

**Minutes of the Shevington Parish Council
Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting
Held 1 November 2018
7.00pm Shevington Library**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (Chairman), Councillors W McKnight, J Ball, C Horridge, C Miles, J Fletcher, A Bland, J Calderbank and K Shaw
Co-opted Committee Members: Dist Cllr J Brown, Mrs E Longmore, Mr D Crook, Mr B Lomas
Five members of the public were present.

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

The meeting opened with introductions.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllr I Whiteley informed the Committee that she had resigned from the Committee of the FSMP and would consequently be able to chair the whole meeting.

The Vice Chairman reported that he had sought the advice of the Monitoring Officer on the position with regard to this issue. Following the advice received from the Monitoring Officer, the members disagreed with Cllr Whiteley about the nature and degree of her conflict of interest in relation to the FSMP and her view that, subsequent to the change in her status, she was now able to chair the whole meeting.

The matter was discussed at length.

Cllr I Whiteley declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Items 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and agreed to relinquish the Chair for these items.

3. Minutes of the Last Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting (4 October 2018)

Resolved: The Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 4 October 2018 were approved as a true and correct record.

4. Village Issues

Appley Bridge North West in Bloom Awards

It was reported that in 2017 Appley Bridge in Bloom had been awarded Level 5 (Outstanding) and Edible Appley Bridge had received Level 3 (Advancing). In 2018 Edible Appley Bridge had been judged to be still at Level 3 and the area covered by

Appley Bridge in Bloom itself had been divided into three projects – and, therefore, there had been three entries. Two of them had been awarded Level 3 and the third – Randall’s Corner – had been judged to be at Level 4 (Thriving).

District Councillors’ Poster

A member observed that the LA had not yet updated the poster which provided residents with information about their district councillors. The Clerk informed the Committee that it was the responsibility of the district councillors to ensure that the posters were updated.

Estate Agent’s Board

It was reported that, despite various attempts having been made to persuade the estate agent to remove his board from LA property at the junction of Forest Fold with Miles Lane, the board was still there.

*Cllrs A Bland and K Shaw and the Clerk withdrew from the meeting.
The Clerk re-joined the meeting, followed by Cllrs Bland and Shaw.*

Saplings for Vicarage Lane Fields

The Chairman reported that approximately 300 saplings for planting at Vicarage Lane Fields on 10 November had been delivered by Woodlands Trust’s courier that morning. The saplings had been inspected by the Chairman of Shevington Gardening Club and would remain in her garage until the appropriate time.

Cllr A Bland withdrew from the meeting and returned soon afterwards.

Bulb Planting in Memorial Park

Shevington in Bloom had been successful in winning a large number of daffodil bulbs and had asked if they could plant them along the Church Lane boundary of Memorial Park. There would be no cost implications for the Parish Council, as the bulbs would be planted by the LA. In view of this SinB would be told that the planting could go ahead.

RHS Northwest in Bloom Awards

The Chairman reported that she would be attending the awards ceremony at Southport the following day to support Shevington in Bloom and to collect the award being made to Shevington Memorial Park and Garden.

Shevington & District Community Association Meeting

There were two guest speakers at the meeting earlier in the week:

- (a) Mrs K Tomlinson – the Headteacher of Shevington Federation – gave an interesting talk about school involvement in the community.
- (b) Ms J Senior – an officer working for the LA’s ‘Shared Lives’ initiative – gave an equally interesting talk about her work.

Planting of Commemorative Tree

Shevington & District Community Association would be planting the fifth of their WWI centenary trees at Coronation Road in Standish Lower Ground at 10:45am on Friday, 9 November. All members were invited.

FSMP’s Sale of Baby Related Goods

The FSMP would be holding a sale of baby related goods on 3 November at Shevington Methodist Church.

FSMP Website

A Co-opted Committee member reported that he had recently met an ex-pupil of his who now lived in Shevington. The ex-pupil was a marketing expert and was willing to design a website for the FSMP. The Chairman of the FSMP would make contact with him.

Cllr W McKnight took the Chair.

