

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 18th October 2017 at 7.30pm.

Present

Bill Graham (Chairman), Mary Carter (MC), Sean Doherty (SD), Chris Fenwick (CF), Tony Harris (TH), Elizabeth Nonweiler (EN) and Glyn Thomas (GT).

In attendance: Paul Bryant (PB) (WBC Councillor), John Austin (Clerk) and 2 Parishioners.

Note: P = proposed, S = seconded

3859 Apologies

Apologies were received from Colin Yates (CY).

3860 Declarations of Interest

TH declared an interest in an item concerning clay pigeon shooting at Donnington Grove to be brought up in correspondence.

3861 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2017 were approved unanimously (P – EN, S – SD) and signed as a true record.

3862 Matters arising

- 3847/2. An e-mail had been received from the Valuation Office clarifying that the pavilion has been deemed to be exempt from rating.
- 3847/5. After consultation with NLFC the request by the YMCA FC to use the Recreation Ground football pitch had been rejected. The Clerk had written to the YMCA FC.
- 3857/2. Two complaints of excess speeds in Castle Lane had been made to WBC who had advised the complainants to contact the police.

3863 Correspondence

1. A notification of the CCB AGM on 19/10/2017 at 6pm at Shaw House. Chairman and CF will attend.
2. An e-mail from WBC informing of a consultation period on a draft refresh of the Newbury Town Design Statement to run from 6th October to 17th November.
3. An e-mail from TH about concerns over the planning implications of clay pigeon shooting at Donnington Grove. The Clerk had written to WBC Planning Department and received a reply stating that they could not identify any breach of regulations. TH will monitor and progress with Planning if necessary.
4. An e-mail from Cheryl Evans, WBC Road Safety Officer, with information that speed surveys had been temporarily suspended as their speed co-ordinator, Alan Dunkerton, had been taken seriously ill.
5. District Parish Conference will take place on Tuesday, 7th November at 6 pm at WBC Offices. EN, BG and CF will attend.

3864 Finance

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

Michael Gurr	Litter picking Oct 2017	62.40
John Austin	Salary & expenses Sept 2017	683.22
James Snelling	Groundsman's pay & exps. Sept. 2017	203.58
Complete Weed Control	Weed killing/fertilizing recreation grounds	740.40
Bill Graham	Shop Lane speed sign pole	20.04
SSE Contracting	Street Light maintenance Sept quarter	620.05
Southern Electric	Street lights Sept quarter	541.38

HMRC	PAYE/NIC on Clerk's salary	167.43
Veolia	Bin emptying Sep 2017 + Waste Tfr fee	<u>92.47</u>
		<u>£3,130.97</u>

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District Councillor's comments.

- The Boundary Commission have proposed a reduction from 52 to 42 District Councillors together with a re-organisation of wards. WBC are at present disputing some of these changes.
- WBC have applied for a trial of repatriation of business rates to local level although it appears it will not be as advantageous as first thought.
- Some progress may be made with the Sandleford development in December although this is by no means certain.
- WBC are beginning to invest in industrial property, financed by loans from the Public Works Loan Board, as a means of generating extra income.

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Planning

1. Applications
There were no new applications.
2. WBC Decisions
17/01988/FULD & 17/01989/LBC2 The Green, Snelsmore Common
Change of use to 2 flats
Granted
17/02000/FULD & 17/02001/LBC2 The Manager's Flat, Snelsmore House
Change of use to flat within curtilage of listed building
Granted
17/02005/FULD Jordans, Snelsmore Common
Change of use to multiple occupation
Granted
17/02006/FUL Bathsaida, Snelsmore Common
Change of use to multiple occupation
Granted
17/01222/HOUSE & 17/01223/LBC2 Donnington Dene, Oxford Road
Extensions and internal alterations
Granted
3. The Chairman and EN had attended the Newbury Town Plan meeting earlier in the day. The Plan will be finished within the next month and will then be presented to WBC

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Land west of the Wantage Road (Christmas Tree field)

The following motion was passed unanimously (P – EN, S – SD)

"The Shaw- cum- Donnington Parish Council authorises the Chairman and Clerk to write to the owner of the land 'West of Wantage Road' declaring the parish council's definite interest in acquiring one hectare of that land to the north of and adjacent to the Donnington Recreation Ground. Should the land be acquired it would be designated for parishioners' recreational use only. The exact area and shape of the land and the mix of funding for its purchase would be subject to agreement by the full parish council after taking the appropriate land agent's and solicitor's advice."

PB will consult with WBC Planning Officers concerning any change of the land to recreational use.

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Website

The website is working well.

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Review of Governance and Management Risk Assessment

This was reviewed and re-approved unanimously (P – Chairman, S – MC) subject to the addition of a clause concerning, the impact of the website being taken off-line and failure to maintain an effective virus protection.

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WBC consultation on proposed changes to Street Cleansing and Litter Picking Service

The Chairman will draft a response and circulate it prior to sending to WBC.

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Amenities

1. Further investigation had revealed that security is a problem with solar panels and that they are almost impossible to insure. It was decided not to progress the suggestion at this time.
2. It was unanimously agreed (P – Chairman, S – SD) to employ a cleaner for the pavilion initially for one hour once a month at £12 per hour.

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Footpaths

- The nettles on the Oxford Road footpath had now been cut back
- The overgrowth reported to WBC by GT had not been dealt with. GT had contacted them again and it will be done in the next 7 days.

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Highways

1. PB will investigate the re-painting of the disabled spaces in the church car park.
2. Road noise from the A34 has increased. Highways intend that re-surfacing will take place in 2020. TH and his neighbours are arranging for an acoustic survey to be taken which they will pass on to Highways,

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Members Reports and Questions

1. English Heritage will look into speeding and litter signs around the Castle car park.
2. The blind awareness day was very successful, enlightening and worthwhile. Appreciation was expressed to NAG, especially Linda Tull, and all other organisers of the day.
3. The speed sign in Shop Lane should be in place shortly.
4. The SID for use on the Wantage Road had been requested.
5. The duplication of signs at the Recreation Ground will be looked at and discussed at the next meeting.
6. The next 'Great Get Together' will be on 3rd June 2018.
7. The idea of a Village fete was floated for councillors to consider.
8. CF had attended the counter terrorism meeting. This gave information on how to recognise and understand the threat and what to do in the event of an incident.
9. The Chairman and SD will attend a site meeting with interested parties at the Church on 25th October at 1.30pm to discuss a way forward with the dilapidated churchyard tombs.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.58 pm.