

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Dark

CLERK: Jenny Hollington

Minutes of a Meeting of Sheet Parish Council held on Tuesday, 8th October 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall

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

In Attendance: County Councillor, Russell Oppenheimer
District Councillor, Nick Drew
Clerk, Jenny Hollington

There were 6 members of the public in attendance at the meeting

19/169 Apologies – None received

19/170 Signing of Declaration to Accept Office – The declaration to accept Office was signed by Will Glancy who has been absent since the May election due to illness. Cllr. Glancy was welcomed back by all on Sheet Parish Council!

19/171 Minutes – The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th September were approved and signed.

19/172 Declarations of Interests – The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the Agenda – Cllr. Glancy declared an interest in the third planning application (conversion of music studio at Lion House) and left the meeting for discussion of this item.

19/173 Public Comment – None

19/174 Anti-Idling Campaign – Sheet resident, Ann Saunders, was present at the meeting to raise awareness of, and support for, an Anti-Idling Campaign. She explained that idling is the act of leaving a vehicle's engine running while it is stationary and it's not necessary, such as waiting for children outside schools and at railway crossings - both of which are relevant in Sheet. Ann said it is important to educate motorists that idling is against the law which states "You must not leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road". Idling causes pollution – 1 minute of idling would fill 150 balloons with dangerous pollutants such as CO, SO₂ and NO_x. Currently there are anti-idling campaigns running all over the Country but sadly not in East Hants - West Sussex, Portsmouth, and Southampton all have campaigns running.

Ann asked if Sheet P.C. would support her campaign and take a part in reducing idling in the Village and support was unanimously agreed. Posters will be displayed around the village and the Little School, Stepping Stones and Sheet School will be approached to help educate and reduce idling in the village.

19/175 FOSS Bonfire and Firework Event – Friends of Sheet School have requested use of the Millennium Field for their annual fundraising bonfire and firework event, which this year will be held on Saturday, 9th November. Sheet P.C. confirmed that they are supportive of the event, subject to the usual condition that the field is returned to good condition as soon as possible afterwards. As per previous years, a deposit cheque will be required of £200 and £60 towards the re-seeding of the bonfire site.

This year, FOSS are considering a closure of Mill Lane to traffic for the event, to keep the lane clear in case of emergency – Sheet P.C. had no objection to this proposal.

19/176 Planning – Cllr. Glancy left the room for discussion of the application for Lion House

SDNP/19/045 18/TCA	Fell Cherry Tree, raise crown of Fir Tree, reduce Ash by 3 meters	21 Village Street, Sheet GU32 2AH	No Objection
SDNP/19/045 53/TCA	Remove low hanging growth – Yew Tree	34 London Road, Sheet GU31 4BE	No Objection
SDNP/19/042 88/FUL	Conversion of music studio located in detached building to the rear of the property into a 2-bed independent single storey dwelling	Lion House, Village Street, Sheet GU32 2AQ	No Objection subject to Conservation Officer comments and retention of screening

19/177 Minor Variation to Licence – Half Moon Pub – The application to vary the licence at the Half Moon, to allow patrons to remain in the beer garden until 00.30, was considered. Sheet Parish Council were concerned that this could cause a noise issue for local residents and it was agreed to object to the application and suggest that temporary event licences should be applied for when special events are held at the Pub.

19/178 Finance

- (a) The grant application from Sheet & Tilmore Allotment Association for £50 prize money for the best plot at Sheet was approved.
- (b) The September bank statement and bank reconciliation had been circulated prior to the meeting and was approved and signed.
- (c) Cheques for October payment were approved as follows:

Chq No.	Amount	Payee	Service
301012	£103.63	Castle Water	V. Hall
301013	£234.56	Castle Water	Allotments
301014	£61.49	Hampshire County Council	County Supplies - V. Hall
301015	£75.00	Mr. T. Morgan	Website (July - Sept)
301016	£630.54	DNE Services	Service & Repair boiler + upstairs cupboard
301017	£302.40	Petersfield Town Council	Bin contract - August & September
301018	£75.90	Mrs. G. Martin	Refund - Plants for V. Hall pots
301019	£520.00	Sheet Music	Cleaning & Caretaking - V Hall (Sept)
301020	£810.88	J. Hollington	Clerk - October + expenses (kettle + stamps)
301021	£50.00	Grant - STAA	Prize Money - Best Plot at Sheet
301010	£84.74	HMRC	Tax & N.I. Clerk - October
Total	£2,949.14		