5. Memorial Park Project Exhibition at Shevington Fete

Cllr I Whiteley gave a presentation about the display on the proposals for the Memorial Park project as exhibited at Shevington Fete earlier in the year. A group of three people had been involved in preparing the display.

The first priority was to improve the drainage – essential before any of the other elements of the project could be delivered. The group had concentrated on three areas: Health & Wellbeing, Heritage and Horticulture – the three Hs.

Health & Wellbeing involved extending the play areas and perhaps the introduction of outdoor exercise machines for adults to use. Many of the pieces of play equipment currently on site were nearing the end of their lives and needed to be replaced by newer, better equipment. The sand surfaces needed to be replaced by wetpour. Refurbishment of the pathways was another priority included in this area.

Heritage could provide a route towards securing funding for the project. The history of the village was gradually being lost and an expert in local history had been invited to carry out research which would contribute to the creation of a time-line etched into paving stones. The Heritage Lottery Fund had indicated that they would be willing to fund the cost of the work on the drainage provided it was essential to enable the heritage related elements of the project to go ahead.

Horticulture referred to the improvement of the perimeter of the park with plants.

Standing Orders were suspended.

6. FSMP – Update on Developments to Date

Ms F Smith and Mrs V Galligan began by introducing themselves, each providing a brief description of her background and her role on the Friends of Shevington Memorial Park Committee. They provided the Committee with an update on the development of the association and progress with their initiatives.

The FSMP were aware that the renewal of Memorial Park was a project that would require a commitment of several years. They were finding that drainage was something that was hard to sell to the community, who mainly wished to know what was in it for them.

The group had carried out an on-line survey to establish residents' views of the park and how they would like it to be developed. The results of the consultation were circulated to the Committee. The previously circulated consultation document (to be considered under Item 10) had been based on the online survey.

The FSMP were concentrating their efforts mainly on fundraising. They were planning a calendar of events and were proposing to submit applications for small funding bids in the near future.

Local businesses had been passionate about supporting the project. Several had agreed to have collecting buckets on their counters – so far these had generated £30 in income. Others had sponsored the consultation leaflet.

Six students at St John Rigby College were willing to create an App for the time-line free of charge and proposals had been sent to them to consider.

During the discussion that followed a member drew everyone's attention to the fact that the demographics of Shevington had changed. The population was heavily weighted towards the elderly and provision would be needed in the park for them.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

7. FSMP: Inclusion on 'Reports from Representatives' List

Resolved: The Committee recommended that the Friends of Shevington Memorial Park should be included on the 'Reports from Representatives' List at Full Council meetings.

8. Memorial Park Project: Elements

This item was deferred to a later date. A copy of the supporting paper would be circulated to the FSMP.

Standing Orders were suspended.

9. Agreement Between the FSMP and the Parish Council

The members of the FSMP had previously had several queries about some elements of the agreement, but these had been addressed during the discussion under Item 6. The agreement would be considered by the FSMP at their next meeting, after which they would write to the Council via the Clerk.

10. Memorial Park Consultation Leaflet

The previously circulated leaflet, its printing and its distribution were discussed. The FSMP would fund the printing of the leaflet and organise its distribution.

Standing Order were re-instated.

Resolved: The Memorial Park consultation leaflet was approved.

Cllr J Fletcher withdrew from the meeting.

11. Tesco Bags of Help

As part of their fundraising initiative the FSMP were proposing to make an application to Tesco's Bags of Help scheme. As part of this it was necessary for the landowner's representative to complete a section which testified that the FSMP had permission to work on the project for which they wished to raise funds.

Resolved: The Committee approved the signature of the relevant section(s) of the application.

Cllr I Whiteley returned to the Chair.

Cllr J Fletcher re-joined the meeting.

12. November Newsletter

The proposed text for the newsletter was discussed.

Resolved: The text for the newsletter, which would also include a notice about the Christmas Fayre at Shevington Methodist Church, was approved. A reference to Dist Cllr J Brown would be included in the article about 'Digital Learning'.

13. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to consider.

14. Dates of Next Meetings

29 November (Council);

4 December (Policy & General Purposes and Finance Committees)

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

Chairman