

**SHIPHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**(Incorporating Rowberrow and Star)**

Chairman: Councillor Kate Hillis  
01934 842114  
21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

Clerk: Samantha Peake(Mrs)  
21 Gloversfield  
Shipham  
Somerset  
BS25 1SU  
Tel: 01934 844612  
Email: [shiphamparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shiphamparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk)

**Minutes of the Shipham Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 in via Video conferencing at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Kate Hillis ( in the chair), H Andrews, K Chalk, A Read, P Tratt, S Harris, S Leader, C Riches, I Shaw, C Mitchel and the clerk S Peake

**Also present: Sedgemoor District Councillor Lisa Methley ( until after 88/20)**

2 parishioners in attendance, 1 until after 85/20 and one until after 88/20

**83/20 Apologies for Absence**

None received.

**84/20 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Leader has a previously declared DPI for item

**85/20 Parishioners Discussion time**

A parishioner raised the question of progress of the Small Improvement Scheme with regard to the weight limit along Longbottom but there is nothing further to report. Clerk will e-mail Cllr Taylor and Traffic engineer.

It was reported that a child had been injured on the mineshaft covering in the field below the football field. Problems of debris in the wooded area at the bottom of the Village Hall Car park were also raised. Cllr Leader will speak to landowner but it was noted that the mineshaft was not on the public footpath, the Caving club have been informed and efforts have been made to make safe but members of the public have removed some safety features. Football club will look in to the problems with the wooded area. An article will go into the next newsletter advising parents of the dangers in the area and to stick to the footpaths. It was noted that landowners have a duty of care. Signs were suggested to keep to footpaths but it was noted this would restrict movement around the field on the "unofficial" footpaths.

A parishioner outlined plans for wildflower areas in the parish. Suggestions were made for the 3 wells area, verge by Templars Way/Cuck Hill, verge down from burial ground, area next to Hansfords and the unused part of the burial ground. There is support in the village for the proposal. Meeting noted that Shipham was on the Bee-line and that SCC have produced their Pollinator Action Plan.

**86/20 To consider planting parts of the Parish greens with wildflowers to create wildflower meadow areas**

Meeting noted that management of the wildflower areas will have to be considered with cost and the overall look of the areas throughout the year.

Cllr Shaw proposed that a management proposal be received to include the Burial Ground area, 3 Wells area and the footpath by allotment as wildflower areas, seconded by Cllr Mitchel and carried.

**87/20 To receive an update regarding the issues raised of the use of Rowberrow Woods /AONB**

Cllr Riches circulated details of the actions taken by Forestry England and Ride Mendips regarding problems of the use of the woods. FE will be working every week to ensure that the closed wild trails remain closed and Ride Mendips have put some barriers up to slow down mountain bikers at exit points RM have also been more pro-active in emphasising that the use of Wild trails is not acceptable. Signs are up stating that it is private land and the trails are only allowed with landowners permission. The PROW staff at SCC have indicated that bikers speeding on the tracks is a police matter and the meeting was advised that police have had a presence in the woods and are actively seeking reports of incidents. Cllr Ricehs will be meeting with FE and RM to monitor progress. The problems have eased partly due to other mountain bike areas opening up. Parking has also eased.

Clerk to send a letter supported Fes efforts in making the area safer. Council will review in September with a view to inviting RM and FE to the October meeting.

**88/20 To resolve to support the ward District Councillor in applying for an injunction to stop anti-social driving in Cheddar Gorge**

Cllr Methley outlined the actions to be taken by various parties attempting to combat anti-social driving in the Gorge. These include investigating road closures, changes to road layouts and barriers on the car parks. However an injunction has been suggested to make the Gorge unattractive for cars to visit. An injunction can mean a fine of £5k, contempt of court, loss of car if certain anti-social behaviours occur.

Cllr Riches proposed that Shipham Parish Council write to express support to progress applying for an injunction and ot be copied to neighbouring councils, seconded by Cllr Tratt and carried.

**89/20 Minutes of the last meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> March and 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 15<sup>th</sup> June having been proposed by Cllr Andrews and seconded by Cllr Chalk were agreed as an accurate record

**90/20 Matters of report from minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> march and 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

None not on the agenda

**91/20 Planning**

Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July having been proposed by Cllr Andrews and seconded by Cllr Harris were agreed as an accurate record

**93/20 Finance**

Cllr Leader left the meeting for this item.

The following accounts, having previously been circulated were proposed to be paid by Cllr Read, seconded by Cllr Chalk and unanimously approved:

**Accounts payable:**

Clerk wages	£250.96
Office costs	£12.00
Simon Leader	£165.00
Colin Busby	£100.00
DJ Dors ( May/June)	£404.61
NALC/SALC	£303.10

Clerk had asked Cllr Shaw if a lap top could be sourced. Cost is in the budget so meeting agreed for this to be progressed.

**94/20 Open Spaces****(i) To consider buying another litter bin to be placed outside Hansfords**

The neighbours were not in favour of having a bin on the proposed site. It is possible other ways could be found to support Hansfords and Cllr Hillis will speak to Hansfords

**(ii) To consider cutting back the side of the burial ground path back**

Cllr Riches proposed that the overgrown grass be cut back, seconded by Cllr Shaw and carried.

**95/20 Highways**

Meeting noted that another complaint had come in regarding lorries on Longbottom. Clerk to contact Cllr Taylor and the Traffic Engineer for an update

**96/20 Burial Ground****(i) To consider the revised quote for the Burial Ground railings**

Meeting expressed concerns that the VAT now added onto the quote increase it by £1360. Cllr Shaw proposed requesting a gesture of goodwill from the contractors particularly as they had already begun work seconded by Cllr Andrews and carried.

**97/20. To receive a report from SDC councillors**

Cllr Riches reported that work was underway to help with recovery in Sedgemoor. The Grants committee was meeting again

**98/20 Chairmans/Clerks report**

Although very little in terms of events were occurring in the village, meeting decided to at least put out a side of A4 detailing the parish council business.

**99/20 Incident Log**

Nothing to report

**100/20 To consider further issues with The Miners:**

Nothing further to report currently

**101/20 To consider and approve a Website Accessibility policy**

Meeting noted that compliance with website accessibility deadline is 23rd September and the current arrangements are not compliant. Cllr Chalk proposed that a replacement site be investigated, seconded by Cllr Read and carried. Clerk will post a policy in the meantime detailing action taken.

**102/20 To consider a response from Shipham Parish Council to the request on the consultation document circulated by SALC and SLCC**

Councillors generally felt that under the current circumstances this was not the right use of resources regarding government re-organisation. Also until concrete proposals were received it is difficult for Shipham Parish Council to make an informed decision. Therefore members decided not to respond to the SLCC /SALC consultation.

**103/20 To note the proposals for funding for the Village Agent**

Meeting noted the proposals and agreed to release the budgeted funds for the Village Agent of £830.00

**104/20 Matters of Report and Future Business**

**105/20 Date of Next Meeting**  
**21<sup>st</sup> September 2020**

**Meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.**

Signed: .....

Date: 2020