

## SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

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### **Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday, 8 December 2008 at 7.36 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. L. Cohen (in the Chair)  
Mr. S. Davis, Mr. J. Raven, Miss L. Sargent

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

*Councillors were reminded to disclose personal and prejudicial interests on matters to be considered at this Meeting.*

Mr. Raven signed the declaration of acceptance of Office and was welcomed as a Parish Councillor.

#### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. M. Miles, Mr. J. Sheldrick and Borough Councillor Mrs. S. Murray.

#### 2. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 November 2008, previously circulated, was approved and signed.

#### 3. **MATTERS ARISING**

##### 3.1 Village sign (Minute 3.1 - November 2008 Meeting)

Mrs. Cohen was very pleased with the village sign, which had been completed. Members noted that the lease had been completed, however, planning permission was still awaited from Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council (TMBC).

##### 3.2 Interactive speed sign near The Chaser (Minute 3.2 – November 2008 Meeting)

Kent Highway Services had advised that the work would commence the week beginning 8 December 2008.

##### 3.3 “Green space” outside Wightwicks Row (Minute 3.3 – November 2008 Meeting)

Mrs. Cohen, briefly outlining the history, noted that local walkers had used this green space for the past 50 years. This was confirmed by Miss Sargent. Miss Sargent and Mrs. Cohen were of the opinion that local residents who lived in the row of houses adjacent to the green space, had been maintaining much of this space on behalf of the parish for the past 50 years. *It was agreed that the Parish Council should apply to adopt this piece of land and the Clerk was asked to liaise with Miss Sargent to complete the relevant paperwork. Payment of £80 to the Land Registry was agreed.*

##### 3.4 Churchyard Maintenance (Minute 3.4 – November 2008 Meeting)

Miss Sargent and the Clerk would meet the Contractor to discuss recent problems.

##### 3.5 Removal of BT Phone Boxes (Minute 3.5 November 2008 Meeting)

Members noted a letter dated 1 December from BT, advising that the Parish Council had been successful in applying for the adoption of the kiosk in Shipbourne. The final transfer of ownership was expected to be completed soon.

##### 3.6 Provision of Parish Council storage space in Village Hall (Minute 3.6 – November 2008 Meeting)

The work would be carried out during the December school holidays.

4. **REPORTS FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

No reports were received.

5. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & PRESS**

There were no questions from Members of the Public or Press.

6. **CASUAL VACANCY – PARISH COUNCILLOR**

The vacancy had been advertised in the Newsletter and residents had been invited to contact the Clerk in writing before 22 December 2008.

7. **KENT COUNTY COUNCIL PERMIT SCHEME**

Members noted an email dated 14 November (previously circulated) from Kent County Council, inviting the Parish Council to comment on the consultation document 'Kent County Council Permit Scheme.' *The Clerk was asked to obtain further information regarding the Scheme.*

8. **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

The Clerk advised that the Information Commissioner's Office had produced a new model publication scheme, which had to be adopted by all public sector organisations from 1 January 2009. This short time constraint was considered unacceptable. *It was agreed to defer the adoption of the new scheme to the next Parish Council Meeting in order for Members to study the contents of the new scheme. The relevant paperwork would be circulated to Members prior to the next Parish Council Meeting.*

9. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

9.1 TM/08/03505/RD – Puttenden Manor, Puttenden Road, Shipbourne

Proposal: Details of tree works pursuant to condition 7 of planning permission TM/07/03880/FL (Use (part retrospective of land and buildings for the training of horses, and the construction of an alternative means of access from Puttenden Road, and the erection of 3 x timber stables and feed store for keeping horses ancillary to the domestic use of Puttenden Manor).

*RESOLVED: That the following representation be sent:  
Recommend APPROVAL.*

9.2 TM/08/0346/FL – Brownfield, Upper Green Road, Shipbourne

Proposal: Replace detached two storey dwelling with attached garage.

*RESOLVED: That the following representation be sent:  
Recommend REFUSAL for the following reasons:-*

- a) *The height and mass of the proposed building is unacceptable. The height will have a significant impact on the countryside. The building should be subservient to the Village Hall.*
- b) *Being in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and a Conservation Area,, the proposed size, height and mass of the building will have a detrimental affect on the character of the surrounding properties in that area.*
- c) *The character of the proposed development is out of keeping with the street scene.*
- d) *The Parish Council would like to be reassured that the historic Oast House will remain.*
- e) *If TMBC is of a mind to approve this application, the Parish Council asks that bricks and tiles should be carefully considered and assessed – refer to Shipbourne Design Statement (Page 28 – Guidelines for development).*

10. **TMBC – PARTNERSHIP FUNDING**

A letter dated 27 November from TMBC Chief Executive advising that TMBC could not afford to continue to make special works project grants due to crises, was noted.

11. **REQUEST FOR DONATION – SAMARITANS**

The Council was asked to consider making a financial contribution to the 'Samaritans', situated in Tunbridge Wells, who provides confidential emotional support to people experiencing feelings of distress and despair.

*RESOLVED: To reject the request for a donation.*

12. **REQUEST FOR DONATION OF £75 TO THE TRY ANGLE AWARDS 2009**  
A request dated 27 November 2008 from TMBC's Leisure Services Manager to consider making a financial donation to the Try Angle Awards 2009 was considered. This scheme rewards young people (aged 11 – 18 years) in recognition of a variety of categories, including bravery, volunteering and service to the Community.  
*RESOLVED: To reject the request for a donation.*
13. **OPEN SPACES SOCIETY – ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION**  
Members considered renewing the annual subscription of £30.  
*RESOLVED: To approve payment of the annual subscription of £30 for 2009.*
14. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**  
Payments in respect of cheque numbers 100338 to 100341 was approved and receipt in respect of Grant from TMBC of £2,448 was noted.
15. **OFFICER REPORTS**
- 15.1 Report from Chairman  
Mrs. Cohen noted an email from Mr. Galbraith, advising that the website had received 62,000 page visits since the launch in late 2006.  
  
Mrs. Cohen read an email from PC Tony Wiles, asking whether the Parish Council preferred police attendance at every Parish Council meeting, or whether Parish Councillors were satisfied with the current level of contact. Members recorded their appreciation for the outstanding support from PC Wiles and it Members thought that the current level of contact was sufficient.
- 15.2 Report from Councillors  
Miss Sargent had noticed some activity at Cob Acres.
16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
19 January 2009.

The Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.