

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting Held at St Michael's Church, Shirley,

Monday 9th December 2019

Attending

Councillors: Alvin Baker (Vice Chair), Tony Taylor (Chair), Hugh Tyler, Sue Walker
Also: Sian Bacon (Parish Clerk), and 5 Parishioners.

19/65 CCTV Notice

The Chair opened the meeting by reading the legal notice relating to the CCTV cameras within the Church premises, including community space, which had been installed for safeguarding purposes.

19/66 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Ian Crabtree sent his apologies (delayed in France due to the airstrikes).

19/67 Public Participation

Members of the Public commented that:

1. There were reported issues with a tree on Derby Lane causing problems with the broadband and the phone lines in the village. The tree is on land farmed by Cllr Crabtree but not owned by him. Cllr Tyler reported that he had spoken to Openreach but they would do nothing with the tree as it was the responsibility of the landowner. If the tree is removed and the line needs repair, they will repair it after the tree has been dealt with. The tree is also a danger to the road users. It was decided to write to Cllr Shirley (DDDC) and request the removal of the tree after consultation with Cllr Crabtree as to whose responsibility it is to remove the tree.
2. The drains were raised by a parishioner who reported that the drains had been done part way along Mill lane but the contractor thought that further along the road was South Derbyshire and was informed that it is Derbyshire Dales. This means that the drains have not been done properly.

19/68 Declarations of Member's Interests

Cllr Walker declared an interest in agenda item 19/73 the SS&SA grant payment as a member of the committee.

19/69 Approval of Minutes for the Meeting held Monday 9th September 2019

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th September 2019 as a true record and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

19/70 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

1. Cllr Taylor reported that the Sycamore Tree in the Churchyard requires pollarding. The Clerk reported that Cllr Baker had received a quote for £70 + VAT from Mr D Baker.

It was **RESOLVED** to engage Mr Baker to pollard the tree.

2. Cllr Tyler reported that the bulbs purchased for the verges had cost an extra £21 but that there were an extra lot of bulbs. The Clerk reported that the extra funds were reflected in the payments for authorisation at agenda item 19/73.

19/71 Ground Maintenance Tender Spec for the Church Yard for 2020

The Clerk had circulated the tender spec to the Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Tyler agreed to sit with the Clerk after the deadline of 31st January 2020 and open the tenders. It was updated to include a 3-year length of time with a yearly review.

19/72 Budget and Precept 2020/21 Approval

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the budget and precept of £6028 presented by the Clerk below for the financial year 2020/21.

Item		FY2020
Audit Fee		-£140
Clerk's expenses		-£65
Clerk's salary		-£750
DALC subscription		-£100
DDDC burial ground subvention		£974
Electricity to telephone box		-£50
Information Commissioner's Office		-£40
Insurance		-£210
Non-reclaimable burial ground maintenance (extra grass mowing)		-£200
Reclaimable burial ground maintenance (grass mowing)		-£974
Reserves – burial ground repair		£0
Reserves – election expenses		-£120
Reserves – IT equipment		£0
Reserves – telephone box maintenance		-£38
Website hosting		-£150
Rent to PCC for CS		-£3,915
	Total excluding discretionary grants	-£5,778
Grant to SS&SA		-£250.00
	Total	-£6,028

19/73 Payment Authorisations

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following payments:

- I. R H Tyler – Bulb Reimbursement - £121.19 (Retrospective)
- II. Miss S Bacon - Clerk's Wages – £190.26
- III. Shirley PCC – Community Space Rent for December & January - £641.67
- IV. Shirley PCC – Community Space Rent for February & March – £641.67

- V. General Account Transfer to the Reserves for Election and Telephone Box - £348.64
- VI. Burial Account/ Reserves Transfer to General for Bricks & Parking Sign - £35.99
- VII. SS&SA - 2019 S137 Grant - £250

