

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Dark

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Meeting of Sheet Parish Council held on Tuesday, 12th April 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

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

In Attendance: Julie Robinson, Head Teacher, Sheet School
Nick Wake, landowner (Church Field)
Stuart Bone and Hannah Barrett, PWP Architects
Jenny Hollington, Clerk

There were 12 members of the public in attendance throughout the meeting.

- 16/66 Apologies – Apologies had been received from the District Councillor, Nicky Noble.
- 16/67 Minutes – The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th March 2016 and the confidential item on the Caretaking and Grass Cutting Contracts, were approved and signed.
- 16/68 Declarations of Interests – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the Agenda.
- 16/69 Sculpture Project at Sheet School – Proposals for the new sculpture to be situated at the front of Sheet School were circulated. Julie Robinson, Head Teacher, thanked Sheet Parish Council for the £500 grant. In addition, District Councillor, Nicky Noble, has contributed £1000 and the School raised £955 from bag packing at a local supermarket towards the project. The children are working with Cara Wassenberg to design the sculpture which will be made in copper and feature birds to represent each of the classes.
- 16/70 Public Comment –
- Parish Plan - Information gathered for the Parish Plan will shortly be up-loaded to the Parish Council and Village websites. A paper copy of the information was given to the Clerk for reference.
- 16/71 Planning

(a) Presentation – Proposals for Church Field

The Chairman introduced the next item by noting that it was for information only. No formal comments would be made unless and until a planning application was submitted.

Mr. Wake and his Architects displayed proposals for one house on the land behind the Church. The plans are currently at pre-application stage and Mr. Wake will be meeting with SDNPA planners shortly – their feedback will frame timescale for development.

Mr. Wake explained that he has owned the land for a number of years and intends to build one house for his family to live in. The remaining 2.3 acres will be gifted to the parish and in addition a small amount of land adjoining the Church will be gifted to them. The house itself will be heavily screened, low lying and sympathetic to the Church in particular - the architects have taken a rustic/modern approach.

The land is currently leased to a horticulturist who is slowly clearing the saplings and trees - the lease has 8-years to run and this income will also be passed to the parish.

(b) Current planning applications –

SDNP/16/01495 /HOUS	Single storey front extension and extension of dropped kerb to allow parking for 2 cars	23 Inmans Lane, Sheet GU32 2AN	No Objection
---------------------	--	--------------------------------	---------------------

(c) Consultation on implementation of Planning Changes

The Chairman reported that the proposed central government changes are of concern as they have the potential to erode statutory consultee input to the planning process. However, it was noted that HALC have reviewed and responded to the consultation in considerable detail and, in view of this, it was not felt necessary to add anything at this stage.

16/72 Finance –

- (a) Precept – The Chairman updated Councillors on the amount charged to parish residents for the parish element of council tax for 2016/17. The Parish Council had requested a precept very similar to the amount requested in previous years, which meant that residents would pay the same per household as in the previous years since the new council took over. It was therefore a surprise, when household demands were issued by EHDC, to find that individual household bills had fallen by 13.5%. On enquiry, it transpires that EHDC had used incorrect figures to calculate individual household bills. EHDC will not be correcting this, and residents should regard this as a one off bonus that will not, alas, be repeated in 2017/18.
- (b) Correspondence has been received from Unity Trust Bank with regard to a service tariff being introduced to the current account of £6 per month from 4th June 2016. In addition, Unity will cease to pay credit interest on current accounts. The Chairman reported that HALC are currently undertaking a survey to find out which are the best banks used by parish councils - it was therefore agreed to wait for the results of the survey before considering changing accounts.
- (c) The bank reconciliation for March, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved.
- (d) Interim Cheque – Cheque number 300520 in the sum of £348.00 had been authorised for payment to Virgin Media by the Finance Committee on 28th March. This sum represents the cost of the installation of broadband at the Village Hall and monthly charges for January, February and March. Unfortunately the bills had been sent to the wrong address and Virgin Media were pressing for payment to be made as soon as possible.
- (e) The following cheques were approved for April payment:

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
300521	£55.42	E-on	V. Hall - electricity
300522	£113.05	Contract Natural Gas	V. Hall - gas
300523	£110.00	Nick Rook-Blackstone	Allotments (clearance/rotorvating)
300524	£638.65	Landscape Group	Litter/dog waste contract
300525	£2,974.21	DNE Services	Decorating meeting room/lobby
300526	£72.00	Elite Playground Inspections	Quarterly play inspections
300527	£244.00	HALC	Affiliation Fees
300528	£46.00	HALC	NALC Levy
300529	£780.00	Sheet Music Ltd	Caretaking/Cleaning
300530	£50.48	HMRC	Clerk - NI and Tax
300531	£625.52	J. Hollington	Clerk - April

