

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Dark

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Meeting of Sheet Parish Council held on Tuesday, 13th December 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

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

In Attendance: Jenny Hollington, Clerk

There were 4 members of the public present during the meeting.

16/221 Apologies – Apologies had been received from District Councillor, Nicky Noble.

16/222 Minutes – The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November were approved and signed.

16/223 Declarations of Interests – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the Agenda. None declared.

16/224 Public Comment –

- Parking in School Lane – It was noted that residents appear to have initiated a chicane-style of parking in order to slow traffic in School Lane. However, this has caused problems because sometimes large vehicles can't get down the road and the School has complained of missed refuse collections. In addition, drivers are unable to see on-coming traffic and reversing is difficult. It was agreed that Cllr. Martin should e-mail Ian Janes at Hampshire Highways and ask him to do a site visit as a matter of urgency to see if he has any suggestions to resolve issues.

16/225 Planning – SDNP/16/05648/HOUS – Sheet Mill House, Mill Lane GU32 2AJ – Single storey rear extension and lifting of existing roof over kitchen and drive through to create first floor accommodation. It was agreed that there was no objection to this planning application provided the concerns of the Conservation Officer are addressed.

16/226 Finance

(a) The November bank reconciliation had been circulated prior to the meeting and was approved and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that the bank rec shows the balances of the current account (£73,295), the deposit account (£10,000) and building society deposit (£30,000).

(b) Grant Applications –

- An application for £100 towards the cost of the community carols being held on 22nd December was approved
- A letter from Butser Homestart requesting a donation of £200 will be considered in January, to enable more detailed information on whether this will benefit residents to be sent, and thus conform to Sheet Parish Council's grant award policy.

(c) Cheques – The following cheques were approved for December payment

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
300615	£59.45	Contract Natural Gas	V. Hall

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300616	£84.00	A.W. Clear	Compost/bedding - V. Hall
300617	£300.00	Caines Farm Partnership	Mill Lane Hedges
300618	£302.40	Petersfield Town Council	Bin contract - Oct/Nov
300619	£240.00	Arbrook Tree Care	Allotment hedges/tree Mill Lane
300620	£72.00	Elite Play Inspections	BMX Track/Sheet Rec
300621	£780.00	Sheet Music Ltd	Caretaking/cleaning - V. Hall
300622	£50.68	HMRC	Tax/NI - Clerk - Dec
300623	£625.32	J. Hollington	Clerk - Dec
300624	£100.00	Grant	Community carols
Total :	£2,613.85		

- (d) Budget 2017-18 – A copy of the detailed budget proposal had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting and was discussed. The Chairman explained that the proposed capital expenditure of £19500 includes items that could potentially be covered by developers' contributions, although it cannot be guaranteed that these will be received. In addition, the sum of £5,000 has been earmarked as grant funding towards renovation of the Scout Hut which, it is hoped will take place during the summer and there are earmarked reserves in the sum of £47,200 for specific issues. The budget shows a deficit of £6,000, however this would be off-set by receipt of developers' contributions, if forthcoming.
- (e) Precept 2017-18 – The Chairman explained that last year EHDC had used the wrong figures to calculate the tax base which meant that although Sheet Parish Council received the precept requested (the shortfall having been covered by EHDC), house holders' bills fell by 13.5%. Unfortunately, this now means that if Sheet P.C. request the same precept for 2017-18, it will appear to residents that there is an increase of 13.5% per household. An alternative proposal of keeping the cost per household the same as charged by EHDC for 2016-17 would equate to a loss of £4721 to Sheet P.C. – however, it was noted that reserves are currently considered adequate and Councillors may feel this action would be appropriate. Councillors discussed these options in detail and unanimously agreed that, in view of the high number of parish assets and the wish to maintain these to a high standard and retain the ability to respond to parish issues (e.g. parking/improvements to play equipment/river walks), the precept should be maintained at the current level rather than dropping it - it will be made clear to residents, via minutes, newsletter and website, that this is merely a correction of the error made by EHDC.