19/179 Roads and Traffic

- (a) Narrowing Village Street – A meeting with Ian Janes has been arranged for Friday, 11th to discuss feedback from the Roads and Traffic Meeting
- (b) Farnham Road/School Lane Junction – Sheet Parish Council had been very concerned to learn that SDNPA did not feel they could support the scheme to provide a ramp to replace the old broken steps at the bottom of School Lane because it was not sensitive to the Village location. Cllr. Martin had written immediately to Tim Slaney, Head of Planning at SDNPA who suggested that all parties meet on site to discuss the project - this has been arranged for Wednesday, 23rd October.
- (c) Speedwatch – A meeting of volunteers and interested parties is to be held at the Half Moon Pub on Wednesday, 9th October – Cllr. Biddlecombe will attend and report back at the November meeting.

- (d) Mill Lane - Erosion of the bank – The soil sample results have been received by HCC and are awaiting interpretation. Cllr. Forrest will chase a date for proposed works.
- (e) Tanner’s Reach Signage – Cllr. Dark attended a meeting with residents of Tanner’s Reach who indicated that they will consider replacing the current, rather unfriendly, signage.

19/180 County Councillor’s Report – The County Councillor’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was discussed. Items discussed included:

- The conclusions of the Commission of Inquiry – Vision for Hampshire 2050
- A drive to recruit more school governors.
- The funding gap which will impact the provision of library services – no specific plans are yet known but where libraries are scheduled for closure, the local community will be invited to take it over and run it as a book exchange.
- The proposed HWRC charge for non-household waste wood –Sheet P.C. expressed concern that this would encourage fly-tipping!
- Project Integra (Recycling) – HCC is seeking to up-date their framework for recycling in Hampshire.
- The Glover Review – The report and recommendations have been issued and, if accepted will have big implications for the SDNPA.

Cllr. Oppenheimer was asked whether there were any plans for lorry parks near Sheet after Brexit? Cllr. Oppenheimer confirmed that there is a lot happening behind the scene with emergency planning - however, no lorry parks are planned near Sheet – the nearest would be Havant. Cllr. Oppenheimer’s full report is appended to the Minutes and will be made available via the Parish Council website (www.sheetparishcouncil.gov.uk)

19/181 District Councillor’s Report – Cllr. Drew reported on the following items:

- Anti-Idling Campaign – Cllr. Drew is keen to move this forward via EHDC
- Remembrance Day – Cllr. Drew will represent EHDC at St. Mary Magdalen on Sunday, 10th November
- Waste Contract – The change of refuse collection contractor was noted. There were a few initial problems, which have hopefully now been rectified.
- Compliance – Residents and Councillors can now report concerns via a new on-line form (see item on correspondence below)
- EHDC Tree Programme – EHDC have committed to planting 120,000 trees (one of every East Hants resident).
- Litter - If there are any known problem areas, residents are encouraged to let EHDC know, as Enforcement Officers may be able to patrol the area.
- Speedwatch – Cllr. Drew is pleased to see that there has been a positive response to this initiative in Sheet.

19/182 Recreation Ground – The proposal to install a hedge around the current shed is being progressed. Cllr. Bird will provide a quote for new wooden doors.

19/183 Grass Cutting Contract – The specification for the parish grass cutting contract had been circulated prior to the meeting and was discussed. It was agreed that cutting the inside of the hedge at the Millennium Field should be included. It was also agreed that there should be 1 cut of the grass area at Sheet Common each year. It was noted that the small garden outside the Scout Hut needs maintenance.

Ideally, the contract will appeal to a local company for ease of liaison and knowledge of the area. The Clerk was asked to advertise locally.

19/184 Sheet Allotments – At the end of allotment year (30th September), there has been a turnover of approximately half a dozen plots. However, currently there are 8 on the waiting list so it is hoped that none of the plots will be left vacant.

Problems have been reported with the padlock on the gates. It was agreed that, rather than risk plot holders getting locked in the allotments, the pedestrian gate should be left unlocked. An option for a security box and key system was discussed but not thought to be appropriate.

