

Shaw-cum-Donnington Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Love Lane, Donnington on Wednesday 19th July 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present

Bill Graham (Chairman), Mary Carter (MC), Sean Doherty (SD), Tony Harris (TH), and Glyn Thomas (GT)

In attendance John Austin (Clerk) and, for part of the meeting, Cllr. Anthony Pick (WBC and Newbury Town Council)

Note: P = proposed, S = seconded

3827 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Chris Fenwick (CF), Elizabeth Nonweiler (EN) and Paul Bryant (PB)

3828 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3829 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2017 were approved unanimously (P – TH, S – SD) and signed as a true record.

3830 **Matters arising**

3816/4. The dog bins on the footpath around the Vodafone HQ have been removed by WBC. It was felt that unless there was substantial call for further bins this matter should now be closed
3821. AH had found the reference to sandbags on the WBC website which states that the council does not have the responsibility to supply sandbags and consequently does not do so. It was decided this should be publicised to parishioners.

3831 **Correspondence**

1. A quotation from Complete Weed Control for the weed killing and fertilizing of both recreation grounds in the sum of £617 ex VAT. Unanimously agreed (P – Chairman, S – GT)
2. An e-mail from Paul James, WBC Culture and Libraries Manager, with an update concerning the WB Library Service. A discussion followed the main points of which were:
 - Mobile library is now down to one vehicle and parishioners may question why they are paying for the library.
 - In the light of Government strategy why should the parish contribute to the service when it should be funded by Government.
 - The legal position of funding for libraries by parishes is still far from clear.
3. Stratfield Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan has been adopted by WBC.
4. An e-mail from PCSO Stuart Davis asking for support for a blind awareness day in August/September. Councillors were prepared to support this.

3832 **Finance**

1. The following payments were agreed unanimously (P – MC, S – SD)

Michael Gurr	Litter picking July 2017	62.40
John Austin	Salary & expenses June 2017	741.14
James Snelling	Groundsman's pay & expenses June 2017	215.18
Southern Electric	Street Lights June quarter	565.23
Bill Graham	Website costs	65.66
Chris Fenwick	Planning Officer's Allowance Apr-Jun	25.00
SSE Contracting	Street Light Maintenance Jun quarter	620.05
Auditing Solutions Ltd	Internal Audit 2016/17	390.00
HMRC	PAYE/NIC on Clerk's salary	167.43

Veolia

Bin emptying June 2017

44.53
£2,896.62

It was unanimously agreed (P – TH, S – SD) that one of the 3 previous councillors who were still on the bank mandate be allowed to sign the cheques for this month as the new mandate was not yet operational and CF was away leaving only one cheque signatory available.

2. The recommendation of the pre-circulated Internal Audit Report for 2016/17 were noted and accepted. (P – Chairman, S – MC)
3. Bank mandate. Councillors were asked to sign the mandate as appropriate at the end of the meeting.

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District Councillor's comments.

There were no District Councillor's comments

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Planning

1. Applications

17/01490/HOUSE & 17/01491/LBC2 Donnington Dene, Oxford Road RG14 3AA

Vehicular access change plus erection of garden wall

Planning permission not required

17/01361/HOUSE Apple Tree Cottage, Grange Farm, Long Lane RG14 2TF

Single storey extension

Council decision: No objection (P – Chairman, S – MC) Unanimous

17/01222/HOUSE & 17/01223/LBC2 Donnington Dene, Oxford Road RG14 3AA

Extensions and internal alterations

Council decision: No objection (P – Chairman, S – SD) Unanimous

17/01510/FUL Snelsmore Common

Pitch for mobile drinks and snacks (Out of parish)

Council decision: No objection (P – Chairman, S – SD) Unanimous

17/01447/FUL ScD Primary School

Replacement of fence and double gate

Council decision: No objection (P – Chairman, S – GT) Unanimous

17/01711/HOUSE 3 Castle Grove, RG14 1PS

Two storey extension (Out of parish)

Council decision: No objection (P – Chairman, S – SD) Unanimous

2. WBC Decisions

17/01314/HOUSE 21 Dene Way, Donnington RG14 2JL

Side extension

Granted

17/01510/FUL Snelsmore Common

Pitch for mobile drinks and snacks

Granted

3. Land west of the Wantage Road, formally known as 'the Christmas Tree field'

The Chairman had written as requested at the previous meeting and had heard back from the development company. It was now a question of wait and see.

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Website

The site was going well with some 25 visits per day. A clean up of out of date items had been done. Bus timetables had been updated. Pointers to the Cricket Club and the Football Club would be added to the website.

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Review of Councillors' Code of Conduct

The document was unanimously re-adopted with no changes (P - SD, S – MC)

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Newbury Town Plan Presentation by Cllr. Anthony Pick

Cllr. Pick gave a comprehensive resume of the purpose and thoughts behind the development of the Newbury Town Plan as well as the processes being followed. Feedback was wanted from surrounding parishes and it was asked that Councillors send their thoughts and opinions to Cllr. Pick.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Pick for his talk and re-iterated that the parish council supported Newbury Town Council in what it was doing.

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Amenities

1. TH was still investigating solar panels for the pavilion roof. Concerns expressed about panels were the danger of vandalism and the orientation of the roof.
2. The pavilion was in reasonable order but it was felt that some refurbishment of the interior needed to be considered. Interior cleaning was very patchy at present and it was thought some more formal arrangements would be beneficial.

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Footpaths

There were no formal reports.

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Highways

Several traffic surveys have already taken place and more would be happening over the next period of time. MC had a SID at present as well as counters to measure traffic volumes. The Chairman urged Councillors to give MC as much help as possible over the coming weeks.

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Members Reports and Questions

1. AH reported that verge cutting on the Wantage Road had cut the tops off BT junction boxes which had affected many peoples broadband.
2. CF had attended the NAG meeting on 11th July. The main points were:
 - Inspector Mark Tucker was introduced as new Neighbourhood Policing Team Inspector who gave a talk on the future of policing in Speen and Shaw-cum-Donnington
 - Shaw-cum-Donnington was congratulated on the 'Big Tea' event
 - There appears to be an increase in speeding in Grove Road.
 - There was a report of possible drug activities in Speen as well as some criminal damage to Speen recreation ground.
3. There was to be a Thames Valley Police Open Day on Sat 5th August in Reading.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.59 pm.