

SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON
MONDAY 12TH MARCH 2007 AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Mr Martin Miles (Chairman), Mr Mark Beadle, Mrs Libby Cohen, Miss Lynette Sargent, Mr James Sheldrick, Mr Curtis Galbraith (Clerk)

In Attendance: Councillor Mr David Evans (TMBC)

1. Apologies for Absence

Mr Nicholas Giles and Mrs Rachel Simpson. TMBC Cllrs Sue Murray and Joan Harrison

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The draft minutes of February were agreed by the council and signed by the Chairman.

3. Borough & County Councillors Reports

Councillor Evans advised that it would be prudent to discuss the proposed surfacing of the lay-by with TMBC Planning before any hard and fast plans were made. The Clerk will contact Neil Hewitt. A decision from TMBC on grant funding is expected shortly.

No one had turned up to the recent 'surgery' held by the three borough councillors at the Village Hall. Cllr Evans said he presumed that the residents therefore had 'no issues'.

He confirmed that, following the recent Highways Board meeting, the 50mph speed regime entering the village would be implemented at the same time as the 40mph limit.

He also advised that due to resurfacing works in Borough Green (and the forthcoming construction of three pedestrian crossings there) HGV diversions would impact upon Shipbourne. In the near future, the Sunday mornings of the 25/3 and the 1/4 would be affected. There would be no alternative to this diversionary route until (and if) the Borough Green By-Pass was built.

4. Questions from the Public

None

5. Matters Arising

None

6. Finance

The Clerk handed out copies of the monthly financial statement. The bank balances at 1st March were c/a £ 152.11, d/a £ 12039.75. It was agreed to make three payments:
1. Gary Davies (website maintenance) £ 105.00 (100696) 2. KAPC (annual subscription) £ 210.90 (100275) 3. Poppy Appeal (2006 wreath) £ 30.00 (100697).

£ 208.00 has been received from a further four website advertisements.

7. Roads / A227

The severe potholes on Hildenborough Road have been reported to Kent Highways by the Clerk. Cllr Sheldrick said he had reported the blocked culvert by Budds Shaw on Hildenborough Road. He had rodded it to alleviate the flooding on the road but the culvert still needed clearing properly.

The Clerk said that the 50/40/50 scheme was under way. Details for public information had just been received from Kent Highways. These have been posted to the village website and will be copied to the Newsletter. Simon Allsopp, the KCC Design Engineer at KH, will be asked why some of the sign posts are so tall.

Cllr Cohen will check whether the missing Puttenden Road nameplate at the junction of Claygate Lane has been replaced.

8. Commons

The Chairman will progress The Estate for a response regarding the proposed meeting re parking issues.

With regard to the condition of the unsurfaced area of the lay-by an email has been copied to the council. The email from Mr Bob Taylor and a representative of the PCC suggested that volunteer labour along with local mechanical help could be used to surface the lay-by. If a simpler surface than tarmac was chosen – perhaps a ‘type 1’ or ‘type 2’ aggregate it would be possible for the volunteer labour to lay it at the cost of materials only. The parish council thought that this simpler surface may look better than tarmac and it was agreed (as in 3.1) to discuss the matter with TMBC. The Clerk will also reply to Mr Taylor to advise him of the need for a planning discussion and also to open some constructive dialogue.

Cllr. Sheldrick declared a personal interest in these items by connection of employment.

9. Planning – decisions, applications, enforcement and other issues

a) Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council decisions:

1. TM/06/03758/FL Alverstone, 2 New Cottages, Upper Green Road, TN11 9PN
Proposal: *Provision of 2 dormers to first floor rear elevation and general alterations.*
TMBC Decision: Permission Granted subject to conditions

2. TM/06/03299/FL Wagoners, Back Lane Shipbourne, TN11 9PP
Proposal: *Use of barn and land as a training and residential establishment for the training of tree surgeons, including accommodation, ancillary offices and storage of equipment*
TMBC Decision: Permission Granted subject to conditions – *The conditions of the permission are complex and were read out by the Clerk. It was agreed that copies should be made available to those residents who had complained about the site. Members also agreed that TMBC had done a good job in its handling of this application and the result. The Clerk will write to express the appreciation of the council.*

b) Planning Applications:

In order of receipt. Declarations of interest as individually noted.

