

**DRAFT**

**SHEET PARISH COUNCIL**

**CHAIRPERSON:** Ron Dark

**CLERK:** Jenny Hollington

**Minutes of a Meeting of Sheet Parish Council held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October at Sheet Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Ron Dark (in the Chair)  
Tony Clear Robin Forrest  
Gail Martin Chris Wilton

**In Attendance:** Clerk, Jenny Hollington

There were no members of the public present

20/125 **Apologies** – Apologies had been received from Parish Councillors Biddlecombe, Bird and Glancy, District Councillor, Nick Drew and County Councillor, Russell Oppenheimer.

20/126 **Minutes** – The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed accordingly.

20/127 **Declarations of Interests** – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the Agenda – none declared.

20/128 **Public Comment** – Comments received in advance of the meeting:

- Sheet Recreation Ground – Concerns about the rubble which has been dumped at the Recreation Ground following the recent construction of a home office in the garden of one of the cottages along Village Street had been raised – the Clerk was asked to write to the resident concerned, requesting that the ground and hedge be reinstated to the Council’s satisfaction to prevent any further action being taken.

20/129 **Planning** –

(a) Current planning applications were discussed as follows:

SDNP/20/003 774/CND	<b>Variation of condition 6 of SDNP/17/005774/FUL to allow the substitution of drawings</b>	Land north of 27a London Road, Sheet GU31 4BG	No objection to siting of the gate but query re the amenity value of a prominent bund as opposed to a hedge
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(b) Queens Head – The construction of a new shed-like construction in the car park of the pub was noted. It was suggested that the structure is temporary and has been installed to enable greater flexibility with social distancing during the coronavirus pandemic. It is understood that the landlord has now engaged with the Planning Authority.

(c) SDNPA Parking Supplementary Planning – The Chairman offered to look at the documents in detail and respond on behalf of Sheet P.C.

20/130 **Finance**

(a) Half yearly Actual to Budget figures – The 6-month analysis had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that the Village Hall income is down by about £7,000 due to the coronavirus pandemic but that receipt of the Government grant of £10,000 will help mitigate this loss.

Allotment income will be reflected in the second half of the year as plot rental is now due. The cost of the surveys for the Horse Chestnut on the Village Green had not been budgeted for but were essential to preserve this iconic tree for the Village.

- (b) S.106 monies – SDNPA/EHDC have confirmed that currently there are no S.106 monies available for be allocation to the CFI to narrow Village Street as all roads/transport monies have been allocated to the Farnham Road/School Lane junction.
- (c) Correspondence from the Community Garden requesting Parish Council support for a grant application of £500 from the District Councillor’s grant pot was discussed. The Clerk was asked to ascertain details of the current financial situation of the Group before a decision could be reached.
- (d) The September bank reconciliation had been circulated prior to the meeting and was approved and signed.
- (e) Cheques for October payment were approved as follows:

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
301142	£975.00	Bill Robinson	Grass Cutting contract
301143	£75.00	Tom Morgan	Website management (July-Sept)
301144	£151.20	Petersfield Town Council	Bin Contract
301145	£46.54	Mrs. G. Martin	Plants for Village Hall pots
301146	£11.10	Hampshire Monday Group	Fuel - Sheet Common clearance
301147	£452.51	Castle Water	Sheet Allotments - Summer
301148	£231.54	Robin Forrest	Refund - Batteries and pads - defibrillator
301149	£127.14	HCC	County Supplies - cleaning - v. hall
301150	£650.00	Sheet Music	Caretaking/cleaning - V. Hall
301151	£95.49	HMRC	Tax, N.I. and Emp Cont - Clerk
301152	£879.10	J. Hollington	October + expenses
301153	£40.00	Royal British Legion	Wreath for Remembrance Day
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,734.62</b>		

20/131 Roads and Traffic

- (a) School Lane/Farnham Road Junction – The TRO process is now complete, and no public representations/concerns were received. The decision record has now been signed by the Head of Highways and they have 2-years to implement the scheme. Cllr. Oppenheimer confirmed that he is liaising with HCC about the commuted sum required.
- (b) Community Funded Initiative to narrow Village Street – A productive meeting had been held with Alistair Macadam, Traffic Engineer, Hampshire Highways, to progress plans for narrowing Village Street. It had been agreed that at the Village Green end of the Street, this could be achieved by extending the green and the pavement on the Church side and Alistair Macadam confirmed that plans will now be progressed. However, he raised the point that Hampshire Highways will want to assess the impact on traffic of the implementation of the changes to the Farnham Road/School Lane junction before considering plans to narrow Village Street at this end of the Street. This will mean a delay of at least 12 months and therefore Sheet P.C. will need to apply for two separate CFI schemes as opposed to one integrated scheme for the whole street - thereby incurring two admin fees. Alistair Macadam agreed to query whether there was anyway round this extra cost/delay. In the meantime, plans and costs (£9702) for the junction buildout and optional village gates at the London Road end of Village Street have now been received and were circulated prior to the Meeting (£19,000 in total had been budgeted by the Parish Council towards the Community Funded Initiative to narrow Village Street). Following discussion, it was resolved that Sheet P.C. wished to progress the plans to narrow the London Road end of Village Street via the CFI initiative and this will be progressed asap.
- (c) Receding Riverbank– Following the repair of the riverbank by the Hampshire Monday Group it appears that dogs are still being allowed to access the river on each side of the berm, causing erosion on either side of the repair – this will be followed up with Cllr. Biddlecombe and discussed further at the November Parish Council Meeting

