

# Shotteswell Parish Council

**Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 16th May 2023 at the Village Hall, Shotteswell.**

**Present were:** Cllrs Faulkner (Chair), J Burgess, V Ingram (Clerk), B Zammett, M Pearson, Cllr Mills (WCC),

**Apologies:** Cllr Rock & Cllr Gist

**Members of the Public:** 5

**Declaration of Interest:** None

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Cllr Pearson and Seconded by Cllr Burgess.

## **Matters Arising**

Owing to Cllr Mills wishing to go to another meeting it was agreed that the County Council report could be heard first. Cllr Mills highlighted the potential perils of leaving a charger on a bed overnight due to this causing fires. If anyone knew of anyone struggling financially to be encouraged to make an approach to the County Council for assistance and that the County Council grant fund was now open for applications closing on 18h June. Cllr Mills was asked how the new system of two District Councillors representing the Ward would likely be achieved.

## **Highways & Trees**

The undergrounding of the electrical works had now been completed and the telegraph poles removed, with the exception of one property, all seemed to have been made good and this missing property had been raised with the contractor. This was a major project involving many months of work. The road is down to be resurfaced in Snuff Lane but would have to wait until the road had settled before being undertaken. Bakehouse Lane gullies appear to block on a regular basis, this had been reported back to highways. Various potholes had been repaired that were reported at the last meeting.

Electric pole removal was still being pursued in the Back Hill area, but this was down to BT to remove them who are very slow in progressing anything.

The repair to the footpath outside of Gunn Cottage had at last been completed by BT.

Trees had been cut back at various parts of the village by WCC.

Leak on Back Hill/Mollington Road despite STW stating on numerous occasions that the water was from a spring the Clerk persisted and it turned out to be a significant leak. The leak had been repaired and the water was starting to dry up. WCC visited the property in Church Lane in February and kindly agreed to undertake some work during the summer to address the water issue there.

The no parking sign in the passing bay had been installed and the resident opposite had informed the Chairman that things are much improved since its installation. The passing bays further down the road were in need of clearing as they had been in danger of disappearing, Cllr Faulkner had already actioned this.

The marker post on the triangle by the village green had been hit and dislodged, reported to Highways.

The new salt bins had arrived and would be installed shortly. Cllr Pearson expressed his reservations that the leak on the B4100 had not been repaired by STW. The broken 20 sign had been replaced.

### **Children's playing field**

An Inspection had taken place by Cllr Faulkner who had found and planned to make repairs to several items. The tree house condition was discussed and it was agreed that this should be demolished due to the condition. It was decided that a skip be hired due to the quantity of glass involved, a price for this will be found and a mutually convenient date for councillors to get together to remove the item. Any replacement will only be considered if it is metal for longevity purposes, monkey bars was a suggestion mooted. It was decided that a replacement item be sourced funds allowing and that this be narrowed to possibly three options. A letter to ask the children of the village to select their preference to be sent. It was suggested a potential sign at the fete.

The contractor was to be notified of the fete date.

Bus shelter had been swept again, the ivy was beginning to grow so needed pulling off again, Cllr Burgess offered to do this.

**Fly tipping** showed no sign of easing up and was a regular occurrence at the layby. The Clerk had chased up with SDC that they were not cleaning up behind the bin and there are a large number of oil cans and tyres to be found there. A spate of antisocial behaviour had been experienced on the two Turns with human excrement being found but this seemed to have stopped. There had been concerns raised about garden waste being dumped on the verges which are equally considered to be flytipping. Grass cuttings and branches had been observed by the bus shelter and opposite New Road. It was suggested that the grass is either mulched and left, a bin be provided or consider a contractor.

Dog fouling was still an issue predominately on footpaths but it has been noted that there are people regularly allowing their dogs to run loose into the playing field and not cleaning up after them. This is also a welfare concern, given the breed of dog

### **Finance.**

The end-of-year accounts etc were presented to the council and formally approved.

Proposed by Cllr Burgess and Seconded by Cllr Pearson

Paid since the last meeting

Hire of hall £50	Salt bins £685.78
Ink £75.78	

Proposed by Cllr Faulkner & Seconded by Cllr Burgess

**Coronation Event** had taken place and was well attended.

**Voneus**, As the telegraph poles were being removed from the electrical works undertaken in the past few months the council were notified of the intention to install 6 new poles through the village. After numerous trips by various members of Voneus staff, the council were able to negotiate that 5 poles would be eliminated. But confirmation was awaited for the sixth pole in New Road to see if this one could also be eliminated. Cllr Ingram met with the COO of the company who kindly personally visited the village and was looking into trying to get rid of the

last pole. Our thanks to the two residents who have kindly helped by agreeing to wayleaves to eliminate some of the poles further down the village. Whilst on the topic of New Road area, Orbit had been chased about the legal work for the ground. The council was informed that Orbit was proposing to clad some properties at New Road there had been concerns raised by residents which would be pursued with Orbit as it was felt this would be detrimental to the Cul de sac in general.

A presentation by Keep Hanwell Rural had taken place, members came across for the benefit of Shotteswell residents to explain the new housing proposed at Hanwell which will impact the village with more traffic on the B4100 if it goes ahead and also the Elgin proposal for a solar farm between the two villages. The meeting was informative and well-attended. The parish council included it under their umbrella for hirings due to this being for the community's benefit. A letter had been received from the company regarding a fund but the parish council will keep this in abeyance for the time being.

#### Potential Ground Works

It was decided that the estimate received was beyond the budget of the Parish Council. Alternatives were suggested as a possibility and would be reviewed on-site.  
Chair to write to the resident.

Planning was discussed, and these were:

23/00758/Ful Ivy Lodge Change of roofing on conservatory - no objection  
23/00850/Ful North Ridge extension to rear and filling in porch area -no objection  
23/00686/Tree North Ridge tree works no objection  
23/00450/Tree Shepsden tree works- no objection  
23/00515/Tel28 & 23/00466/Tel28 &23/00473/TEL28  
Erection of telegraph poles Middle Lane, Bury Court Lane and New Road (6 in total)-comments sent objection  
22/03115/LBC The Mount -Permission refused

Cllr Mills & Cllr Gists reports published to the noticeboard

Nex Meeting provisionally arranged for July 25th