

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Dark

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of the Meeting of Sheet Parish Council held on Tuesday, 12th December 2017 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

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

In Attendance: Clerk, Jenny Hollington

There were 3 members of the public present during the meeting.

17/222 Apologies – Apologies had been received from County Councillor, Russell Oppenheimer.

17/223 Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2017 were approved and signed.

17/224 Declarations of Interests – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the Agenda. Cllr. Bird declared an interest in item 17/227 (d) – the grant request for the Community Carols (as he is the organiser) – Cllr. Bird did not take part in the discussion.

17/225 Public Comment – None

17/226 Planning –

(a) Feedback on Planning Committee site visit to Broadlands Meadow Farm – A response to the Chairman’s letter to Tim Slaney has been received, which states that EHDC will ensure that advice re. site visits is consistent in future - on this occasion, at the case officer’s discretion, comments had been allowed. It was agreed that the Chairman should respond to confirm that Sheet P.C. did not want to progress the complaint and that no criticism of the case officer, who had been very helpful, had been intended.

(b) Current Planning Applications:

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| SDNP/17/05271 /FUL | Divide the existing dwelling and annex into 2 separate dwellings consisting of 1 x 3-bedroom cottage and 1 x 2-bedroom house with associated parking and external amenity space for both | 13 School Lane, Sheet GU32 2AS | No Objection |
| SDNP/17/04496 /HOUS | Single storey rear extension, loft conversion with rear dormer (amended plans) | 21 Town Lane, Sheet, GU32 2AF | No Objection |

17/227 Finance

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

(b) Estimated end of year figures, a draft budget proposal 2018/19 and discussion document had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting and these were discussed in detail. A March 18 financial year-end balance of £70,573 is anticipated and the 18/19 budget is therefore based on the precept remaining at the same level per household, as reserves are considered adequate. The 18/19 budget allows for several capital projects 2018/19 which should be covered by S.106 monies –

however these amounts have yet to be confirmed by EHDC and the money cannot be guaranteed. Several new projects for 2018/19 were discussed (including up-grade disabled toilet/door and possible replacement ceiling to upstairs meeting room/decorating the outside of the V. Hall/electricity spur to V. Green for community events/cladding the shed at the Recreation Ground/up-grade play equipment/new village benches). It was that these would be considered further and incorporated into the budget where appropriate.

The tax base and number of band D equivalent households for 2018/19 (required to calculate precept) have recently been received from EHDC but will be queried as it appears the number of band D equivalent households in Sheet has dropped again – the Chairman will follow this up.

The budget and precept 2018/19 will be discussed further and approved at the January P.C. meeting

- (c) The grant request for £500 towards equipment and photocopying for the St. Mary Magdalen History Project was approved
- (d) The grant request for £40 towards the Community Carol event was discussed – it was agreed that £50 was more appropriate as all/any proceeds from the evening will be donated to The Rosemary Foundation following the event.
- (e) The following cheques were approved for December payment:

| Chq No. | Amount | Payee | Service |
|---------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 300754 | £107.61 | Contract Natural Gas | V. Hall |
| 300755 | £67.88 | SSE | V. Hall |
| 300756 | £72.00 | Elite Play Inspections | BMX track and Sheet Rec |
| 300757 | £7.85 | HCC (County Supplies) | Replacement loo roll dispenser |
| 300758 | £151.20 | PTC | Bins - November |
| 300759 | £620.40 | PTC | New bin - Millennium Field |
| 300760 | £624.00 | Sheet Music Ltd | Caretaking and cleaning - V. Hall |
| 300761 | £92.90 | HMRC | Tax/NI Clerk (Dec) |
| 300762 | £611.27 | J. Hollington | Clerk - Dec |
| 300763 | £500.00 | St. Mary Magdalen | Grant - History Group |
| 300764 | £50.00 | Brian Bird | Grant - Community Carols |
| Total : | £2,905.11 | | |

17/228 Data Protection Legislation – The Clerk will attend a HALC training course in February - the cost of the training will be split 50/50 with Steep P.C.

17/229 Sheet Recreation Ground

- (a) Scout Hut – It was noted that the current lease which allows the Scout Group to use the Recreation Ground as their base, has expired and it was agreed that this should be renewed with a few minor changes (the charge per year to be £50 with no indexing). The Clerk will progress this via EHDC Legal Department.
- (b) Stepping Stones – The refurbishment of the Scout Hut is due to start in May 2018 and consequently Stepping Stones Nursery will require temporary accommodation while the work is carried out. The Nursery Manager has e-mailed to ask if the Parish Council would allow them to install a portacabin at the Recreation Ground but, following discussion, it was felt that this would not be viable because of the narrow access path. Alternative solutions suggested included the Half Moon, and the Rugby Club. The Scouts are also looking for somewhere to hold their meetings and Cllr. Clarke suggested they contact the School.

