

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Dark

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Meeting of Sheet Parish Council held on Tuesday, 8th December 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. Ron Dark (in the Chair) Tony Clear Vaughan Clarke
Will Glancy Brian Bird Gail Martin
Robin Forrest Alan Biddlecombe

In Attendance: Jenny Hollington, Clerk

There were 3 members of the public in attendance.

15/254 **Apologies** – Apologies had been received from District Councillor, Nicky Noble.

15/255 **Minutes** – The Minutes of the P.C. Meeting held on 10th November and the subsequent meeting called to discuss planning on 17th November were approved and signed.

15/256 **Declarations of Interests** – None declared

15/257 **Public Comment** – None received.

15/258 **Finance** –

(a) The bank reconciliation for November had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and was approved.

(b) The following cheques were approved:

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
300481	£60.00	Mrs. Jupp	Return of allotment deposit
300482	£68.00	R. Forrest	Grass cutting - Recreation Ground
300483	£478.38	DNE Services	WiFi/Window/Trolley/Door - V Hall
300484	£624.00	Sheet Music Ltd	Caretaking/cleaning - V. Hall
300485	£65.48	HMRC	Tax/NI - Clerk
300486	£623.48	J. Hollington	Sal (Dec) + £12.96 postage stamps
300487	£85.04	Contract Natural Gas	V. Hall
300488	£75.10	E-on	V. Hall
300489	£30.00	G. Hobday	Window cleaning - V. Hall
Total :	£2,109.48		

(c) A budget proposal for 2016-17 had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and was discussed. The Chairman ran through salient points for the benefit of the audience and explained that the budget has been based on this year's costs and known additional costs for the year ahead, including extra maintenance costs at the allotments, an increased grass cutting contract, 2 new benches to replace the ones that have disintegrated, continued maintenance projects at the Village Hall and a new barbeque for Sheet Common. The budget proposal supports the aim of keeping the precept at the same level for Sheet households, and still shows a small contingency surplus. The budget proposal 2016-17 was unanimously approved.

(d) The decision on setting the precept figure for 2016-17 was deferred to the January Meeting, as clarification on the proposed tax base figure of 443.93 figures is required.

15/259 Planning – Current planning applications were discussed:

SDNP/15/05840 /HOUS	2-storey extension to dwelling (revision to that approved under SDNP/14/04933/HOUS – changes to window size, position and rendering to rear	Thistledown, Love Lane, GU31 4BU	Objection – insufficient photos/plans.
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15/260 Developers’ Contributions – No further information has been received from EHDC. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Legal Department and request a detailed list of recent correspondence and the current deadline date for payment.

15/261 Roads and Traffic –

- (a) Mill Lane – Cllr. Clarke confirmed that Mill Lane is not on the current schedule of works at HCC. However, Kingsfernsden Lane is, and has been allocated a job no. (Network Rail have agreed to allow the work to go ahead), and this will involve white lining. It was agreed that Cllr. Martin should contact Mr. Peacock at HCC to request that the necessary white-lines at Mill Lane are completed at the same time, whilst the team are in the parish.
- (b) Village Street Signage – There has been no up-date from Mr. Janes at HCC. Cllr. Clarke will chase this.

15/262 Sheet Allotments

- (a) Proposed new parking area – A quote to replace two derelict allotments situated opposite each other and at the end of a track and under the trees (65 and 57) with a parking area, had been received. This includes for the removal of rubbish and sub soil, installation of terram, 60 tonnes of crushed concrete, and 30 tonnes of scalplings for the sum of £4050 and would provide parking for approx. 20 cars. It was queried how much parking is required and thought that this number was probably rather over the top. It was agreed to defer this decision and consider alternative uses for the plots, especially as the top halves of both plots (away from the trees) could still be suitable as 5-rod allotments.
- (b) Improvements to the main track - A quote of £590 had been received to include delivery of 8 tonnes of scalplings to the contractor’s yard, and transfer to the allotments via tractor and trailer, and to consolidate these in the track, for £590. It was agreed to proceed with this work – Cllr. Clear was asked to action.
- (c) Cllr. Forrest explained that he and the Clerk had met up with the owner of Plot 1, after complaints had been received about the size of the shed and other issues. The plot owner has agreed to lower the height of the roof ridge by approx. 2 feet and remove the storm porch by February 2016. Some of the large amount of wood will also be removed from the plot.
- (d) Cllr. Clear will contact Mr. N. Rook-Blackstone to negotiate a better price for on-going maintenance of empty plots. It was agreed that some of the worst plots (including 55 and 45) should now be addressed.

15/263 Footpath 25 – The Small Grant Scheme application for 50% funding to install steps where the path has been eroded has been approved. It was agreed to discuss this project further at the January Meeting.

15/264 Repairs to benches – The bench as Sheet Common has now been repaired, but repairs to the bench at Old Mill Lane were not as successful! This means that of the four benches due for repair, two have been successfully completed, and two are beyond repair. It was agreed that Cllr. Bird should obtain costs for replacing the two beyond repair with cast iron frames, in order to utilise the remaining wood, for consideration at the January Meeting.