19/75 Community Space Rental Agreement

Cllr Tyler updated that the council had received the rental agreement from Lucy Denith and had forwarded it to the Councillors. He reported that it had taken a while due to gathering the figures for the electricity clause. Cllr Baker noted that the electricity clause is a bit one-sided as when the cost goes up the amount charged to the Council goes up. However, this doesn't go down if the electricity bill drops. Would like to see increases and decreases on electricity. Cllr Baker also noted that the 250 hours in section 2 currently leaves only 1 hour a week after all of the other groups have used which means that there's no room for new clubs or other activities. This means that the Council will have to pay more or tell groups they can't use the space. Accordingly, this means that the Council has to have a say in the bookings taken instead of just being charged by the church for any extra bookings without discussion with the Council and the Responsible Financial Officer. It was agreed that a clause would be put in to allow this or that the number of hours be raised. The original principle was that it was accessible for everyone at no charge as the Council had already paid for it. The contract will be redrafted and looked at again including requiring new clubs being checked by the Parish Council with outside groups not included in the free hours and being charged. Another draft will be issued in January.

19/76 Parish Clerk's Report of Ongoing Matters

1. **Drains** – The Clerk reported that part of the drains had been done. It's unclear as to who is responsible between the District and County Councils. Cllr Taylor reported the last time some one was out they missed several drains. Cllr Tyler had seen one of DDDC's contractors plan with the drains marked but the contractor would not do the ones that had been missed. The contractor didn't have any reference to the drain numbers. Cllr Tyler emailed Cllr Bull (DCC) and his email was then passed to Cllr Shirley (DDDC) who then passed it back to the County Council. Cllr Baker suggested a day with a contractor to go back around the village to mark the drains out and clear them. Cllr Tyler suggested that the Councillors have a meeting with the DDDC and the DCC officers at their offices to see if the drains can be added to their maps would be more productive. It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange the meetings with the officers.
2. **Gutter Sweeping** – The gutter sweeping has been done.

3. **Verge Cutting** – Many of the problem verges are belonging to landowners according to the County Council. The Clerk had attempted to get an officer out but had had no success. It was suggested that the Councillors meet the officers to discuss this during their drain meeting. Cllr Tyler reported that Mill Lane outside of Meadow Cottage on the left had a hedge overgrowing which was a problem. The triangle of land owned by Waterloo housing was also causing the neighbours problem and overgrown. The Clerk will report these.
4. **Hollington Road** – Cllr Taylor reported that the flood signs on Hollington lane had been moved to the sides of the road by a lorry driver and caused two cars to be flooded due to deep water that had been sitting for a fortnight. The ditches and the culverts underneath were blocked and despite promises of repair from County Council Officers nothing had been done. It was noted by the Councillors that the village had several issues like this which had not been repaired. The Clerk reported this to the County Council.

19/77 Shirley Sports and Social Association Committee Update

Mr B Leeney gave the following update:

1. Newsletter

We published a Newsletter to the village ahead of launching the 100 Club.

2. 100 Club

We have launched the 100 Club and have already reached break even (where the income received completely pays for all draw prizes in the year). About 30 ticket sales with 15 or so forms still to be returned. We plan to make door-to-door calls on every resident who has hasn't bought a ticket yet, before we start selling outside the village. This will all happen in the early New Year.

3. Film Nights

A decision on whether to run film nights in 2020 has been postponed until we have a better idea how well the 100 Club is being taken up. We do not want to see a thriving business venture, which benefits villagers, die from lack of interest. Any future film nights will be run on a "Bring Your Own" refreshments basis, as this would remove the need for us to have an alcohol sale license and would remove the admin effort which revolves around the purchase, storage, sales and accounting for, alcohol.

4. Growing competition

We will hold a growing competition in the New Year. Competitors buy Giant Pumpkin seeds for £5 in March 2020, growing the seeds from April to September and then we will have a roving judge, who walks around the village to measure the girth of the pumpkins on or near the Harvest Festival weekend. Largest wins the prize (50% of entry takings).

5. Maintenance

We have undertaken a large amount of preventive maintenance on our machinery (oil and filter services etc) since we stopped mowing for the monsoon season.

6. Moles and Rabbits

We have taken professional advice on controlling rabbits and moles at the field, as they are damaging the turf. We have decided to try placing upturned plastic bottles on sticks along the pitch lines where the animal activity is greatest. Andy Keeling suggested this. It's just about the only thing we can legally do, as we do not own shooting rights; we do not hold insurance for shooting; trapping requires expert setting and trap management (and therefore costs a significant amount of money), and creosote is now completely unavailable.

