

**Shipham Parish Council
(Incorporating Rowberrow and Star)**

Chairman: Councillor I Shaw
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22nd January 2019

Clerk: Samantha Peake(Mrs)
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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2019 in Shipham
Village hall at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllrs I Shaw (in the chair), J Popham, C Riches, K Chalk, P Tratt, H Andrews, N Bisdee, P Downing, S Leader and the clerk S Peake

Also present (for the first item): Stuart Houlet, Adrian Noon (SDC) and Cindy Carter (AONB). PCSO Jake Dade

Apologies: Cllrs M Watson, S Adams, J Savage, D Hill and N Taylor

There were 15 parishioners present

133/18 Declarations of Interest

There were none

134/18 To Discuss the planning process

The following points were made in response to Council and parishioner concerns:

- There is no such thing as consistency in planning decisions as each application is different and there is an element of subjectivity in, for example impacts on the AONB
- Change of policies such as the NPPF and the new emerging Local plan will affect planning decisions
- Planners now judged on housing delivery
- Employment opportunities have always been allowed adjacent/close to the Village development boundary and this has now been extended to residential applications.
- The AONB status carries great weight but it should be noted that there is not a blanket policy to say no to building in the AONB
- Parish Councils have a significant role in the planning process and due consideration is given to their comments
- Any conditions requested by Parish Councils have to fulfil 6 tests of condition before being imposed. If the conditions do not meet the criteria there is no justification for imposing
- All development committee reports go through the legal department
- Concerns raised regarding the lack of engagement with development committee and the speakers at the Committee meeting will be highlighted to the performance group
- Tier 3 in the new Local Plan allows for development outside the village development boundary (Policy T5)

- There will no doubt be an increase in growth adjacent to village boundaries
- The AONB can raise concerns but is not able to inspect every development. The AONB will try and liaise with the Landscape Officer at SDC if concerns are raised.
- On a specific application, further information was requested by the AONB and on receipt no further comments were needed to be expressed
- The Local Plan inspector removed the support needed for development proposals by the local community. No local support is no longer a reason to refuse an application
- Highways do not always respond constructively but if planners pick up that there may be a problem they will go back to Highways again for comments.
- AONB can comment even if development is adjacent to the AONB
- The modifications of the Local Plan inspector have included the phrase “ meaningful and robust consultation with local community” but fails to explain what this is
- If the PC or local community do not support an application it should still engage with developers to at least try to modify the plans
- The Miners application decision was taken quickly in the end as there was a danger of non-determination and the extension time had long run out. The planning department felt that there was no more information that could be supplied and the decision had to be made
- Enforcement Action will be looked at again regarding the Miners, although it should be noted that there are a set of complex personal circumstances
- There are problems with sanctions at the end of the prosecution process and Enforcement action is discretionary not statutory.
- Very few prosecution actions are taken
- Natural England is a statutory consultee and the AONB work with them
- Concerns on applications can be raised with AONB
- Specific concerns regarding clearance of a recently sold field have been raised with the Ecologist at SDC because there is no planning breach
- Previous applications that have been refused may or may not now be passed. Chair will send details of inconsistencies to Stuart.

Stuart, Adrian and Cindy were thanked for their time in coming to Shipham

PCSO Jake Dade explained the new set up for neighbourhood policing. The entire ethos is to free up PCSO's to be more visible and for more community policing. PCSOs now have bikes and are carrying out more patrols with more community engagement. Beat surgeries are to be resurrected and details will follow. A patrol should be carried out once or twice a shift.

Jake was thanked for his time in coming to Shipham.

- 135/18 Parishioners Discussion Time**
No issues were raised
- 136/18 Minutes of the last meeting held on 17th December 2018**
Minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2018 having been proposed by Cllr Andrews and seconded by Cllr Tratt were declared correct and signed by the Chair
- 137/18 Matters Arising from Minutes of 17th December 2018**
None not on the agenda
- 138/18 Finance**
The following accounts, having previously been circulated were proposed to be paid by Cllr Downing, seconded by Cllr Riches and unanimously approved.
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|---------------------------------|----------|
| (i) Accounts payable (1) | |
| Clerk wages | £256.22 |
| Office costs | £12.00 |
| Paper | £4.99 |
| David Peake (Cemetery Doors) | £1090.00 |
| Mrs Hares | £25.00 |
- Bank balance (£24450.15 as at 31st December 2018)
- 139/18 Open Spaces**
Cllr Tratt reported that works to the trees at Cuck Hill should be carried out by the end of January.
An e-mail was read out from the manager of the Daneswood indicating he would be interested in involving the Daneswood in the community. This will be looked at in more detail next month
The Chair reported the trailing cables from the telegraph poles around the village. Cllr Bisdee is meeting with Truespeed and will raise the problem.
- 140/18 Highways**
Meeting noted that the lines have been painted at the top of North Down Lane
- 141/18 Burial Ground**
- (i) **To consider tree planting at the Burial Ground**
To be discussed next meeting
- 142/18 Sedgemoor District Council Q & As**
Issues with Hinkley Point were raised as the boats could not get in as the river is silted leading to more lorry movements. Cllr Downing will take this up
- 143/18 Chairmans/Clerks report**
There will be a clubs and societies open day run by the village hall in the near future
- 144/18 Incident Log**
Nothing to report this month
- 145/18 To consider pay rise for clerk (attached increase)**

Cllr Riches proposed the 2% pay increase for the clerk seconded by Cllr Popham and approved

146/18

To consider contributing to the “Somerset Wood” to commemorate the fallen of WW1

Council felt that the wood would be too far from Shipham to be of any benefit to the parish. Clerk to suggest DEFRA grants but not to make any contribution to the Wood.

147/18

Matters of Report and Future Business

Cllr Tratt reported that the quarry footpath has been closed and there is some concern that it is in an unsatisfactory state

Cllr Tratt reported a damaged street name sign to SDC and it had been replaced

148/18

Date of Next Meeting

18th February 2019

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed:

Date: 18th February 2019