

**Minutes of the Shotley Parish Council meeting held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 7:15pm at the Shotley Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs B Powell (Chairman), B Higgs (Vice-chairman), R Green, N Green, M Williams, Mrs D Bedwell (Parish Clerk) and three members of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Apologies had been received from Cllr B Nichols, J Catling and P Merrin.
- 2. Declarations of interest with regard to items on the agenda and additions to register:** None received.
- 3. Suspension of standing orders:** *Meeting open for 5 minutes to allow members of the public to speak: Meeting open-* There were no comments from the public.
- 4. To consider the approval of expenditure to cover necessary maintenance costs to assets / land owned by the Parish Council, including damaged gabion, tennis court fencing, bench at the Heritage Park and any further reported matters:** Mr John Blair, who had installed the new fencing at the tennis courts, was due to visit the site and assess the damage the following day with a view to providing a quote for its repair. As it was now Winter, members agreed that there was no urgency for this repair and that this could be carried out in the Spring.

A recommendation was received for the purchase of three new gabions and two rolls of wire (costings provided) in order for urgent repairs to be able to be carried out at short notice. This recommendation was approved by members.

The Stour Footpath Group had asked the Parish Council to consider increasing the current monthly budget from £50 to £80. It was felt that £50 was a reasonable amount in the case of a small emergency and that any works carried out in Parish Council owned or maintained land should be formally put forward to the Parish Council for consideration before such works and associated expenditure were duly considered.

The bench recently moved from its original site at the Heritage Park had been inspected and no further action was needed at this point.

The Clerk had reported on the recent change of provider for the OneSuffolk Parish Council website, which would be taken over on November 1<sup>st</sup> by Community Action Suffolk. There was an additional annual cost of £50, which was approved by members.

- 5. To consider methods of choice to advertise matters recently discussed by and/or approved by Council and agree any expenditure:** Deferred to the confidential section of the meeting.
- 6. To receive update on upcoming Council elections:** An update was received from the Clerk, including the date and venue, as well as the names of candidates and the cost, which was just under £3,000.

**Temporary exclusion of press and public:** *That pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission at meetings) Act 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed*

**7. Contracts and Tenders-** to receive and consider tenders received and agree any actions

(i) Litter Warden contract (Shotley Gate)

(ii) Emptying of dog/household waste bins not within reach of Babergh waste services

**8. Legal and Administrative matters-** to receive update and agree any further actions

With no further matters to be transacted, the meeting ended at 9.30pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_