

Minutes of the Shotley Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 17 August 2006 at 7.15pm in the Large Committee Room, Shotley Village Hall.

Present: Councillors R Wrinch (Chair) A Long (Vice Chair), N Bugg, B Hooper, M Matthews, J Peters, G Steel, RFO D Bedwell and Clerk L Rowlands

In attendance: County Councillor D Wood, District Councillor W Sadler and PC Garrod

1. Open forum for members of the public to speak to Councillors – None present

Standing Orders commenced at 7.30pm

2. Apologies for absence – Cllr C Sullivan (work commitments) and Cllr Connell (Holiday)

3. Declarations of interest and additions to register – None

4. District Councillor's report – None.

5. County Councillor's report – Cllr D Wood advised of the following:

5.1 That there had been cuts in respite care and he was concerned about how this would affect the vulnerable within the Parish. If SPC heard of anyone suffering because of these cuts he urged them to contact him. He felt that the profile of groups such as Headway and Age Concern needed to be raised.

5.2 Suffolk CC is considering claiming costs from the Home Office regarding the shelved police amalgamation.

6. Police Brief – PC Garrod reported the following:

6.1 Since the period beginning 1 July there had been four crimes in the area, a reduction of 14 from last year. One crime was a “domestic non-crime” and another a mobile phone stolen from an unlocked car.

6.2 There had been reports of youths gathering around Stourside, Kitchener Way and Blake Avenue and this were being looked into. Nuisance complaints had also been received from residents regarding the Ganges Wood Play Area. A task plan has been set up allied to a shift pattern of early and late hours and hopefully this will get to the bottom of these problems.

6.3 A resident concerned about the lack of police presence had been contacted and dialogue was ongoing.

6.4 The Clerk asked if he could investigate the illegal parking of cars opposite East View Terrace on the public footpath as this was causing severe obstruction to pedestrians.

7. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting dated 20 July 2006

The minutes had been distributed beforehand, a minor amendment was made and they were declared a true and accurate record and were signed as such by the Vice Chairman.

8. Ganges Development: Consider our response to Secretary of State's recent announcement

8.1 Following the Public Inquiry the Inspector who assessed the decision by Babergh Council to grant planning permission for 325 homes has recommended that the permission be overturned and the Minister for Communities and Local Government has said that she is minded to agree with his recommendation. The report said that:

- “The Environmental Statement was not sufficient to assess the environmental impact of the development.

- The location would mean that the 800+ new residents would be reliant on their cars to access jobs, services and leisure.
 - There would be a negative impact on existing residents in terms of pressure on existing services and from pollution.
 - There would be significant impact from traffic increases in the Woolverstone and Chelmondiston conservation areas.
 - The B1456 whilst able to just about cope with the increase in traffic in normal circumstances would be severely compromised during accidents and flooding on The Strand.”
- 8.2 The report concluded that the proposed development was in conflict with the policy of developing sustainable communities and that the environmental cost would too great.
- 8.3 Shotley Parish Council are calling on Babergh District Council and Suffolk County Council to lead a public debate on the future of the site to find a solution that is affordable, respects the history of the site and meets the social and economic needs of the area.
- 8.4 The Inspector’s full report and Secretary’s of State’s response had been posted on the website and been widely publicised locally.
- 8.5 We had written to Planning BDC making it clear that they should now propose how to engage the local community to find a sustainable solution for the site. Following their initial response, it was agreed to write again.
- 8.6 Plan of action:
- Cllr Peters to collate responses from the website of suggestions from members of the public regarding the future of the site
 - We will continue to consult with the community through MyShotley.com and The Noticeboard
 - Cllr Wood was asked to secure more support at county level
 - We may need further professional support - Cllr Steel to draft letters to make initial contact with some community development organisations and the Suffolk Preservation Society
 - Continue to liaise with the other Parish Councils
- 9. Marina Development: update**
- 9.1 Cllr Steel reported the publication of the minutes of Babergh’s consideration of the planning application. Building cannot commence until after October when the wading birds have left the shoreline. However, building should commence before 30 January 2007 as this is when planning permission runs out.
- 9.2 Cllr Steel suggested that the Marina should be approached regarding the future of Shotley Lodge.
- 10. Toilets on Bristol Hill: update**
- 10.1 A full response had been received from Babergh regarding the withdrawal of 2/3rds of the public toilets on Bristol Hill. This was due to low use, and no further action seems possible at this stage. Babergh explained that on refurbishment it was their policy to charge for admission in order to offset cleaning costs and act as a deterrent to vandals and other inappropriate users.
- 10.2 As the ladies and gents toilets had reverted back to Anglian Water the Clerk was asked to ascertain if the frontage was to be tidied up.
- 11. Bus shelter replacement: update**
- A chasing letter had again been sent to the insurers who had, only last month, advised that their client was not insured with them at the time of the accident and an Unsatisfied Judgment would be required. Clerk to try and progress further.

