

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting  
Held Thursday 25 February 2016  
7pm – Shevington Library**

**Present:** Councillor I Whiteley (*Chair*), Cllrs W McKnight, C Horridge, J Ball, C Miles, J Fletcher, A Bland, K Shaw and J Calderbank.  
Nine members of the public.

**Officer in Attendance:** Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

**217 Apologies for Absence**

Dist Cllrs M Crosby and D Edwardson.

**218 Declaration of Interests**

None.

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

**219 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public**

The Council engaged with members of the public in relation to the following:

- Loss of rail services to Piccadilly and Manchester Airport

*Cllr A Bland joined the meeting.*

- Shevington in Bloom
- Vandalism
- Parking on grass verges

*See Appendix A.*

The subject of rail services to Piccadilly and Manchester Airport was referred to the General Purposes Committee for further consideration.

*Standing Orders were re-instated.*

**220 Map of the Parish**

A suggestion from a member of the public that a map of the parish showing the areas covered by the three wards should appear next to members' contact details in the newsletter and on the website was discussed. The matter was delegated to the General Purposes Committee for further consideration.

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

## **221 District Councillors' Reports**

The Clerk read out the Dist Cllrs report, which was received. *See Appendix B.*

The assertion that the volume of anti-social behaviour had reduced was queried. Groups of the young people had been seen in the centre of Shevington village on the previous Wednesday and Sunday evenings. They were there on most Friday nights. CCTV had now been re-instated outside the Plough & Harrow pub, making it easier to evidence the ant-social behaviour.

*Standing Orders were re-instated.*

## **222 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (21 January 2016)**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 21 January 2016, were approved as a true and correct record.

## **223 Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Council (4 February 2016)**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 4 February 2016, were approved as a true and correct record.

## **224 Chairperson's Report**

The Chairperson reported that she had heard that funding to provide assistance to people who had been affected by the Winter flooding was available from Wigan Council. This needed to be drawn to victims' attention.

## **225 Reports from Councillors**

### **Abuse by Young People**

A member reported that people were writing on Streetlife that some young people had been abusing a couple of people who had special needs.

### **Road Closure in Appley Lane**

Residents of the stretch of Appley Lane running from Skull House Lane to UpHolland had received letters from LCC informing them that the road would be closed for a period of three weeks while it was under repair. The impact this would have on the centre of Shevington as well as on access to Appley Bridge Station raised concerns.

### **Daffodils in Miles Lane, Shevington Vale**

A resident had expressed concern that daffodils growing in the grass verges in Miles Lane and in the cul-de-sac at the top of Broadriding Road were being cut too soon and, consequently, they were coming out blind the following year. The local resident had written to the LA about this, but had not received a reply. The Clerk would write on behalf of the Parish Council to remind the LA about the importance of cutting daffodils at the right time.

### **Bench Missing from Memorial Park**

In reply to a question from a member about progress with the replacement bench, the Clerk reported that it was currently being considered by the Council's insurers.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

A member reported that the staff of shops in Shevington were concerned about the anti-social behaviour in the village centre. Staff were often being intimidated as they closed up.

### **Parking on Footpaths and Dog Fouling**

Residents of Shevington Vale were experiencing issues with people parking cars on pavements and dog fouling.

## **226 Reports from Representatives**

### **Shevington & District Community Association**

The AGM had taken place earlier during the week. With one exception, the same officers had been re-elected. The one exception was the Vice Chair, who was now Elaine Ellams.

### **Crooke Village Residents' Association**

A history trail, using QRs, was being set up for the village. The issues caused by the Winter flooding were still there and were still acute.

### **Shevington Youth Club**

The Junior Club continued to thrive, having 10 to 12 members. At one time the Youth Club employed five or six youth workers and benefitted from the help of a similar number of volunteers. That was no longer the case. However, Susan Kielb had been flooded out of the premises she normally uses in Appley Bridge and was currently holding dancing classes in the Youth Club, creating an additional income stream for the Club.

### **Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees**

There was no report.

### **'In Bloom' Groups**

All of Wigan's 'In Bloom' groups were involved in the 'Clean for the Queen' initiative. The litter picking was being co-ordinated locally by Dist Cllr M Crosby and would be taking place from 10 am on Saturday, 5 March.

### **Shevington Surgery Patient Participation Group**

Shevington Surgery PPG had at their recent meeting decided that over the next year they would focus on Diabetes Awareness.

### **Shevington Rugby & Football Clubs**

There was no report.

### **Friends of Otters Croft & Crooke Woods**

A few trees in the woodland had been blown over during the Winter storms, but the wildlife was doing well. No issues had been reported and nothing had been spotted on the camera traps, which were still in place.

## **227 DRAFT Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting (4 February 2016)**

The DRAFT Minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held on 4 February were received.