- (d) Mill Lane drainage issues – Since the September P.C. meeting, a “gulley-sucker” has been used to attempt to clear the drain. However, this doesn’t appear to have resolved the issue and a drain clearing contractor with specialist machinery has now been engaged.
- (e) Motorcycle Noise – Cllr. Wilton attended the Zoom Meeting chaired by Damien Hinds – he reported that the general feeling appeared to be that agencies are currently too stretched to address this issue which affects relatively few people across the district. Cllr. Wilton will continue to pursue the matter!
- (f) Pulens Lane – Since the fatal accident in the summer and the subsequent improvements to the Heath Road junction via the installation of dragon’s teeth lining, there has been another serious incident in Pulens Lane. Following discussion about the issues of speed it was agreed that Cllr. Wilton should liaise with Petersfield Town Council and ask what, if anything, Sheet P.C. can do to help influence improvements.

20/132 County Councillor’s Report – Cllr. Oppenheimer’s monthly report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was discussed. Items highlighted at the meeting included:

- Covid App – Residents are urged to download the new Covid App
- Carbon Emissions – The new Climate Change Action Plan provides clarity for communities on how Hampshire will be made more resilient to the impact of climate change and meet reduction targets.
- HCC Finances - Latest predictions put extra costs due to the pandemic at around £160 million (£83 million unfunded) - this will be partly funded via Government funding. However, the forecast for the next 3 years could see unfunded costs and losses rise to around £210 million with a need for at least £52 million from Government for HCC to remain financially viable in the future.
- School Term – Attendance at Hampshire schools is exceptionally good and above the national average.
- Employment and Training Support – HCC is putting in place a raft of support to help residents get back into work, e.g. apprenticeship support, adult and community learning and employability hubs (see <https://www.hampshirefutures.co.uk/course/view.php?id=548> for more info).

Councillor Oppenheimer’s full report is appended to the Minutes and will be made available via the website.

20/133 District Councillor’s Report – No report received.

20/134 Sheet Assets

**Sheet Flood Pod** – The purchase of 100 synthetic sandbags from Aspli Safety Ltd was approved.

**Sheet Common** – In Cllr. Biddlecombe’s absence, the review of the recommendations in the management report from Bob Epsom, the Woodland Officer at SDNPA was deferred until the November Meeting

**Sheet Allotments** – With the start of the new allotment year, the waiting list has been reduced to 5, but everyone now on the list wants a small plot and these are hard to come by.

**Millennium Field** – Cllr. Biddlecombe has submitted a grant application to the SDNPA towards “Beelines” wildflowers.

**Sheet Village Hall**

- (a) Defibrillator – It was agreed to ask the Caretaker to be the second guardian of the defibrillator.
- (b) Fire Exit – Following concerns being raised that the Fire Exit is rather dark and slippery, solar wall lights have been installed and the route cleared of moss. The outside light (switch can be found at the bottom right of light switches on stage area) also needs to be switched on – the Clerk will ensure that all hirers are aware of the location of the light switch.

**Recreation Ground** – Two quotes have been received from Sawscapes for the repair the hole which has appeared in the wet pour beneath the table tennis table – one quote is for repairing the hole, and the other quote (the recommended option) is for resurfacing the whole area due to what appears to be subsidence. It was agreed that before a decision is made, the Clerk should write to Sawscapes reminding them that they lay the surface only 3-years ago and expressing disappointment that it needs replacing so soon.

**Village Green** – Following the tree surveys, Cllr. Forrest is in the process of obtaining 3 quotes for the recommended work to reduce the canopy of the Horse Chestnut by 2 metres and then thin the canopy. In the meantime, the TPO application will be progressed via EHDC.

20/135 Correspondence –

- Banners at Sheet Roundabout – E-mail correspondence expressing concern at the needless distraction caused by the number of banners on the approach to the roundabout was noted. Whilst the majority of the banners tend to be for local activities and taken down promptly some are completely unwanted and unnecessary – it was agreed that any banners not felt appropriate and/or left for an inappropriate amount of time should be removed.

20/136 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> November – 7.30 p.m. – arrangements to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.