1. TM/06/040450/FL Fairhill, Riding Lane Hildenborough, TN11 9QL
 Proposal: *Extension, garage with flat over and internal alterations: - (additional supporting information and block plan submitted).*
 View: *"No Comment – Shipbourne Parish Council has nothing to add to its original view"*
2. TM/06/040451/LB Fairhill, Riding Lane Hildenborough, TN11 9QL
 Proposal: *Listed Building Application: Extension, garage with flat over and internal alterations - (additional supporting information and block plan submitted).*
 View: *"No Comment – Shipbourne Parish Council has nothing to add to its original view"*
3. TM/07/00485/TNCA Larches, Upper Green Road, Shipbourne, TN11 9PN
 Proposal: *Remove overhanging branches and reduce height by 30% of 1no cherry tree and remove secondary trunk of 1 no yew tree and reduce by 30%*
 View: *"No objection"*
4. TM/06/040450/FL Fairhill, Riding Lane Hildenborough, TN11 9QL
 Proposal: *Extension, garage with flat over and internal alterations: - (additional information regarding original dwelling).*
 View: *"No Comment – Shipbourne Parish Council has nothing to add to its original view"*
5. TM/06/040451/LB Fairhill, Riding Lane Hildenborough, TN11 9QL
 Proposal: *Listed Building Application: Extension, garage with flat over and internal alterations: - (additional information regarding original dwelling).*
 View: *"No Comment – Shipbourne Parish Council has nothing to add to its original view"*

c) Enforcement and other planning issues:

1. Wagoners, Back Lane: The council awaits confirmation from the owner of the date that the asbestos barn will be demolished.
2. Puttenden Manor, Puttenden Road: The response to the Planning Inspectorate confirming the council's support for TMBC's enforcement action was agreed. A copy of the council's original views objecting to a commercial change of use will accompany the letter.
3. The Meadows, Hildenborough Road. The owners' appeal against TMBC's refusal to grant planning permission has been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate. In response to residents' requests, the parish council will ask TMBC to deal with the removal of the plywood boarding and ensure that all conditions of the original permission are met.

10. Rights of Way

The Rights of Way Group recently held its annual meeting and the minutes have been circulated to the council. Alan Bristow has written to Lucy Breeze the KCC RoW Officer, outlining a number of points regarding the new fingerposts. Members supported the views expressed. Cllr Miles declared an interest in that a right of way mentioned in RoW Group correspondence crossed land owned by him.

11. Village Hall

None

12. Correspondence (not circulated or dealt with elsewhere)

The Clerk has written to Mr Ron Williams asking him to clarify the use required in access to his field.

13. Any Other Business

Discussions on the imminent end of this council's four year term and the approaching May election resulted in the understanding that Cllrs Giles and Miles would not stand for re-election whilst the rest of the council would with only Cllr Beadle undecided. A letter to encourage and inform prospective parish councillors had been drafted and placed on the village website. An election pack was awaited from KAPC as were nomination forms from TMBC's Electoral Services office. The Clerk was also asked to enquire as to whether the number of councillors, presently seven, could be increased.

The village website has been upgraded with a News page and a Village Calendar. The council discussed requests from various groups to have information included on the site. It was agreed that contact details for the RoW group could be included for the purpose of reporting RoW issues as could information on Shipbourne Housing Trust's management of Lady Vane Close and contact details for the Shipbourne branch of the Conservative Association. A request for more prominent links to the School and the Farmers' Market was thought to be unnecessary at this stage as adequate links existed. A suggestion for a historical photograph library will be considered for future development.

Cllr Cohen said that she was awaiting a draft of a template design from Cllr Simpson in order to progress design and costing for the village sign. It was agreed to roll this over until April.

The Clerk had been informed that despite publicising April 16th as the proposed date for the April meeting plus the APM, the Tennis Club had decided that the 16th should be the date for its meeting. Consequently the council suggested Tuesday April 10th for the parish meeting and the APM. The Clerk will speak to Mrs Coombes to reserve that date.

The meeting closed at 21.12

Signed: _____ (Chairman)

Dated: _____

Dates of future meetings: April 10th +APM (to be confirmed) (at 7.30pm in the Village Hall).