## 228 Parish Plan Questionnaire

The suggested format of the questionnaire was discussed.

**Resolved:** The Council agreed that the front page of the four-page questionnaire would carry information about the Parish Plan of 2006 and the review document, why a review was carried out and where both documents could be accessed. The inner page would carry open questions, asking residents to comment on each of the sections covered by the review and to suggest next steps. On the back page residents would be asked to tell the Council about anything else that they would like the Council to do and, via a tick box, whether their comments could be published. The back page would also carry instructions on where residents should send their replies.

## 229 Addition to Standing Order 69

Following the adoption at the Policy Committee meeting of a 'Protocol Concerning the Recording of Public Meetings' the following statement was proposed for inclusion in Standing Order 69 after the first paragraph:

*'The Proper Officer (Clerk/RFO) is already responsible for keeping records of decisions and ensuring public access to information, and will be responsible for administering the recording of meetings in line with the Council's Protocol Concerning the Recording of Public Meetings.'*

The matter was adjourned, as per Standing Order 78, until the Council meeting in March.

## 230 March Newsletter

The contents of the March newsletter were discussed.

**Resolved:** The following were agreed for inclusion in the March newsletter:

- Parbold, Newburgh & District U3A speakers;
- Stroke Awareness Day (Rotary Club event);
- Forest Fold Bowling Green – start of season;
- PC Budget 2016/17;
- Women's World Day of Prayer;
- Local Flooding;
- 'In Bloom' 2016;
- Phoning 101;
- Proposed Withdrawal of Rail Services to Piccadilly & Manchester Airport;
- Dog Fouling and Parking on Grass Verges Issues.

## 231 NALC/LALC/LCTP

Information about courses currently on offer from the Lancashire & Merseyside County Training Partnership was received.

The invoice for the 2016/17 annual subscription for membership of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils and the National Association of Local Councils had also been received. This was due by 1 July.

A motion to defer payment until the due date fell.

**Resolved:** The membership subscriptions for 2016/17 would be settled this month.

A councillor requested a recorded vote.

FOR: Cllrs J Ball, C Horridge, W McKnight, C Miles and I Whiteley

AGAINST: Cllrs K Shaw, J Calderbank, J Fletcher and A Bland

Membership of NALC and LALC would be an agenda item - for discussion and agreement – at the Council meeting in March.

### **232 Memorial Park Play Area SLA**

The Memorial Park Play Area SLA with Wigan Council's Greenspace Services was received and discussed. The service provided through the SLA would continue to be free of charge.

**Resolved:** The Memorial Park Play Area SLA was approved.

### **233 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report was received. *See Appendix C.*

The contents of the car abandoned in the bowling green car park and the timing of its removal were discussed.

### **234 Financial Aid Applications**

None.

### **235 Payments, Income & Bank Balances**

The Income / Expenditure Schedules for January and February 2016 were received. *See Appendix D.*

**Resolved:** That the Accounts be approved and the cheques signed in payment, due notice being given to the bank statements exhibited.

### **236 Virements**

**Resolved:** Virements of £1,657 from the 'Planning, Legal, etc Fees Reserve' to the active cost centre of the same name and of £1,003 from the 'Contingency' cost centre to the 'Planning, Legal, etc Fees' cost centre to cover the cost of solicitor's fees for work on leases so far were approved.

### **237 Planning Applications**

None.

**238 Next Meetings:** 3 March (General Purposes & Finance Committees);  
17 March (Annual Parish Meeting); 31 March (Council)

## **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

**Resolved:** That, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

*The members of the public left the meeting.*

### **239 Vicarage Lane Fields Lease - Allotments**

This item was deferred.

### **240 Vicarage Lane Fields Leases – Shevington ARLFC & Shevington FC**

**Resolved:** The Council agreed that the lease for the third pitch, which was to have been held jointly by Shevington ARLFC & Shevington FC, would be held by Shevington FC, with Shevington ARLFC having a licence to use it.

### **241 Litter Collection Contract**

**Resolved:** The contract for emptying the Parish Council's litter bins and litter collection in Shevington Memorial Park and the car park in Gathurst Lane – to the value of £6,560.32 - was awarded to Wigan Council's Greenspace Services.

### **242 Caretaking Duties**

Strategies in relation to re-advertising the post were discussed.

**Resolved:** The Caretaker's post would be re-advertised in the March edition of the newsletter, on the website, on Facebook and Twitter (both via the Community Association), in local shops and on the notice boards. In the meantime, arrangements would be made for the contract cleaner to resume her duties on the Forest Fold site and a leaflet inviting applications for the job of opening and closing the bowling green should be put through the letter boxes of nearby properties.

There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the Meeting at 9 pm.

**Chairman**