12. Play areas:

12.1. Update

A bench had been installed at the Ganges Play Area this week and the Kingsland bench would go in next week. The brambles around the tennis courts were to receive some attention before the end of August. A letter of appreciation from a parent had been received relating to the way the PC had handled the fire damage to the play area matting.

12.2. Provision of equipment for teenagers

Cllr Long felt that bearing in mind the lack of suitable equipment for teenagers to use in both play areas, it was perhaps time we installed play apparatus specifically aimed at their age group. It was decided to obtain brochures and liaise with SYCP and decide on budget, applying for grants and timetable at the next meeting.

12.3 Litter at Ganges Play Area

The Litter Warden had reported that she had collected four and a half bags of litter in one week from this area and asked if a full size litter bin could be installed close to the play area, which she would empty herself. All in favour.

13. Parish Plan Implementation Board: update

The PPIB had not met recently but will be arranging a meeting in the near future. They would of course be actively seeking to replace Neil Diplock who had sadly passed away recently.

14. Communications Strategy: Aims and Objectives – to discuss and adopt

Unfortunately due to time constraints no progress had been made, it was therefore deferred until the September meeting.

15. Shotley & Erwarnton Business and Information Directory: update

Cllr Peters reported that the Directory had been distributed to all household (with the temporary exception of Erwarnton) and thanked those involved. Copies were being made available via public places and a press release would be issued. The Clerk offered to issue to new residents arriving in the village.

16. Buses

16.1 Concerns were again raised with regard to the speed the buses were travelling through the village and that both bus companies were operating to the same timetable and this was causing problems particularly at the bottom of Bristol Hill turnaround area. It had also been reported that some local children had been asked to leave a bus, late at night in Ipswich, because the driver would not accept the other operator's tickets.

16.2 Cllr Woods, in the first instance, to speak to the parties concerned and report back at the next meeting.

17. To consider grant to Shotley Drama Group

Further information had been received from the Drama Group and it was agreed that a grant of £1250 would be awarded to enable new lighting equipment to be purchased. Cllr Wood suggested that the Drama Group contact him in order to apply for fund matching via the Locality Budget.

18. RFO's report – please see attachment 1

19. Accounts for payment to 17.8.06

19.1.	Clerk's salary – 6.7.06-5.8.06 (52 hrs) (net of £50 tax arrears)	£388.79
19.2	Clerk's expenses – paper/printer ink/computer virus protection	£137.10
19.3	RFO (31¼ hrs)+ Litter Warden (Gate - 19hrs) salaries – 6.7.06-5.8.06	£496.40
19.4	RFO and Litter Warden (Gate) expenses	£35.24
19.5	Litter Warden (Village) – 6.7.06-5.8.06 (23 hrs)	£161.00

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| 19.6 | Travel expenses for Cllr Long | £34.40 |
| 19.7 | Travel expenses for Cllr Peters | £29.38 |
| 19.8 | SCC – lighting maintenance and energy costs Apr-Sept | £417.34 |
| 19.9 | Inland Revenue – tax, NI and back tax (July) | £313.46 |
- 20 Planning matters to 13.8.06 and received subsequently**
- 20.1 Enforcement Notice – 22 Orwell View Road, Shotley, Ipswich IP9 1NP – Aerial mast – **comments received from local residents to be passed on to the Planning Inspectorate - (Against retention** - when radio communication is being used it overrides the voice facility on a nearby computer, the reception on several televisions has been affected with one resident having to purchase a booster, three have installed filters and one family thought the aerial an eyesore. **Non-committal** - most residents were non-committal and felt that if the aerial was only “up” when in use this would be acceptable and as the aerial had now been in place for a while, the early “anti” feelings had subsided. **For retention** – none.)
- 20.2 Application(s) received
B/06/01241/FHA/AT – 15 Garden Close, Shotley, Ipswich IP9 1LZ – Erection of single-storey rear and side extensions – **No Objections**
B/06/01191/FHA/RC – 6 Gate Farm Road, Shotley, IP9 1QH – Erection of first-floor side extension – **No objections**
- 20.3 Application(s) approved
B/06/00993/FHA/AT - 51 Kitchener Way, Shotley, IP9 1RN – Erection of single storey side extension
B/06/01050/FHA/AT – 1 Diamond Cottages, The Street, Shotley IP9 1LX – Retention of detached single garage
- 20.4 Tree Preservation Order – No. BT00401 – served on land at the former HMS Ganges Site, Shotley Gate, Ipswich – **information relayed to local tree warden and to be made available on MyShotley.com**
- 20.5 Revised Application(s)
B/06/01136/FHA/LJB – 10 Kitchener Way, Shotley IP9 1RW – Erection of single storey rear extensions as amended – **No objections**
- 21 Correspondence to 17.8.06**
- a. BDC – Tim Mutum (BELSP) – Detailing grants awarded to Shotley – *e-mailed summary to all 30/7/06, hard copy to GS*
- b. BELSP – Tim Mutum – Grants for Voluntary and Community Groups – new grant fund of £16K plus 3 application forms (plus media release) – *e-mailed details to all*
- c. Suffolk ACRE – invitation to AGM 2006 at Haughley, Stowmarket, Thurs 28 Sept 7pm – **RSVP BY 25 SEPTEMBER** – *No one available*
- d. Suffolk Scene – Suffolk Acre’s Bulletin No 36 Summer 2006
- e. BDC – Media Release – New scheme to reduce anti-social behaviour – a mixture of sporting, entertainment and educational summer activities sponsored by BDC
- f. BDC – Licensing Act 2003: Temporary event notice arrangements for village halls – *Copied to NB*
- g. BDC – Media Release – Summer of fun on the cards – summer activities programme for the six-week holidays across the district from Shotley to Sudbury
- h. BDC – letter re Gambling Act 2005 – statement of licensing principles: consultation document (no hard enclosed – obtain from website) – *copied to MM +NB*
- i. BDC – Letter re Environment Act 1995: Updating and screening assessment of air quality – consultation (summary enclosed - full report on-line)
- j. BDC – Letter re Parish Council Open days at Mason’s Recycling Facility, Gt Blakenham – invite for two Cllrs to attend to view how recycle is treated – *JP and MM attending on 19 Sept at 10am*
- k. Shotley Noticeboard – letter of thanks for grant
- l. BELSP – Media Release – Grants wing their way to Shotley (detailing awards)

