

Minutes of a meeting of the Shotley Parish Council Open Spaces and Amenities Committee on April 10th 2014 at 7pm in the large committee room at Shotley Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs J Catling, G Richens , T Ingram, B Nichols, I Peters and Co-opted members R Cushing, D Potts and B Powell. Clerk: Mrs D Bedwell.

Also in attendance: Cllr N Bugg.

- 1. To receive apologies for absence:** Apologies had been received from Cllr R Wrinch, G Pugh and M Williams. Cllr N Bugg gave his advance apologies for the next PC meeting.
- 2. To receive and consider declarations of interest and requests for dispensation:** No declarations of interest had been received.
- 3. Open forum for members of the public to speak on items appearing on the agenda:** No public in attendance.
- 4. Matters to report from previous meetings (items not appearing on this agenda):** No update had been received on the proposed soap box race. The Clerk had been unable to established contact with Mr Scott Bailey with regards to the permission being sought by the Parish Council to cull the increasing population of Muntjack deer. **Clerk to continue chasing.**
The Clerk was asked to make further enquiries with Mr S Bailey with regards to the possibility of making available a section of land on the Ganges site for use by the local football teams (to be used for a variety of other sports).
- 5. To receive updates/reports and to agree any actions (if appropriate) in response to information received on:**
 - 5.1 Stour Footpath Group**
 - 5.1.1 Sea defences :** A verbal report was received from Cllr G Richens: Phases 1 and 2- Cllr G Richens to prepare full report for next meeting; there was no imminent risk following the recent landslide on the Cliff but the pathway behind the gabions would need to be repaired; Phase 3- construction licence- The Parish Council would have to apply for planning permission and The PC had already agreed that Cllr G Richens could start completing the relevant forms for the application process; Group still waiting for the Profile Report from Hawes Associates; Cllr G Richens to call a meeting of all the statutory bodies as the existing licence was only valid for three years; It was hoped that most of the funding would originate from DEFRA but the PC would need to decide on who would manage the project (PC or Suffolk County Council); In order to make the project more manageable, the PC may consider dividing it into two-3A would be up to the start of the sheet piles and 3B would be to the end of the gabions.
 - 5.1.2 Picnic area:** Cllr G Richens had contacted Mr Martin Williams (SCC Rights of Way) and it was unlikely that any further work would be carried out by them.
 - 5.1.3 Heritage Park:** The cliff landslide had happened in two stages and this had resulted in around 50 tonnes of soil needing to be moved back up. Community Payback had helped as much as was physically possible. The Group were in the process of getting

quotes for operatives and a digger to carry out the rest of the work, which was expected to take place by May 22, as tides would be on at an optimum time for working during the day time.

There was a possibility that a small four wheeled motorised dumper could be purchased from funds raised locally within the community, providing the Parish Council funded an extra £200 and some further funding was available from Locality Budget. **Proposal to be put forward at the next PC meeting.**

RSPB public information Board- layout had now been agreed and board was due to go into production with Realise Futures.

New steps (access from footpath to cliff)- Impact Landscapes had confirmed they would be able to start work early May. Realise Futures had been asked for a quote for two /three round benches and one bin for the learning area.

5.2 Bristol Hill Public Conveniences: The toilets continued to be well used. There were no further matters to report.

5.3 Allotments: A report was received from Mr B Powell and the Clerk.

5.4 Play Areas: It was reported that dog fouling at the Kingsland play area was on the increase and that dog owners had been very abusive to residents who had raised this anti-social behaviour. Clerk asked that if Councillors received any reports of dog fouling, to encourage witnesses to report it to either herself or Babergh (in confidence). Dog owners who did not clear after their pets could be fined up to £1000 and the Parish Council had been successful in enforcing this in the past. **Notices to be put on the website and Noticeboard.**

5.5 Litter Warden(s): There were still a small number of bins not being emptied but it was hoped this matter would be resolved soon with the review of the existing contract with Babergh DC.

5.6 Emergency Plan: No matters to report.

5.7 Community Use Project: No matters to report.

6. Reports on matters not itemised on agenda/to be included in next agenda:

Cllr N Bugg requested further copies of the Explorer Guide- **to be delivered by Cllr T Ingram.**

Ms Deborah Bishop had reported that dog fouling had increased of late. **Clerk was asked to prepare notices which explained the process of fining offenders and for these notices to be placed in prominent places in the village, the noticeboard, the In Touch magazine and the website.**

Cllr T Ingram reported that a large plank of wood had fallen off the Shotley Pier. **Clerk to report to Mr Ian Newman.**

It appeared that there were currently three ice cream vans at the bottom of Bristol Hill and relationships between the different proprietors were not always amicable. One of the vans was parking on the disabled bay and another was leaking oil onto the highway. It appeared SCC Highways could not deal with the problem because the road had not been adopted. **Clerk was asked to make enquiries with Mr Ian Newman as to whether "Buster" would be having a kiosk on the Pier.**

Cllr J Catling reported the recent increase in Councillors e-mail accounts being hacked into and suggested raising the awareness about such scams on the website and Noticeboard.

Cllr T Ingram reported that there had been a marked increase in the number of acts of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the village recently. PC Debbie Tyrrel had been contacted and had visited Shotley in order to see the damage caused. She had assured Cllr T Ingram that the person suspected of carrying out such acts would be approached by the police. PC D Tyrrel also added that she had been trying to resurrect "operation Selina", which had been very successful previously. The emphasis was on encouraging and getting residents to report any crimes so that a picture could be built as to where and when these crimes were being committed and who the culprits are.

Clerk was asked to send another letter to the Police Commissioner in support of what PC D Tyrrel is trying to achieve in Shotley, summarising the issues raised at the meeting and reported by Cllr T Ingram.

Cllr G Richens reported that SCC did not appear to be cutting the grass at Stourside. If this was not to be carried out by SCC in future, Clerk to instruct Mr Meacock to include it on his grass cutting contract.

Date of next OSAC meeting:

08 May 2014

With no further matters to be transacted, the meeting ended at 9:05pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____