

Minutes of the Shotley Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18th June 2015 at 7:15pm in the Large Committee Room, Shotley Village Hall.

Present: Councillors J Catling (Chairman), G Richens, T Ingram, G Pugh, N Green, S Pallant, District Cllr D Davis, seven members of the public and Mrs D Bedwell (Clerk).

1. To receive and consider apologies for absence: Apologies had been received from Cllr B Nichols and M Williams, which were duly approved. Apologies had also been received from District Cllr P Patrick and County Cllr D Woods.

2. To receive declarations of interest and consider any dispensation requests received: Declarations were received as follows:

Cllr J Catling- Non-pecuniary on item 8.1 and 7.3

Cllr G Richens – non-pecuniary on item 7.1

Cllr T Ingram- non-pecuniary on items 7.1 and 7.3

3. Suspension of standing orders: *Meeting open for 10 minutes to allow members of the public to speak:* Mr M Pridmore and a gentleman locally known as “Buster” (owner of the burger and ice cream vans sited on Bristol Hill opposite the Bristol Pub) asked the Parish Council why considerations were being made regarding a possible parking charge on the said vans. Members of the public were informed that the two vans and an additional car routinely parked on the existing parking bays free of charge and unfortunately sometimes also on the disabled bays. Some complaints had been received by the Council that when challenged, the gentleman that ran the ice cream van had been quite confrontational with a disabled driver who had been unable to park on the dedicated bay. Members of the public were informed that not only was parking on disabled bays morally wrong and illegal, it also did not appear to be fair that three spaces were used daily free of charge. The Parish Council had, in the past, resisted charging parking fees but it was now in the process of finding out if appropriate fees could be charged to businesses using the facility. “Buster” informed members that he had previously paid rates but these had stopped once the pier had changed ownership, and that he was prepared to park his own car further up the hill.

Unfortunately the Clerk had to remind some members of the public on how they were expected to behave whilst attending a Parish Council meeting, as tempers flared during these discussions. Disruptive members of the public were informed that unless their behaviour improved, they would be asked to leave the room.

The Parish Council was yet to receive further information on this matter, therefore a decision regarding possible charges would have to be postponed.

4. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 21 May 2015 and OSAC 14 May 2015: It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting held.

5. Matters to report from previous meetings and to consider any further action: The Clerk explained to members that she had changed slightly the layout of the PC meeting agenda in order to avoid repetitions of matters discussed at the OSAC meeting.

6. To receive reports:

- 6.1 District Councillor: A verbal report was received from District Cllr D Davis. One of the issues raised was the Marina's recent application for the "Removal of planning conditions 1,2,3 – Limiting use of King Edward VII Drive at Shotley Gate". The Clerk was yet to receive the relevant documentation from Babergh DC but Cllr G Richens had received a copy, which he circulated to members. Due to time constraints, rather than consider this application at the following Parish Council meeting, it was agreed that it would be considered at this point. It was resolved to recommend the refusal of this planning application. Cllr G Richens volunteered to prepare a detailed response, to be finalised by the Clerk.
- 6.2 County Councillor: A report was not available
- 6.3 Safer Neighbourhood Team /Police: A report had been circulated to members ahead of the meeting.

