull House Lane

A member reported concerns with large vehicles – mainly wagons and farm vehicles with trailers - speeding along both Back Lane and Skull House Lane and described the outcomes of her research into the matter.

Mr B Lomas withdrew from the meeting.

The issues were discussed. The LA and the District Councillors would be contacted about the possibility of introducing signage along Back Lane.

Bin Collections

It was reported that a list of changes to bin collections over the Christmas period had been received. There would be no green bin collections for a month.

Mr B Lomas re-joined the meeting.

System for Asylum Seekers

A member asked whether any clarification had been received about the systems in place for asylum seekers. The Chair replied that Lisa Nandy MP's office had written to say that very little information was available about the dispersal of asylum seekers, but they would share any information they managed to access as soon they had anything concrete.

Incredible Edible

It was reported that Appley Bridge in Bloom had not succeeded in getting permission to use the site of their first choice for the project and were trying to identify another one.

Encroachment in Oaklea, Shevington Moor

A co-opted Committee member reported that he had still not heard anything from the LA about the gates introduced to create unauthorised into Oak Lea.

People Staying at the Britannia Hotel

It was observed that there would be public empathy for the people staying at the Britannia Hotel if residents know that they were asylum seekers and not economic migrants.

5. Draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework

Mr B King's report was received and discussed. *See Appendix A.*

Resolved: Mr King's recommendations that

- the comments set out in the report on the framework policies should be conveyed to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and
- that the comments made in the previous report to the General Purposes Committee on 3 December 2015 about the treatment of the former Orica site should be reiterated, with the site plan being altered to reflect reality in the final version of the framework

were approved.

Mr King had also forwarded an email from OPSTA announcing the good news that services to Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Airport would not be changing until 2018.

It was agreed that Mr King should be thanked for his hard work, especially in view of his current ill health.

6. Libraries Consultation

The Libraries consultation was noted and discussed. It was agreed that members would respond individually.

7. Parish Council Office

The possibility of renting space in Shevington Library to provide a Parish office was discussed and for occasional surgeries was considered. The matter would be left in abeyance until the outcome of the consultation was known.

8. Vicarage Lane Fields Car Park

The team at Wigan Council had now discussed this project further and, subject to the agreement of the Parish Council, they would utilise Wigan Council's Engineers to design, procure and supervise the construction of the car park at Vicarage Lane Fields and pay for the work directly. Once the work was complete, the Parish Council's tenants would become responsible for any future maintenance, management, rating liability etc.

Resolved: Wigan Council were commissioned to deliver and fund the construction of the car park at Vicarage Lane Fields.

9. January Newsletter

The contents of the January newsletter was discussed.

Resolved: The following would be included in the January newsletter:

- 1) Winter Gritting
- 2) Wigan Council's Libraries Consultation
- 3) Annual Achievement Awards
- 4) Lancashire Day
- 5) Christmas Shop Front Competition Results
- 6) Tree Planting in Shevington Moor
- 7) Remembrance Sunday photos
- 8) School closure update
- 9) Trees in Front of Parade of Shops
- 10) Standard inclusions
- 11) Love My River
- 12) Raised bed Allotments
- 13) Healthy Routes (subject to discussion with the author).

It was decided that the author of an item on aromatherapy should be directed to Local Life.

10. Remembrance Sunday Seat Covers

It had been observed on Remembrance Sunday that the benches in the Memorial Garden were being used by residents who were elderly and/or infirm. The suggestion that the Knitter 'n Natter Group could be invited to make some seat covers/cushions especially for this event with funding being provided by the Council was discussed.

Resolved: The project was approved in principle.

Due to an equality of votes the Chair used her casting vote.

Further information about costs was needed.

11. Extra-Boundary Planning Applications Policy

The Extra-Boundary Planning Applications Policy was reviewed. No changes were made.

Resolved: The Extra-Boundary Planning Applications Policy was approved.

12. Geocaching Policy

The Geocaching Policy was reviewed. No changes were made.

Resolved: The Geocaching Policy was approved.

13. Planning Applications

None.

14. Dates of Next Meetings

12 January (Finance); 19 January (Council).

A member took the opportunity to commend the Chair for all her hard work in relation to the proposed school closure.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 7:55 pm.

Chairman

DRAFT