16/227 Parish Council Website – At the November meeting it had been agreed to consider outsourcing the Parish Council website (currently set up and managed by Cllr. Glancy) in view of increasing legislation with regard to the Transparency Code. A proposal has been received from Ray Street, who currently manages parish council websites for Stroud, Froxfield and Steep and it was agreed that Cllr. Glancy and the Chairman should meet with Ray to discuss requirements. Mr Street's quote is cheaper than those offered by the major parish website operators.

16/228 Developers Contributions – An e-mail from Simon Jenkins, Head of Planning at EHDC indicates that a decision on the outstanding contributions from the Sunnymede Estate will be made before Christmas.

16/229 Roads and Traffic

- (a) Village Street Signage – The connection of electrics to signage at the Village Green end of Village Street is due to be carried out but it is now out of Hampshire Highways hands as to when this will be.
- (b) HCC proposals for dropped kerbing in Inmans Lane – Cllr. Martin was asked to liaise with Mr. Walsh at HCC to discuss process and feedback from the consultation event.
- (c) White line reinstatement at junction of Long Road/Waterworks Road – The white lines at this junction have eroded, and vehicles are cutting the corner. It was agreed that Cllr. Martin should liaise with Ian Janes at Hampshire Highways to see if this can be rectified as soon as possible.

- 16/230 Community Resilience – Feedback from Rebecca Munday at EHDC suggests that the plan is now almost complete. The Clerk will make the final adjustments and submit it to EHDC/HCC in the new year.
- 16/231 Flooding – The Clerk said that she has been unable to track down the right storage container for the sandbags and that it may be necessary to consider other options. It was agreed that Cllrs. Glancy and Biddlecombe should research alternative containers of similar size/price and circulate details.
- 16/232 Lengthsman Scheme – The overgrown footpath between Pulens Lane and Old Mill Lane has now been cut back and the path to the Scout Hut at the Recreation Ground has been edged. The Clerk was asked to work out how many hours Sheet P.C. have left to be used.
- 16/233 Sheet Allotments – Hedge and tree work along the Farnham Road has been completed, and the overhanging tree at the Millennium Field Car Park has been cut back.
- 16/234 Sheet Recreation Ground – Cllr. Bird is in the process of obtaining quotes for repair of the lights on the path to the Scout Hut.
- 16/235 Sheet Common - There has been no progress in obtaining quotes for replacement wooden posts for the BMX track boundary – Cllr. Forrest will chase these again in the new year. Cllr. Biddlecombe reported that he and SDNPA volunteers had spent a day clearing brambles at the Common, and succeeded in opening up the whole area. Next year the volunteers will tackle the bracken and bramble along the Midhurst Road. Cllr. Biddlecombe was asked to pass on the Council's thanks to the SDNPA volunteers for their hard work.
- 16/236 Sheet Village Hall –
- (a) New Stage Lighting – Cllr. Glancy said that he has liaised with a structural engineer regarding the provision of new stage lighting and will now obtain quotes for the work required.
 - (b) Reduction of administration for Church hires – The Clerk has not yet heard back from the Church regarding the proposed 1-off annual charge for the use of the whole of the Village Hall on Sunday mornings.
 - (c) Quotes for repair of back wall – Various quotes have now been received but Cllr. Clear was asked to chase a quote from Bob Smallbone for comparison purposes.
 - (d) Landscaping at front of Village Hall – 3 quotes for landscaping the front hardstanding of the Village Hall were compared – it was agreed to accept the quote from Oasis of Petersfield at a cost of £5695 + VAT.
- 16/237 Assets of Community Value – Registration of the Queen's Head had been on the back burner for a few months. The Clerk was asked to recirculate the completed application form to see if there is any further information to be included, before submission.
- 16/238 County Councillor's Report – The County Councillor's report was noted and is appended to the minutes.
- 16/239 District Councillor's Report – No report had been received.
- 16/240 Correspondence Received - FOI requests – Legal advice from EHDC confirms that vexatious requests do not have to be responded to.
- 16/241 Meetings
- EHAP&TC – Cllr. Glancy attended the meeting which focussed on liaison between EHDC and Town and Parish Councils.
- 16/242 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, 10th December – 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.