19/78 Pot Holes Update

Cllr Tyler will report the Mill Lane potholes. Cllr Taylor noted that there were two on the Crescent as well.

19/79 Planning

1. Tree Works Application T/19/00188/TCA, - Fell 1 no. Leylandii (T1) and 1 no. tree of unknown species (T2) at Rushmore House Church Lane Shirley Derbyshire DE6 3AS – The Council had no objection to this application

19/80 Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Tyler reported that Jo Dale had come to the village three times since the last meeting and had come to the Coffee Shop with the Fire Prevention officer. Cllr Tyler will try to put together a meeting in February. Things have been quiet with only a couple of instances going out with volunteers responding instantly. Often a reply will not come from the Police but if the information is about a car that isn't genuine then it will be logged by the intelligence operators at Ripley.

19/81 Churchyard Maintenance

Wall Repairs Update – Future Repairs and Costs

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to John Fletcher about whether the Church had been closed and been passed to the Parish Council. It is still not clear whether the Parish council had handed the closed churchyard to the District Council in 1996 but the Clerk had asked one of the DDDC officers to have a look at their records for clarification. The Church of England had definitely closed it and would look for the certificate. It has been requested that the letter passing the closed churchyard to the Parish Council be produced. If the Church of England hadn't passed on the maintenance of the churchyard to the Parish Council then it's not the Parish Council's responsibility to repair the walls. If the Council has had it passed to them

and not passed it to the District Council then the Parish Council would be liable for the repairs. The Clerk also reported that the reimbursable expenditure may in fact mean that the churchyard is the Council's. Cllr Baker reported that a letter had been found dated from 1994 that the District Council would be giving the Parish Council a grant for the maintenance but did not specify what the maintenance was. The Clerk will attempt to clarify this with the District Council before spending £5000 or more on the walls. Cllr Taylor recommended that the Clerk look at what had happened at Muggington Parish Council as a similar situation had come up there. Cllr Tyler had spoken to the college supervisor and it was expected they would be finished by April so it would be better to have a firm answer by then so that the repairs can be continued if the Parish Council have the responsibility to repair the rest of the walls.

Purchase of Storage Box for College Equipment

It was agreed to look at the purchase of a storage box for the college repair equipment in March when it was decided whether they would be carrying on.

19/82 Dog Fouling around the Village and the Sports Field

Cllr Baker reported that a parishioner had raised the issue of dog fouling on the Sports Field and it was suggested that the council look at a widened view to encompass the whole village. The SS&SA committee were disappointed that this had not been raised with them as opposed to the council. They have put in several measures to help prevent this including bins, signs and registering for cameras and it is not felt that much more can be done. Cllr Walker suggested a flyer could be sent out. Cllr Tyler reported that people were coming from outside the village parking and taking their dogs for a walk so the culprits may not belong to the village at all. He suggested a sign on the carpark. It was reported that there were bags being found on footpaths, gates and deposited in people's gardens. Mill Lane is also regularly being deposited on with no one picking up behind their dog. Cllr Walker suggested taking photos and sending them to the District Council who will prosecute offenders.

It was **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting by 30 minutes as per standing order 3f.

Cllr Walker agreed to do another flyer for the residents and the Clerk produced some signs for distribution around the village. Cllr Baker suggested that the flyer use firm wording to get the point across to people that it is anti-social and unacceptable behaviour. Cllr Taylor requested that people report dog fouling to Cllr Walker who will speak to people and make reports to the District Council.

19/83 Data Protection

The Clerk reported that there were changes to the regulations for parish council websites starting in August 2020 and she would liaise with Mr Ellis to ensure the website was compliant. The Clerk will also issue the Councillors with data security logs for them to fill in. The data breach log will be sent to Cllr Walker to be checked at the end of the financial year.

19/84 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from the following:

1. **DALC** – One day climate emergency support programs for parish councils.
2. **DCCC** – Christmas and New Year bin collection dates for 2019

19/85 Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next ordinary meeting is Monday 2nd March 2020 in the Community Space at St. Michael's Church, Shirley at 19:30hrs

It was agreed the meeting dates for the following year will be set at the March meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.16pm