Total : £5,709.33

- 16/73 Flooding – The Clerk has spoken to Dr. Dart at Southern Water who has promised to look into the events surrounding the flooded sewer and liaise directly with affected residents of Mill Lane.
- 16/74 Community Resilience – The initial meeting between residents of Mill Lane and Rebecca Munday of EHDC still needs to be organised, in order to get this project off the ground.
- 16/75 Roads and Traffic
- (a) Road signage for Village Street – Installation has slipped to mid-April. Smaller electrical works will then be carried out to tidy up the electrics.
 - (b) White lines at junction of Village Street/Mill Lane – This work has now been carried out.
- 16/76 Developer’s Contributions – There has been no up-date from EHDC with regard to unpaid contributions for the Sunnymeade Estate – the matter is in the hands of their Legal Department.
- 16/77 Sheet Allotments
- (a) Nine 10-rod plots, and two 5-rod plots have now been cleared ready for spring sowing – of these 6 have now been rotavated for new tenants. The other plots will be rotavated as and when tenants are found.
 - (b) Improvements to the main track – This work has been completed and the entrance is much improved.
 - (c) Noticeboard – Cllr. Forrest has made some improvements to the board to make it more weatherproof.
- 16/78 The Lengthsman Scheme – The Clerk reported that the advert for the Lengthsman is on the websites and noticeboards of participating parishes - there is a closing date of 22nd April.
- Steep Parish Council would welcome input from other Parish Councils in the interview process – Cllrs. Clear and Glancy agreed to help Steep Parish Councillors’ interview candidates.
- 16/79 Millennium Field – Cllrs. Clear, Forrest, Dark and Biddlecombe helped Rob Nicholls from SDNPA sow the wild flowers over the upper part of the field. The seeds were all locally sourced and donated free – it is hoped they will look very pretty in due course! The Chairman thanked everyone for their in-put.
- 16/80 Sheet Recreation Ground – Sheet Scouts had hoped that REME would be carrying out the labour element of the refurbishment of the Scout Hut in the next few months – this would have saved them a considerable cost. However, REME have now informed them that this is no longer possible and so they have had to revisit their original plans. No date for these works is currently available.
- 16/81 Sheet Common – Cllr. Biddlecombe has obtained signage to deter motorcyclists from HCC and this will now be installed on the footpaths and at the entrances.
- The footpath repairs will take place on 22nd April and will be carried out by SDNPA and Parish Council volunteers. They will also trial the new barbeque!
- It was noted that the boundary of the BMX track appears to be eroding and should be renewed – it was agreed that this should be followed up at the next meeting.
- 16/82 Seating – The second bench on the Recreation Ground has been repaired by Parish Council volunteers. However, the bench at Old Mill Lane was found to be irreparable which means there is now a surplus of wooden slats. Concrete seat ends are available at a cost of £212.86 with free delivery. Cllr. Clear said that the Harrow have a few wrought iron bench ends going spare, (potentially slightly smaller than the current benches though) – it was agreed to look at what was available at the Harrow before making a decision to order the concrete ends.

16/83 Sheet Village Hall

- (a) Installation of AED Defibrillator – Cllr. Forrest confirmed that the price of the defibrillator will be held until the outcome of a grant application to The British Heart Foundation is known. The application form for this will be available at the end of April. In the meantime, DNE Services have extended the electricity supply to the outside wall in readiness for installation. A training course will be organised once the defibrillator is in place.
- (b) DNE Services completed the redecoration of the lobby area and meeting room and replaced the lights in both areas over the Easter holidays – and made a vast improvement.
- (c) Maintenance – the replacement roof tiles, painting of the rear fire doors and quotes for the rear wall are still outstanding. The Clerk was asked to chase these quotes/work.
- (d) Safety/security – Following a couple of small incidents over Easter, it was queried whether a security box with code would help protect the Village Hall between hires. However, it was agreed that, with the Caretaker living next door and regular checks of the building made, this would not be necessary.

16/84 Village Pubs as Community Assets – The Chairman has now expanded the original application and circulated the draft. The Clerk was asked to re-submit the application to EHDC.

16/85 County Councillor Report – The County Councillor’s report for April is appended to the Minutes.

16/86 Meetings Attended – The Chairman attended the EHDC briefing on the Government’s devolution proposals and the implications of any combined authority bid and had circulated a brief note to Councillors on this. He confirmed that it is very early days and there is no forecast impact on small councils within the SDNP such as Sheet P.C.

16/87 Forthcoming Meetings

- SDNPA Workshop – 18th May – it was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would attend.

16/88 Date of next Meeting – The Annual Parish Assembly will take place on **Friday, 6th May 2016** – this is an opportunity for Sheet residents to raise any local issues and learn more about the work of the Parish, District and County Council over the past year. The Agenda for the meeting will be available approximately a week beforehand.

The Annual Meeting of Sheet Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 10th May 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall.**