7. To receive reports from Committees/Working Groups and agree any actions that may be needed:

- 7.1 Open Spaces and Amenities Committee, including to note the appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman; Scattered Orchard Project update and Recommendation for new signs to be sited at the Heritage Park: A brief update was received from Cllr G Richens. Cllr G Richens had made a number of suggestions for new directional signs and informed members of his recommendations. He had also asked Realise Futures for a quote for consideration, therefore this matter was deferred to the next meeting. The new OSAC Chairman (Cllr J Catling) and Vice-Chairman (Cllr G Richens) were noted. An update on the Scattered Orchard Project was due at the following Osac meeting.
- 7.2 Shotley Gate Community Shop Committee: There were no further updates.
- 7.3 Bofors Gun Emplacement Working Group: No further updates.
- 7.4 Noticeboard Working Group: A brief report was received from Cllr B Nichols.
- 7.5 Website Working Group: Mr D Davis reported that he had recently experienced some difficulties loading updates but that the situation should be resolved soon.
- 7.6 Village Of The Year Competition Working Group: A report was received from Cllr G Pugh. Contact had been made with the majority of local organisations to ensure they were aware of the judges' visit and had an opportunity to represent themselves; The Clerk had instructed Mr A Colwill to re-paint the village sign, Highways to remove the pole leaning at the entrance to Shotley and Mr D Meacock to cut back any overgrowth, as well as Mr S Meacock to do all the grass cutting in the days prior to judging day. The Clerk also confirmed that Mr A Colwill would be welding the goal posts at Lloyd Road play area and suggested that there should be an itinerary for the judges on the day. It was agreed that the final meeting point would depend on weather conditions: the Quarter deck if dry and the Ganges Museum if wet.

8. Finance:

- 8.1 To consider funding application from The Bowls Club: It was resolved to award funding of £500 to the Bowls Club.

- 8.2 To receive and note bank balances: The account balances were as follows: Current account £2,450.00, Tracker account £456.10, Deposit account £78,306.17, therefore a grand total of £81,212.27.
- 8.3 To consider and approve any further accounts for payment: There were no further accounts for payment.
- 8.4 To consider and approve changes to the Financial Regulations and Internal Controls due to change in the way payments can be made (direct payment, Bacs and cheque): Deferred.
- 8.5 To complete and sign the new bank mandate: Deferred.
- 9. Administration:** To consider appointing a representative to attend the Police Public Liaison Meetings: It was resolved to appoint Cllrs N Green and T Ingram.
- 10. To receive and update the Clerk's Action List:** The Clerk's list was circulated ahead of the meeting and was updated.
- 11. Bristol Hill Parking-update, including:** to consider levying a charge on mobile vending outlets: An update had already been received during the public participation part of the meeting.
- 12. Planning matters:**
- 12.1 To consider response on applications received from Babergh and note any decisions made: : B/15/00367 23 Kitchener Way, Shotley Gate- erection of fencing and access gate to front garden: Members agreed that the proposed height (6ft) would restrict the visibility of the neighbouring resident at no 21 Kitchener Way and that they would be happy to recommend approval but only if the fence height was reduced to 3 ft maximum.
- 12.2 To receive and note correspondence and consider any responses required: There was no further correspondence to be considered.
- 12.3 Ganges- update: An update had already been received from District Cllr D Davis.
- 13. Reports from Councillors on matters not itemised on agenda/to be included in next agenda:** Cllr G Richens stated that once clarification was received regarding the mobile vending situation on Bristol Hill, if a levy could be charged, that would possibly make "Buster's" position more formal.
- Cllr S Pallant reported that it appeared that a resident in Kingsland was burning items in an oil drum on the footpath and that this could pose a health and safety hazard. Cllr S Pallant to send the relevant details to the Clerk so that further investigations could be made.
- Cllr N Green informed members that residents had told her that they preferred the old access to the Heritage Park (opposite Whinney Queach) rather than the new one, which was steeper. Cllr G Richens agreed that if need be, it could be re-opened to the public, but that he would carry out an initial check and report back. He suggested that a hand rail may resolve the problem.
- Cllr J Catling reported that the issue of deer culling in Shotley had been mentioned on social media. It appeared that the resident who had complained about the practise was actually feeding the animals and, therefore, treating them as pets, when they were actually considered a pest which should be regulated by local authorities. It was also noted that people should not approach them as they could

become aggressive. The number of deer being culled had dramatically decreased in the previous months, therefore this did not appear to be an issue for further consideration apart from raising public awareness of the Parish Council's responsibilities.

Date of next meeting: 9 July (OSAC) and 16 July (PC)

With no further matters to be transacted, the meeting ended at 10.15pm.

Signed : _____ Date: _____