

**Minutes of the Shevington Parish Council
Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting
Held Wednesday, 2 March 2022
7pm - The Community Centre at Vicarage Lane Fields**

Present: Councillor William McKnight (Chairman), Councillors Christopher Horridge, Jessica Higham and Michael Grimes
Co-opted Committee Members: Mr Charlie Neve, Mrs Eileen Longmore and Mr David Crook
One member of the public

In Attendance: Mrs Krystyna Pilkington (Clerk to the Council)

1. Apologies

Cllrs John Ball, Mike Crosby, Ira Whiteley and John Whiteley
Dist Cllr Janet Brown and Mr Brian Lomas

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Village Issues

None

**4. Minutes of the Last Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting
(2 February 2022)**

Resolved: The Minutes of the Policy & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 2 February 2022 were approved as a true and correct record.

5. March Newsletter

The text for the March edition of the newsletter had been previously circulated. It was discussed.

Resolved: The text and contents of the March edition of the newsletter was approved. Information about the Dementia Carers' Support Group would be included. To accommodate it the article about the Clean Air Zone would be shortened.

6. Temporary Arrangements for Newsletter Deliveries

One of the jobs done by Employee No.2 was to deliver the newsletters to homes which were not covered by Local Life. Temporary arrangements for their delivery were discussed. Delivery of the March edition was due to begin on 23 March.

Resolved: The Committee agreed that the March edition would be delivered by the following:

Crooke Village – Mr Charlie Neve

Hérons Wharf – Mrs Eileen Longmore

Gathurst Lane & Shevington Centre – Cllr Jessica Higham's relative

Back Lane – Cllr Mike Grimes (if available) or the Clerk

Randall Avenue & St Anne's Drive – Mr David Crook

Shevington Moor & Farmhouses – the Clerk

Inward Drive, Dixon Avenue, Dixon Drive & Highfield Avenue – the Parish Caretaker

7. Upgrading Whiteacre Park

It had been agreed by this Committee at its meeting in February that the Parish Council would not be entering Memorial Park in the RHS Northwest in Bloom competition. As a result a saving of £960 would be made in relation to additional grounds maintenance costs relating to the entry. A suggestion was put forward that the savings made could be used in some way to upgrade Whiteacre Park. This was discussed.

As there was no representative of Shevington Moor present at the meeting, the item was deferred until such time as representatives of all areas could be present.

Standing Orders were suspended.

8. Platinum Jubilee Garden

At a recent meeting of Shevington & District Community Association there was much discussion about the Queens Platinum Jubilee and the Green Canopy - the "Plant a tree for the jubilee" initiative. The Chairman welcomed Mrs Elaine Ellams, the Chair of the CA, who spoke to the Committee about the possibility of developing a Platinum Jubilee Garden somewhere in Shevington.

As it had become an area that was central to our community, Vicarage Lane Fields had been put forward as one possible location. The suggestion was that perhaps a small quiet area with room for about 3 benches and some trees where anyone could visit could be set aside. The area would need to be flagged.

The suggestion and its possible location at Vicarage Lane Fields were discussed. The Committee thought the idea of a Platinum Jubilee Garden was a good one in principle and there were areas of the Fields that were available. The drawback was that those areas had poor drainage which would need to be addressed in the first instance.

The Committee shared the Parish Council's plans for the Platinum Jubilee – which had been agreed the previous week - with Mrs Ellams.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Ellams for her presentation.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

9. Trees Along the Boundary with St Bernadette's School

Several issues being posed by some of the trees along the boundary of St Bernadette's School with Memorial Park were brought to the Committee's attention. The school's Site Manager had provided photographic evidence of the damage being caused by the trees to the school's boundary fencing. Some of the trees were also being used by youths to gain access to school grounds. The school had been advised by Consultants that because of this, even if the school were to make the fence higher, intruders would not be deterred.

The Committee considered a request from the school that the Council should either remove or prune the trees in question. The Committee were advised that the trees in the park were all covered by a TPO.

The Clerk was asked to write to the school to explain that the Council were not willing to remove any of the trees, as this would lead to the loss of a valuable amenity. The trees had been planted along the boundary many years ago at the request of the school before the introduction of the security fencing. The Committee were of the view that indentations should have been made in the fencing at the time of its installation to allow for the future growth of the trees and they asked the Clerk to suggest the introduction of such indentations as a remedy.

10. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to consider.

11. Dates of Next Meetings

16 March (Annual Parish Meeting); 30 March (Council);
6 April (Policy & General Purposes Committee)

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8:11 pm.

Chairman