

Shaw-cum-Donnington Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Shaw-cum Donnington Village Hall on Wednesday, 18 January 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present

Bill Graham (BG) (Chairman), Paul Bryant (PB), Glyn Thomas (GT), Mary Carter (MC), Colin Yates (CY), Margo Payne (MP), Anni Gruner (AG), Lynne Doherty (LD) and 2 members of the public.

In attendance: Parish Clerk Gillian Durrant (GD).

Note: P = proposed, S = seconded (All decisions unanimous unless otherwise indicated)

4786 Apologies

Councillor Ian Miller (IM)

4787 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Margo Payne declared an interest in item 8 as she is a trustee of Fair Close.

4788 Approval of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 2022 were approved. (P – GT, S - MC)

4789 Matters arising

- PB, BG, MC and AG are attending the District Parish Conference 31 Jan at 6.30 in person or by Zoom.
- Long Lane noticeboard. We need to pay 50% deposit up front. The proof was only sent through after Christmas following pre-Christmas chasing.
- Playground repairs – some cableway parts have arrived, but not all the parts are correct so some will need to be returned/replaced. Other pieces of play equipment may need replacing too.
- Speeding in Oxford Road. GD has referred this 40mph zone to WBC speed limit review group.
- Offer of trees – one wild crab apple tree was delivered to BG in December. Trees offered by WBC officer Andrew England. GD has asked for variety and number of trees on offer. He is out of office till 17 January.
- Oxford Road 'narrow road' sign – GD wrote to WBC asking again for the developers to remove as it blocks the SID. This should have been done in August.

4790 Correspondence

- Invitation from Downs School to attend their community forum event on Wed 25 January 6-7pm. Cllr Ian Miller going.
- WBC have advised us of a new web-based system for our responses to planning applications. PB to test it following this meeting.
- WBC community orchard planting day is on Saturday 21 January at Almond Avenue recreation ground.
- Thames Valley Police PCC sent an update in December, and are offering grants again. GD advised that grants are available for measures to prevent illegal encampments.
- EV lamppost charging – a company is offering installation at no cost, and a small income, for suitable lampposts. LD said WBC is looking into putting EV chargers in Kingsley Close.

4791 Finance

The following payments were approved for November (P - MC, S -MP), CY and GT will authorise the payments.

Litter Picker	Litter picking December 2022	68.64
G Durrant	Salary for December 2022	906.65
G Durrant	Deposit for bouncy castle	28.00
Village Hall	Rent for Police meeting	9.64
Village Hall	Annual rent for 2022/23	347.04

Bill Graham	Screwfix parts burst pipe, pavilion	9.25
Bill Graham	Annual Ionus payment for website	216.00
WB Lib Dems	Printing of Christmas newsletter	49.27
Parish Noticeboard Co	Deposit for new noticeboard	447.00
SSE	Streetlight electricity for December	426.38
HMRC	PAYE/NIC	42.73
SSE (DD)	Electricity for pavilion for 3 months to December	277.21
NEST (DD)	Clerk's pension December	132.23
Veolia (DD)	Bin emptying for December	77.71
		<u>£3,037.75</u>

Total payments authorised for December (excluding Direct Debits): £2,550.60

Subject to a small amendment to the groundsman's salary, the budget for 2023/24 was approved (P - CY, S - MC)

The Council unanimously approved a precept of £54,900 for 2023/24 (P - BG, S - PB)

Paul Bryant was appointed as a new member to the Investment Committee (P - BG, S - MC). GD to set up a meeting of the group prior to the next Council meeting, to consider investing the latest tranche of CIL money.

There were no volunteers to be the new bank signatory for the Lloyds account, this will be deferred until after the election in May.

4792 **District Councillors' Reports**

LD reported that the Local Plan consultation will go live on 20 January, after a slight delay.

The new Council Strategy for 2023-2027 is also currently under consultation, and LD encouraged all to complete this on the WBC website.

4793 **Update on the Old School building and Village Hall**

BG reported that there had been a further meeting with Fair Close CEO James Wilcox, and representatives of the Parish Council, Village Hall and the allotment manager. Fair Close are considering purchasing the school building, with the help of Greenham Trust, when it is vacated in a few years' time. Sage House, advisors to Fair Close are currently waiting on advice from architects to see if the site is large enough for the dementia day care facility they wish to create. A number of possible solutions were discussed, but all are waiting until the advice is received.

LD explained that she had recently re-read the planning conditions regarding the building of the new school, and explained that after the 50th house was occupied, the developers commenced work to transfer the land to WBC, then when 100 houses are occupied WBC needs to start procuring contractors to build the school. LD estimated procurement would take 3 months, then planning permission would take a further 3 to 6 months. The minimum time it takes to build a school is 18 months. The capital budget for the build should be approved at the WBC budget setting meeting on 2 March this year. LD mentioned that there have been other expressions of interest in the old school building, including the possibility that WBC retain it for educational purposes, so councillors should keep an open mind about the future of the building. The developer contribution for the new school is tied to the timetable for the construction of the school.

4794 **Planning**

a. Applications

- 22/03072/HOUSE White Lodge, Donnington Grove, erection of detached garage. No objection, but on condition it cannot be separated from the building (P - MP, S - BG).
- 23/00005/HOUSE Jasmine, Love Lane, Conversion of storage into an office. No objection (P - PB, S - MC).

b. Decisions

- Telecommunications mast, Shaw Farm Road. Remove and replace antennae and cabinet. Permission not required.
- 22/03082/TELE28 Telecommunications mast, Western Avenue. Additional units and equipment. Permission not required.
- 22/02346/NONMAT Land at Hilltop. Reserved matters, appearance landscaping and scale. Approved.

Response to the Local Plan Consultation

PB prepared and circulated a draft response to the Local Plan prior to the meeting, and summarised the main points:

- Provision of new strategic roads to reduce congestion.
- Additional infrastructure needed in the parish.
- A policy to maintain existing flood defences and prevention of contamination of rivers.

- 4 A plan for the delivery of conservation area appraisals for the 53 conservation areas in West Berkshire.

Once the website consultation is open, PB agreed to look at how the draft response can be adapted to fit the online consultation, and bring it back to the next meeting.

4795 **Coronation Celebration 8th May**

GD to set a date for a meeting of the working group on a Monday evening.

4796 **Annual Parish Meeting 3rd May**

BG asked Councillors to come back to the next meeting with an idea for a presentation.

4797 **Annual Litter Pick**

The litter pick will be on Saturday 25 March 10am to 12.30pm.

4798 **To appoint a councillor to the Relief in Need Charity board of trustees**

MC volunteered to stand as the new Parish Council trustee (P - MP, S – PB).

4799 **Members reports and questions**

GT referred to the line in the budget about the welcome signs for the parish, and showed Councillors a photograph of the sort of signage he would like installed at the entrances to Donnington, Shaw and Long Lane. He will take photographs of the locations for the signs, to bring to a future meeting. David Willetts mentioned that EH are coming on 22 February to discuss various matters relating to Donnington Castle.

MP has reported recent bad flooding on Long Lane to WBC.

MC reported that the Thames Valley Police 'Have Your Say' meeting was held on Tuesday this week at the Village Hall, and that there is interest in volunteering for Community Speed Watch, and a resident has offered permission for the Council to use Valley View as a location.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55pm

DRAFT