17/230 Roads and Traffic

- (a) **S.106 Monies (Highways)** – Cllr. Martin has written to Ian Janes at Hampshire Highways, setting out the School’s concerns for children walking to School and asking that the Parish Council and the School be included in plans for the use of the £46,545 S.106 monies from Millers Reach which is to be used for off-site infrastructure improvements between the site and Sheet Primary School. Ian Janes has promised to speak to members of the Highways Development Planning Team and respond asap but nothing further has yet been heard.
- (b) **Speed on Pulens Lane** – A very negative response to the Parish Council’s concerns has been received from HCC, stating that the only legally permissible speed limit signs in built up areas are 30mph terminal signs at the entry points to the area - 30mph repeater signs are not legally permissible, with the streetlights acting as reminders of the 30mph speed limit. In addition, incorrectly signing built up areas with 30mph repeater signs (and accompanying 30mph markings) would make the speed limit unenforceable by the Police. Various alternative signs (e.g. 20 is plenty, please drive carefully) were discussed but not felt appropriate for Pulens Lane.

17/231 Flood Group – Following distribution of the letter to Mill Lane residents regarding the new Flood Pod installed at the Millennium Field car park, several volunteers have come forward to set up a “Flood Group” to be responsible for monitoring the River Rother and liaising with local agencies and residents of Mill Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Rebecca Mundy at EHDC to set up a meeting in the New Year to get this off the ground.

17/232 Millennium Field

- (a) The new bin has now been installed by PTC and is a vast improvement.
- (b) Three quotes for resurfacing the Millennium Field car park have been received. Following discussion, it was agreed to ask DMP Groundworks to carry out the work for the sum of £2125.00. Although not the cheapest quote, it was a more thorough specification and the work can be started within the next few weeks. Sheet P.C. will advise neighbours and users of the car park that it will be closed for a couple of days once a date for the work is known.
- (c) FOSS deposit – Following discussion at the last P.C. Meeting, the Clerk contacted the local tree surgeon who had dropped off the unused wood at the Millennium Field, asking for it to be removed. However, as the wood had been left at the request of FOSS representatives, the tree surgeon did not feel that it was his responsibility to remove the wood. FOSS representatives have also been in touch to explain that they were unable to use the wood on the night as it was too wet to move it from where it had been dropped to the bonfire site. In view of the fact that FOSS had made the arrangements for the wood, it was felt that it should be FOSS’s responsibility to remove it. However, because the ground is currently very wet and the wood is not in the way where it is, it was agreed to give them until February to clear it. Once the wood has been cleared, the P.C. will return the deposit cheque. If the wood is not cleared, then the Parish Council will use the FOSS deposit cheque of £200 to pay for its removal.

17/233 Sheet Allotments – Cllr. Forrest reported that there have been a couple of incidents at the allotments in the last few weeks including complaints about rats (pest control has been called and are dealing with the situation), and chickens found in very poor condition (the owners have been asked to rectify the situation, or to rehome them - and have since decided to rehome them). Following discussion, and because of the above issues, it was agreed that any future requests to have chickens at the allotments should be refused. The Clerk will let current plot holders know and advertise the decision via a poster at the site.

17/234 Sheet Common – Cllr. Biddlecombe reported that the very muddy patch on the bridleway has been dug out to the sandstone base by a couple of volunteers, which may mean that the proposed new boardwalk is not necessary. It was agreed to monitor the condition of the bridleway for the next few months and see how it fares with the winter weather.

17/235 Sheet Village Hall

- (a) Bike Rack – A large log has now been selected and Peter Caines will deliver this to the Village Green for use as a bike rack as soon as possible.

- (b) Upstairs Meeting Room – Cllr. Glancy has been advised that building regulations are required for installation of a door to the upstairs meeting room - this means that plans will need to be submitted to EHDC for approval. It was agreed to go ahead with this proposal as it will make the room more private and therefore hireable. Cllr. Glancy will arrange for plans to be drawn up.
- (c) Stairs – A new quote has been received for carpeting the stairs to the upstairs meeting room. However, it was agreed that this should be put on hold until the new door has been installed.
- (d) Regular hirer's sabbatical – The Clerk confirmed that the hirer concerned has now managed to arrange cover for her classes for the duration of the sabbatical, with one weekly slot being taken by a current user of the hall - all the slots are therefore covered for the year.
- (e) Lion & Unicorn Players (half term play) – The Clerk confirmed that space has been made available for the Lion & Unicorns to put on their play during the February half term. It was agreed that they should be charged the hourly rate, less 10% as a regular hirer.

17/236 County Councillor Report – The County Councillor's report had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and was discussed briefly (attached - Appendix A).

17/237 District Councillor Report – No report received.

17/238 Meeting Dates – 2018 – It was agreed that Sheet P.C. would continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month, with extra meetings being called if necessary to accommodate planning consultation deadlines. Consideration will be given to the date and speaker for the Annual Parish Assembly in the New Year.

17/239 Date of next P.C. Meeting – The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9th January 2018 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.