

SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

**MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON
MONDAY 8TH MAY 2006 AT 9.15 PM**

Present: Mr Nicholas Giles (Chairman), Mr Mark Beadle, Mrs Libby Cohen, Mr Martin Miles, Miss Lynette Sargent, Mrs Rachel Simpson, Mr Curtis Galbraith (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Mr James Sheldrick

2. Election of Officers

Mark Beadle proposed that Nick Giles should remain as Chairman to the Parish Council. Rachel Simpson seconded and Nick accepted. He proposed Lynette Sargent as Vice Chairman. Martin Miles seconded and Lynette accepted. Mark Beadle, Martin Miles and the Clerk will remain as the three members of the finance sub committee and Libby Cohen and Rachel Simpson will continue to make up the planning sub committee.

Representation of the parish council on the Rights of Way Group will be met by James Sheldrick and Curtis Galbraith; the Village Hall Management Committee by Lynette Sargent and Libby Cohen.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

4. Borough & County Councillors Reports

None.

5. Questions from the Public

None.

6. Matters Arising

None.

7. Finance

The bank balances at 8th May were c/a £ 47.18, d/a £ 10514.61. The VAT reclaim payment of £134.81 had been received as had the first precept payment of £1214.00. The year end accounts had been compiled and checked by the financial sub committee. Copies, previously circulated, were handed out. The accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2006 were duly approved. The Statement of Accounts for the Annual Return will be completed. Nick Giles will discuss the forthcoming internal audit with Nick Ward.

Nick Giles had received a response from the Charities Commission with some advice regarding the John Swan Charity. The agreed notice had been carried by the Newsletter. No payments were made.

8. Roads / A227

'Final' plans of the '50/40/50' scheme were still awaited from Kent Highways. Correspondence indicated that the '40' phase of the scheme was under way however no date had yet been set. The Clerk reported that he and Valerie Dagger were progressing Kent Highways.

Steve Humphrey at TMBC had replied regarding satellite navigation. He indicated that whilst not directly within the Borough's remit, TMBC did have concerns. He said that from his knowledge, both County and Central Government were aware of the issues raised.

9. Commons

The parish council has received a letter from Fairlawne regarding the issue of parking on the Common. It outlined that following debate by the board and discussions initiated by the Estate in 2004 with the parish council and others, the wooden posts to the verges (incorporating an enlarged and defined parking area) were installed.

It continued by saying that the Estate, due to various issues remaining unresolved, intends to provide a 'simple solution' to a 'protracted and complicated process' by eliminating the 'various concerns of the parish council and other parties' by reverting to the historical parking bay – the surfaced area of the lay by – which would in turn be defined by the bollards.

The parish council thought that the action outlined in the letter would be unhelpful in the solution of the parking problem and that the actions of the council in seeking professional opinions prior to planning and investigating funding options were a necessary and diligent part of the process required for such a project. The enlarged parking area although as yet still unsurfaced in part had in the main provided a workable solution. Parking on the Common, outside of the very busy periods at The Chaser and at peak week end 'walking' times had been regulated in a safe and controlled manner. The council will respond to the Estate to put forward these points and to request that cooperation continues to maintain the safe and tidy solution brought about by the enlargement of the parking bay.

The Clerk reported that Valerie Dagger had again offered advice on possible alternative grant funding but had been advised of the letter from Ian Gibbs and now awaited developments.

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

a) Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council decisions:

TM/06/00696/RD Land adjoining 1 Silverhill Cottages, Dunks Green Road, - Details of landscaping parking and sewage disposal pursuant to conditions 5,6 & 7 of planning permission TM/01/01748/OA (outline application: Redevelopment of contractors yard).
Proposal approved

b) Planning Applications:

TM/06/01110/FL Barn Adjacent Avenue Cottage, Coldharbour Lane, Hildenborough
Proposal: *Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission TM/01/02038/FL to renew the time period for a further 3 years*
View: "No objection".

c) Enforcement and other planning issues:

School Lane Cottage, School Lane – letter received from owner. No comment.

The Stables, Back Lane – letter received from TMBC.

Puttenden Manor, Puttenden Road – letter received from neighbour. No comment.

The Meadows, Hildenborough Road – letter received from TMBC.

10. Rights of Way

None

11. Village Hall

None

12. Little Mead

Cllr. Rachel Simpson declared an interest as she owned land adjoining Little Mead albeit in another parish. A response has been received from Mr Williams regarding recent correspondence sent. The council will reply in due course.

13. Correspondence (not circulated or dealt with elsewhere)

Letter received from Green Acre, a local landscape and property company. Contents noted for future reference.

14. Any Other Business

Regarding the proposed Village Sign, it was agreed that Rachel Simpson and Lynette Sargent would take this project forward by exploring designs, obtaining costings and identifying a location.

The meeting closed at 22.05

Signed: _____ (Chairman)

Dated: _____

Dates of future meetings: (Meetings held on a Monday at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall)
June 12th, July 17th, September 11th, October 9th, November 13th & December 11th