- m. SCC – letter and reports re: Minerals Core Strategy Issues and Options Report, Minerals Specific Site Allocations Issues and Options Report (Regulation 25 stage) – consultation period ends 23 September 2006
- n. SCC – Letter re Public Rights of Way Network – our input is required to help SCC prioritise its resources on managing the ProWN – **COMMENTS BY 15 SEPTEMBER** – *Cllrs Wrinch and Hooper*
- o. Stour & Orwell Estuary Management Group – letter summarising Forum 2006 event
- p. BDC – Media Release – Government Minister challenged over fly-tipping claims
- q. Suffolk Wildlife Trust – Election of Trustees letter, events & activities leaflet, Wildlife magazine, Naturalworld magazine and Annual Review
- r. East of England Regional Assembly – letter re public consultation on single issue review of provision of Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites
- s. Home-Start Babergh – letter enclosing poster and advertisement for volunteers – *copied to MM and JP*
- t. Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service – letter enclosing Draft Integrated Risk Management Action Plan 2007/8 – Consultation – *Cllr Matthews*
- u. BCT – Funding Surgeries poster – *passed to MM and JP*
- v. ENCAMS – Letter and folder containing local environment quality – a town and parish council guide
- w. BDC – letter and leaflets re “Exciting Local Show for your Parish” – *passed to NB*
- x. SALC – e-mail re outcomes of the consultation regarding new children’s centres across Suffolk – see website for information
www.suffolk.gov.uk/EducationAndLearning/EarlyEducationAndChildcare -
forwarded to Kidzone and Shotley CP School

KEY:

SCC = Suffolk County Council	ENCAMS = Environmental Campaigns
BDC = Babergh District Council	BCT = Babergh Communities Together
SALC = Suffolk Association of Local Councils	BELSP = Babergh East Local Strategic Partnership

22 Chair’s urgent business: any other matters for immediate discussion at the discretion of the Chairman

- 22.1 The dog litter bin sited at Marsh Lane was unfortunately causing an obstruction to the farmer entering the Lane. Clerk to arrange for it to be resited.
- 22.2 The recent updating of rights of way signs by SCC was part of an on-going improvements programme of signage throughout the County.

23 Reports from Councillors on matters not itemised on agenda

- 23.1 Scaffolding had been erected on the side of a house of which some poles were grounded within the dog walking track at the Ganges Play Area. Clerk to write to resident advising that the scaffolding had been erected without first asking for our permission and that they were trespassing on our land.

24 Clerk’s report

- 24.1 Overhanging hedge on pathway between Shotley and Shotley Gate – this had been reported to SCC – awaiting outcome.
- 24.2 School crossing light (Nos. 230+1) had been reported to SCC – awaiting outcome.
- 24.3 The Summer Fun Activities programme run by Babergh over the school holidays at the School had been very well received by many children and parents alike. A letter of praise and thanks to be sent to Babergh.
- 24.4 Complaint re outward opening gates at Brooklands - the owner had contacted the Clerk to inform of the background as to why he had installed new gates at the bottom of his drive. This information was relayed to the meeting. At the time of the meeting

Clerk awaiting a reply from the SCC Highways Dept and BDC Planning Dept as to their position in this regard.

25 Date of next meeting: 21 September 7.15pm

Meeting ended at 10.15pm

Public and Press are now excluded due to confidential nature of the following item(s)

26 To approve contracts for:

26.1 Clerk

Cllr Steel outlined the small differences between the standard SALC contract and that agreed between the Employment Committee and the Clerk. It was agreed by all to approve the contract and it was duly signed by the Chair and Clerk.

26.2 Responsible Financial Officer

Cllr Steel outlined the small differences between the standard SALC contract and that agreed between the Employment Committee and the RFO Officer. It was agreed by all to approve the contract and it was duly signed by the Chair and the RFO.