

**Shillingford St George Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on**  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr P Barwell (Chair), Cllr P Wareham (Vice-Chair) Cllr J Taylor, Cllr J Parrott, Cllr C Dummett, Cllr G Stephens  
Cllr Kevin Lake (TDC), Maureen Adams (Clerk), five members of the public.

Prior to the start of the Parish Council Meeting, Councillors and others present were introduced to the new Neighbourhood Beat Manager for the area PC Ben Chadwick who attended with PCSO Saul Bunce. PC Chadwick expressed an interest in setting up regular PACT meetings in the village (Police and Community Together). He explained these worked best when combined with coffee mornings or other community events. The Clerk agreed to contact the organisers of the Open Door Cafe and The Exchange and will forward possible dates to PCSO Bunce. PC Chadwick and PCSO Bunce then left.

**01/11 Welcome and apologies for absence:**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.45pm, welcomed members of the public and a new Parish Councillor co-opted since the last meeting, George Stephens.

**02/11** George Stephens signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office

**03/11 Declaration of Interests/Dispensations:**

None

**04/11 Open Forum:**

A member of the public expressed an interest in Item 8.3 of the Agenda and the Chairman explained the complaint he had received.

**05/11 Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

It was agreed by Councillors that minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were a true record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

**06/11 Reports/Updates Cllr Lake and Cllr Parrot:**

**Cllr Parrott (TDC)** reported that TDC is currently looking at their budget. The Local Government Association recently reported a funding gap of 4 billion across the Country. TDC has forecast a funding gap in 2025 of 2.4m which has increased with inflation but the Council expect additional income which will balance this out. The deficit is average when compared to other authorities, various options and plans are being considered to deal with it.

Cllr Parrott reminded Councillors that he, Cllr Lake and Cllr Nuttall as the three Ward Councillors each have a Community Fund of £1000 from which they are able to make small grants for projects such as traffic signs or community events across seven parishes. Applications must be made by the end of March 2024. Cllr Connett (DCC) has a similar fund.

**Cllr Lake (TDC)** gave examples of grants from his Community Fund which have been made in other Parishes towards the cost of dog bins and engaging the services of a flood defence consultant.

**07/11 Matters Arising:**

It was agreed that the Protocol drawn up by Cllr Wareham which covered Councillors discussions of parish matters between meetings should be adopted and added to the Council's Standing Orders. This should include Planning matters that arise between meetings too, as suggested by Cllr Parrott.

08/11

**Parish Matters:**

**8.1 Parishioner's complaint re hedge cutting, road past church**

This has been completed.

**8.2 Parishioners' complaints re lack of drainage outside Shillingford House**

Cllr Wareham reported that Highways have been informed and a contractor is due to attend by 28<sup>th</sup> November. A member of the public reported they had been given a date of 13<sup>th</sup> December. The drain becomes clogged with mud being washed down the hill. Cllr Wareham said the drain in question is not adopted and is not maintained whereas the one on the other side of the road is adopted and works well. He will pursue this with Highways. Cllr Lake commented that the Environment Agency can ask landowners to make improvements.

**8.3 Parishioner's complaint re 2p added to Precept in 2017 in connection with Village Green dispute:**

Cllr Barwell will draft a letter to the Parishioner noting his comments and advising him that the Budget and accounts from 2017/18 were audited and approved.

**8.4 Shillingford Lane**

Cllr Wareham reported that he and Cllr Parrott met Cllr Connett (DCC) in connection with this matter recently. It was agreed that signs including a width warning should be placed at each end of the lane, subject to agreement with Kenn Parish. The costs could be split. Cllr Parrott will contact Kenn.

9/11

**Community Governance Review for Dunchideock:**

Cllr Lake (TDC) reported that there is now a new Council at Dunchideock and that he hopes that this will continue. It was agreed that in view of this and the fact that the matter had been discussed at a previous meeting, no further action was needed.

10/11

**Planning Application Ref 23/01825/AGR:**

A decision notice has been issued, no discussion required

11/11

**Planning Applications discussed since last meeting:**

None

12/11

**Planning Decisions:**

Ref 23/01825/AGR, noted.

13/11

**Finance Updates and Expenditure for Approval:**

13.1	<b>Quarterly Budget Updates April – June, July - September</b>	Approved
13.2	<b>Bank Reconciliation Statements April-June, July-Sept, October</b>	Approved
13.3	<b>Expenditure Summary</b>	Approved
13.4	<b>Bank balance and CIL balance</b>	Noted
13.5	<b>Budget – 2024/5</b>	

Councillors Parrott, Stephens and the Clerk will discuss the figures proposed and a final budget will be presented at the January meeting for approval.

**13.6 Clerk's Pay**

Payment for work carried out since the Clerk took on the role on 1<sup>st</sup> September was discussed and Councillors unanimously agreed that she should receive payment in full for hours worked.

Payment is usually made quarterly so September's salary will be added to the October –

December quarter. The Clerk reported that there has been a recent pay award and Councillors

approved an increase to the new hourly rate for Spine point 9 on the Local Government Pay Scale.

- 14/11 Speedwatch Proposals – Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**  
Cllr Wareham commented that the range of speed limits between Alphington and Shillingford St George is illogical and ideally it would be 30 throughout. Following the Speedwatch exercise earlier in the year it was thought that speed activated warning signs would encourage drivers to slow down. Cllr Wareham has researched them and received quotes averaging £4,500 for two. Slightly more expensive signs collect data which could be used in future campaigns eg for a 20 mph limit. The signs come with warranty but their lifespan is not specified. There was a discussion as to where the signs would be sited and also whether Shillingford Abbot would benefit from one as well as the two proposed for Shillingford St George. Cllr Lake commented that the signs would definitely have to be concreted in and that advice should be sought from Police about where they should be sited.
- Some further details are required but a decision was made in principle to use CIL money to purchase speed activated warning signs.
- 15/11 Clerk's Correspondence**  
None
- 16/11 Neighbourhood Plan**  
Cllr Parrott reported that he had received only four responses to the insert placed in the Country News and ideally a group of 10-12 volunteers would be needed to begin the process. Creation of a Neighbourhood Plan would:
1. Engage the community in creating a blueprint for the future of the Parish
  2. CIL would be increased from 15% to 25%
  3. Afford possible protection from some types of development in the future
  4. Has legal criteria
- Cllr Wareham suggested a direct approach to the different organisations within the Parish asking for two representatives from each. Cllr Parrott will pursue this and contact the four people who responded to the insert.
- 17/11 Teignbridge Local Plan**  
Cllr Parrott reported that comments are invited by 22<sup>nd</sup> December on an Addendum to the Local Plan which was compiled following analysis of comments received in response to the Local Plan. Three proposed developments affect Shillingford:
1. Markhams Farm
  2. Peamore
  3. Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANG) from Peamore to the area around Shillingford Abbot
- Cllr Parrott said that Markhams Farm remains in the plan but further work is to be undertaken regarding the impact on traffic in the area so the development has been pushed back until later in the period (ie nearer 2040). At Peamore the main change is that it has been recognised that the development needs to be further from Peamore House and it has been reduced by 50 houses. Cllr Parrott will go through, mark up and circulate the Addendum to Councillors.
- 18/11 Public Discussion:**  
A member of the public asked if there was any news regarding the application for a Landfill site at Lower Brenton. Councillors believed that the applicant was having to provide further supporting information but no update has been received on the progress of the application.
- 19/11** The Chairman thanked those attending and closed the meeting at 9.40pm
- 20/11 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date