

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council  
Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting  
Held Wednesday, 7 February 2024  
7pm - The Community Centre at Vicarage Lane Fields**

**Present:** Councillor William McKnight (Chairman), Councillors John Whiteley, Michael Crosby, Christopher Horridge, Jessica Diggle and Janet Brown;  
Councillors Michael Grimes and Helen Thompson (via MS Teams)  
Co-opted Committee Members: Mr Brian Lomas (via MS Teams)  
No members of the public

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

**1. Apologies**

Mrs Ira Whiteley, Mrs Eileen Longmore, Mr Charlie Neve and Mr David Crook

**2. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Jess Diggle w.r.t. Item No.8

**3. Village Issues**

**Potholes in Miles Lane**

A member reported that the potholes in Miles Lane that had been repaired not long ago were deteriorating already. Cllr Mike Crosby agreed to look into this.

**Highways Gritting**

Another member reported that, contrary to popular belief, Wigan Council had gritted the roads prior to the snowfall in January. However, grit only worked when there were vehicles using the roads. Because, for a variety of reasons, the roads in Shevington were in gridlock on the morning after the snow fell, it appeared as though the roads had not been gritted.

**Traffic Lights on Back Lane**

In reply to a question from the Chairman, it was reported that the traffic lights on Back Lane were in place to enable access and egress from a site on which contractors were working. It was also reported that the traffic lights were not functioning properly. Cllr Mike Crosby agreed to look into the matter.

*Mr Brian Lomas joined the meeting.*

**4. Minutes of the Last Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting  
(6 December 2024)**

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 6 December 2024 were approved as a true and correct record.

## **5. March Newsletter**

The newsletter was due to be published on 28 February 2024. The text for inclusion was received and discussed.

**Resolved:** The text for the newsletter was approved, subject to (a) the article about adding rail and tram travel to the Greater Manchester bus pass being condensed and (b) the names of the winners in the Christmas Shop-Front Competition being added to the photo captions.

## **6. Annual Parish Meeting**

This year's Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 20 March at 7pm. The Community Building at Vicarage Lane Fields had been booked for this. The agenda was discussed.

**Resolved:** The following agenda was approved:

- 1. APOLOGIES**
- 2. MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**
- 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
- 4. CLERK'S REPORT**
- 5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
- 6. MATTERS INTRODUCED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**
- 7. PRESENTATION OF COMMUNITY AWARDS**

It was noted that three nominations for a Community Award had been received.

## **7. Storage Containers at Vicarage Lane Fields**

The sports clubs were applying for some funding to locate a storage container in the area shown on the previously circulated plan of Vicarage Lane Fields. Funders needed a letter to show that the freeholders supported this proposal. The sports clubs would have to apply for planning permission if the grant application was approved and they had secured a grant. The clubs also wished to move the storage container currently in the car park into the area behind the bin store, as shown on the plan.

Members considered the request.

**Resolved:** Members agreed to the letter of support being written, to an application for planning permission being submitted and to the container currently in the car park being moved into the area behind the bin store.

## **8. Parish Council Stall at Shevington Fete**

Shevington Fete would this year be held on the Recreation Ground and in surrounding buildings on Saturday, 22 June.

### **(a) Fete Stall**

**Resolved:** It was recommended to the Council that the Parish Council should book an indoor stall at Shevington Fete for a fee of £20.

## **(b) Closure of Shevington Parish Council Car Park**

**Resolved:** The Committee approved the closure of the car park in Gathurst Lane to the general public on the day of the Fete.

## **9. FSMP Family Fun Day**

Following their inaugural success in 2023, the Friends of Shevington Memorial Park were seeking permission to hold another Family Fun Day in the park in 2024. The format would be similar to that in 2023. The date selected for the event was Saturday, 31 August.

**Resolved:** The Committee approved the above request.

## **10. Annual Parish Walk**

The Annual Parish Walk was scheduled to take place on August Bank Holiday - Monday, 26 August 2024. Members discussed arrangements for the Walk.

**Resolved:** It was agreed that Cllr John Whiteley would organise the Walk and invite Mr & Mrs Gerard Hurst to prepare the route.

Cllr Mike Grimes reported that he would be unable to act as a steward this year. The generic risk assessment would be reviewed again by the Finance Committee at its meeting in June.

## **11. Text for Council Tax Letter**

The proposed text had been previously circulated.

**Resolved:** The text for the Council Tax letter was approved.

## **12. Planning Applications**

None.

## **13. Dates of Next Meetings**

28 February (Council); 6 March (P&GP and Finance Committees)

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7:24 pm.

**Chairman**