15/265 Sheet Village Hall

(a) The meeting with regular hirers had been held in November. This had been a very positive meeting – hirers are very happy with the way the Village Hall is being looked after. However, a few issues had been raised:

- First Aid - A First Aid box should be positioned prominently on the wall (rather than as currently in a kitchen drawer) – the Clerk was asked to action this
- Signage for the new toilet – the new facility is much appreciated, but signage is required so that people know where it is.
- Bins - A pedal bin for the kitchen and consideration given to moving the large and unsightly dustbin from the entrance hall were requested. It was agreed that the Clerk should purchase a new bin for the kitchen. Consideration of what to do with the dustbin will be reviewed once this is in place.
- Piano - It was pointed out that the piano is never used and hasn't been tuned, and queried whether it is worth keeping? It was agreed that an advert should be placed on the website, and in the parish newsletter to see if a new home can be found for the piano.
- Chairs – the current chairs are becoming very tatty and take up a lot of stage space. It was agreed that a stacking chair system should be considered. Cllr. Martin and the Clerk will investigate systems in use locally.
- Flooring – the current lino is starting to lift in the entrance to the main hall and isn't very yoga/Pilates friendly. It had been queried whether a new laminate flooring could be considered to complete the transformation of the main hall? It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain quotes for new flooring for the whole downstairs area.
- Stage – It had been queried how much the stage area is used and whether it is worth keeping - Pilates and yoga classes in particular would welcome the extra space. However, the keep fit class use the stage weekly and the Lion & Unicorn Players have recently used it for a Murder Mystery event, and are also using it for a production in January. Councillors had pointed out that the stage is considered an asset and there would need to be compelling reasons for removing it.
- Decoration of the Meeting Room – It had been suggested that the downstairs meeting room, may be utilised more if it was a more welcoming space (better lighting, carpet). It was agreed to ask DNE Services for a quote for re-decorating and new lighting.
- Lobby – Redecoration of this area would complete the work started in the main hall, and is on the “wish list” – it was agreed that quotes should be obtained for consideration.

(b) Table storage – the trolleys for storing the tables under the stage require modification to stop the tables falling off. It was agreed to ask DNE Services to adapt them appropriately to prevent this.

(c) Maintenance issues - Cllr. Glancy pointed out that several tiles are missing from the roof at the back of the Hall, and requested DNE Services be asked to re-lay them – this was agreed. The condition of the boundary wall at the back of the Hall will be discussed at the January meeting.

15/266 Contracts – It was agreed that all parish contracts would be reviewed in the New Year, and not allowed to run on indefinitely. Cllr. Clear was asked to draw up a specification for grass cutting and maintenance of the open areas – Sheet Recreation Ground, Old Mill Lane, Village Green, and the Millennium Field – for approval in January. Grass cutting at the allotments will be paid per cut (once a month) – Cllr. Clear will obtain quotes for this work separately. There is a specification for the Caretaking role at the Village Hall and this will also be reviewed.

15/267 Community Resilience – Advice received from Rebecca Munday at EHDC in response to the query about sandbag availability, was discussed. EHDC recommend that those in areas prone to flooding should consider forming a community flood group to identify areas/residents at risk, and to receive flood alerts, severe weather warnings via volunteers working with the Environment Agency and landowners. EHDC are working hard to promote community resilience and are already liaising with several other local parishes and councils. Rebecca Munday indicated that she would be willing to attend a future P.C.

Meeting to discuss/promote this scheme if appropriate for Sheet. It was agreed that Cllrs. Martin and Glancy should liaise with residents in Mill Lane, to see if this would be of interest.

15/268 Village Pub as Asset of Community Value – the paperwork has now been completed and sent to EHDC to register the Queen’s Head Pub as an asset of community value.

15/269 Millennium Field – Members of FOSS have cleared the debris from the Bonfire & Firework display after the event and Cllr. Clear has re-seeded the area. However, the field has been left badly rutted and the tracks have not yet been re-instated. It was agreed that this should be the responsibility of FOSS and the Clerk and Cllr. Clear will follow up to ensure that this is made clear to the organisers of the event.

15/270 County Councillor’s Report – The County Councillor’s report for December is appended to the Minutes.

15/271 Correspondence

- Electoral Review of Hampshire: Draft Recommendations. Cllr. Clarke confirmed that the area he currently covers is due to be extended towards Ropley under the recommendations. This may mean that, in future, the County Councillor will struggle to maintain coverage. It was agreed that no response is necessary.

15/272 Forthcoming Meetings

- HIOW Parish Devolution Workshop – Tuesday, 1st March 2016. The Clerk was asked to recirculate the details of the meeting.

15/273 Date of next Meeting – the next Meeting will now be held on Monday, 14th December at 6.00 p.m. to discuss the planning notification recently received for land south of School Lane.

The meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.