Sheet P.C. have been made aware of a fire at the site causing damage to a shed, tree and compost bins. It is not known how the fire started. The Fire Brigade were called but arrived too late to put the fire out - local dog walkers and allotment users had managed to get it under control with hoses.

19/185 Millennium Field – Fruit tree planting for the Community Orchard and hedgerow whip planting is being advertised via the Parish Council website and posters. The whips have been ordered and the Lengthsmen (Frank and Bill) have volunteered to supervise whip planting. Volunteers should meet at the Millennium Field Car Park at 9.00 a.m. on 30th November and bring a spade.

Cllr. Drew said he would be pleased to support this project via a grant – the Clerk was asked to submit the application form.

19/186 Sheet Common –

Refurbishment of the gate – It is hoped that the BMX user group will get this done in the next couple of weeks.

Clearance of brambles – The Monday Group (a new Volunteer group with which Cllr. Biddlecombe is involved) has worked hard to help clear the brambles on the Common - Sheet P.C. is very grateful for their help.

Tree Works – Some of the Sycamore needs to be removed as it is non-native and invasive and to allow for more self-seeding of Beech and Oak– Cllr. Biddlecombe will contact EHDC to check there are no TPOs on Sheet Common. A quote of £600 per day, for 2-days tree clearance was approved.

19/187 Village Green – The Information Plaque has been ordered from Signs Express in Portsmouth – it is hoped it will be installed in time for the next meeting.

19/188 Sheet Village Hall –

Upstairs Bay Window – The problems with the window seem to be dictated by the weather conditions – Cllr. Glancy will inspect the timbers but it is not thought to be urgent.

Main Hall Window Frames – The window frames in the main hall are starting to rot – it was agreed that quotes should be sought for repair.

Missing Kettle – The kitchen kettle has gone missing. If anyone knows of its whereabouts, please return!

19/189 Remembrance Day – As per previous years, Cllrs Forrest and Biddlecombe will attend the Service on Sunday, 10th November and lay the wreath on behalf of Sheet P.C.

19/190 SDNPA Parish Representative – Cllr. Doug Jones was in attendance to talk about his role as Parish Representative at SDNPA. He explained that he is a Parish Councillor at Buriton and has a background in town and transport planning. SDNPA Members comprise 11 District Councillors, 6 Parish Councillors, and 7 members appointed directly by the Secretary of State who represent a total of 187 parishes. All Board Members act in the best interests of the National Park as a whole, rather than their own interest groups and Cllr. Jones sees himself as a conduit for this area. He works closely with the East Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils, providing a quarterly report for their meetings.

SDNPA host 2 big consultative meetings each year – Cllr. Jones is Chairing the SDNPA Parish Workshop in Meonstoke which will focus on the new local plan.

Cllr. Jones has been on the SDNPA Planning Committee for 8 years and knows the planning officers very well. He now Chairs the Small Grants panel which he enjoys and is involved in the SDNP Charitable Trust.

The Chairman asked if Cllr. Jones was able to offer help to Parishes with contentious issues and explained the problems being experienced with the School Lane/Farnham Road junction. Cllr. Jones undertook to speak to Mike Hughes about the issue on behalf of Sheet P.C.

Cllr. Biddlecombe queried why SDNPA have disbanded the Volunteer Group he had been part of? Cllr. Jones explained that SDNPA has been focussing on reaching out to groups not easily reached - e.g. younger age groups. This has meant that there had been less time to support existing volunteers. Any loss of experienced and trained volunteers would be an unfortunate price to pay.

Cllr. Jones was thanked for giving up his evening to talk to Sheet Parish Council about his role and for any help he could give in applying pressure on SDNPA re. the School Lane/Farnham Road junction

19/191 Correspondence

- SDNPA Consultation – Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document – the deadline for consultation responses is 19th November. The Clerk was asked to re-circulate the document which will be discussed at the November meeting
- EHDC – New Planning Enforcement Enquiry Form – Complaints regarding planning enforcement issues can now be submitted via: <https://www.easthants.gov.uk/planning-compliance-and-enforcement>

19/192 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting – The next meeting of the Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, 12th November 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.