

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 16th January 2023 at 7.30 pm
In the Village Hall, Middle Street, Shepton Beauchamp TA19 OLQ

Councillors present: Cllr Nigel Wylie Carrick (Chairman) Cllr Sarah Brunt
Cllr Andrew Rowswell Cllr Angie Joy
Cllr Clare Lillywhite
Cllr David Bourn

In attendance: Stella Davies (Clerk)

Members of the public: There was one member of the public in attendance

District/County Councillors in attendance: SCC Cllr Jo Roundell Greene (arrived 7.30pm, left 7.45 pm)
SSDC Cllr Crispin Raikes (arrived 7.30pm, left 7.45pm)

SSDC Crispin Raikes reported that there was a full council meeting on Thursday. The area north meeting had been cancelled. Other than that, there was little to report in view of the Unitary council starting on 1st April.

SCC Jo Roundell Greene reported that the unitary council has had a peer review which was positive and everything was in place for 1st April. They now have a balanced budget. They still have the problem of the phosphate issue. She had received a letter from a resident concerning safety around the school which had been passed to her by Marcus Fysh. The clerk said that this issue would be put onto the agenda for the February meeting for discussion.

Open Session

The member of the public, who was part of the Events Team confirmed that the bonfire site at the Recreation Field was now clear and ready for re-seeding/turfing when weather permitted.

Ser Item

- 835. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reason given** (LGA 1972, s85(1)).
Apologies were received from Cllr Howard (away), Cllr England (unwell) & Cllr Wakely (working)
Resolved. To accept and approve the apologies given.
- 836. Declarations of interest** – Members to declare any interest, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interest they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for dispensations that accord with the Localism Act s33 (b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).
There were no declarations of interest.
- 837. To approve as a correct record the minutes/decisions of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th December 2022** (LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41(1)).
Resolved. That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 19th December be signed as correct.
- 838. 100 Club**
To review the options for the 100 club from 1st April and resolve to approve one of them (previously circulated).

A discussion took place as to how the 100 club would operate. It was thought that our draw could take place on a monthly basis on a Sunday lunchtime in the Pub, although we would still give the same amount in prizes as is given in the current 100 club. We need a minimum number of members (49) in order to adhere to the Small Society Lottery Gambling Act 2005, which states that no more than 80% of the income can be given in prizes. It was confirmed that the remaining 20% would go towards the upkeep of the Pavilion. The winning numbers would be publicised on the website and on Facebook. They could also be publicised in the village shop.

Resolved. It was agreed that we would continue with a 100 club with members paying by an annual Standing Order or if that was not possible by cheque. Any winnings should ideally be paid directly into their bank. The Clerk said she would advertise the 100 club in the April newsletter and it was suggested that posters go in the village shop as well. Cllr Joy offered to help with the promoting of the 100 club.

Action – Parish Clerk.

Note post meeting – The Clerk has since found out that other Parish Councils who run a 100 club have their draw at a council meeting as it is open to the public and so anyone can attend. The only draw that would need to take place in the Pub would be the August one, when there is no Parish Council meeting.

839. Staffing Committee

To ratify the decisions taken by the Staffing Committee:

- Parish Clerk appraisal report
- Parish Clerk salary budget proposal for FY 23/24

Resolved. The staffing committee had approved the appraisal report and the salary budget proposal for FY 23/24 and the Council ratified this decision.

840. Clerk/RFO's pay

To approve moving the Clerk/RFO to Scale Range LC2 (substantive benchmark range) from 1st April 2023, subject to a satisfactory appraisal.

Resolved. That the Clerk/RFO be moved to scale range LC2, spine point 24 from 1st April 2023. This was approved unanimously.

841. Budget for FY 23/24 and Precept

To resolve to agree the budget for the new FY and to set the precept.

Resolved. To approve the budget circulated by the RFO, with an increase on the defibrillator line to £100 to allow for purchase of pads, a reduction of £500 on the grants and an additional line for the King's coronation of £500. To set the precept at £28,500 (27p per week increase for a Band D taxpayer). This was a unanimous decision.

It was noted that this increase was necessary in order to build up the reserves that had been depleted due to the costs incurred in the felling of the Leylandii and the costs that would be incurred due to taking over the management of the Recreation Field.

842. Finance

To review the Bank Reconciliation as at 31st December 2022 (previously circulated).

To approve the schedule of payments totalling £24,785.58 (previously circulated).

Resolved. The Bank Reconciliation as at 31st December was approved and signed as correct by a non-cheque signatory. The payments were approved and cheques issued.

843. Dog Fouling

To resolve what additional action can be taken by the council in view of the amount of dog fouling in the village and whether to spend up to £80 for signs.

The Clerk reported that the Dog Warden still visits the village on a regular basis and puts notices up. Articles have previously been put in the web and on Facebook, although we do have more dogs in the village now. It was noted that some householders in the village have been putting the dog waste from their gardens into the dog waste bins and the dog warden will be asked to patrol the area concerned on a regular basis.

The Clerk had investigated the cost of an additional dog waste bin at one end of the footpath that runs from Wash Cross to Lambrook Road. The cost would be £203 plus vat and £90 to fit. She will check with SSDC that this will be emptied and if so, we could purchase one. **Action – Parish Clerk**

The Clerk is to put something on Facebook and in the Web magazine about the dog fouling issue.

Action – Parish Clerk

Resolved. That an amount of £80 be spent for small signs to be up. Cllr Bourn will let the Clerk know the size of signs to be ordered.
Action – Cllr Bourn / Parish Clerk

844. Policy reviews and re-adoption dates

To resolve to change the re-adoption dates of individual policies and TOR so they fall in line with an annual meeting of the council in May.

Resolved. That the re-adoption of policies and TOR are changed so they fall in line with the annual meeting of the council in May.

845. Allotments

To resolve that the children from the local school can make an accompanied visit to the allotments on a monthly basis to help with their horticultural studies.

Resolved. That the children be allowed to make accompanied visits to the allotments on a monthly basis. The Clerk to let the allotment holders know.
Action – Parish Clerk

846. Report from Clerk/RFO. For information only

The Clerk said that she had reported the 3 loose kerb stones outside the village shop to Highways. She has contacted SSDC about the cost of additional visits from the sweeper to clear the roads and the gullies and was awaiting a reply.

She had spoken to the new bank about moving across to them and they have suggested that we move our savings to the current account with our existing bank as it will make it easier. This will mean we will lose about a month's interest.

847. Reports. For information only

Highways

Cllr Rowsell that the pothole in Church Street had now been filled. The flooding near Branstons was mentioned and the Clerk said she had reported this to highways. A resident had emailed her about the mud debris on North Street. The Clerk said she had reported this to SSDC in early December and asked for advance notice so that cars could be moved, which did not happen as the sweeper just cleared the middle of the road. It was suggested that we ask the Ranger to clear the mud for us.

Action – Cllr Wylie Carrick

Lethbridge Recreational Ground Committee

Nothing to report.

Environment/Climate change

Nothing to report.

Ranger

Nothing to report.

Allotments

We have a new resident interested in taking an allotment.

Cowleaze

Cllr Bourn said it was very muddy in Cowleaze at the moment. Last month he had reported a problem with willow trees falling over and they have now cut down three of them.

Footpaths

The silver birch which was falling on the footpath going down to Barrington has now been cleared.

848. Annex A – Deferred items register

This was reviewed.

Meeting closed: 8.55 pm