

SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

**MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON
MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2006 AT 7.30 PM**

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

Three members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Miss Lynette Sargent and Mr David Evans and Mmes Sue Murray and Joan Harrison (TMBC)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

3. Election of Officers

Following on from the agreement made at the June meeting, Mark Beadle tendered his resignation as Chairman. Libby Cohen proposed Martin Miles who accepted and the proposal was seconded by Mark Beadle.

4. Borough & County Councillors Reports

None.

5. Questions from the Public

None.

6. Matters Arising

The council has received a complaint from the owners of Silverhill Stud Ltd regarding the Newsletter's coverage of last month's related minute. An invitation to the council to view the site was also made. The Clerk has replied to the owners informing them that "other news from the parish council" is not the actual minutes, either draft or as signed, and that the formal minutes of parish council meetings can be read on the notice boards or on the village website. He will also reply informing the owners that the council does not consider it necessary to visit.

Following correspondence with the editor of the Newsletter regarding the continuation of the publication (now that the Rector has left) it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the PCC to arrange a meeting to discuss 'Newsletter issues'.

It was agreed that the draft specification produced for the Churchyard mowing could be sent to the contractor for comment. The Clerk will chase the outstanding copies of his insurance certificates and work method statements for all the locations he works at for the council. Following comments made to Martin Miles at the Remembrance Day service a diary note will be made to ensure that the area around the war memorial receives specific

attention immediately prior to next year's service. The Clerk will inspect the memorial as grants are available from a number of sources if any repair or improvement works are needed.

Libby Cohen handed out copies of designs of village signs reproduced from various sources. She had identified what she thought were appropriate designs and had also sketched some ideas for Shipbourne. Following discussions that some tree species may have historical significance for Shipbourne and general approval of examples of simple, bold and hardwood signs, it was agreed that Libby should try and obtain some preliminary outline designs. It was thought that the matter could be taken forward at the January meeting.

7. Finance

The Clerk handed out copies of the monthly financial statement. The bank balances at 1st November were c/a £13.18, d/a £ 10754.64

The Audit Commission had requested a breakdown of the end of year balances shown in the 2005 / 6 Annual Return. Mark Beadle will respond.

From last month, the application to TMBC for a Special Works Grant (to assist in the funding of the proposed surfacing of the lay-by) has been submitted. *James Sheldrick declared a personal interest in this item by connection of employment.*

The council has received an application from Mrs Jill Adams for a grant from the Millennium Tree Fund towards the planting of a hornbeam hedge to replace a wooden fence. Satisfied with the general criteria for approving such amounts, the council suggested a grant of £100 against a project cost £141.00, subject to receipt of an invoice evidencing that the work had been carried out.

The local business *Directory* page has been launched on the website. Five applications had been received for support advertising. These were approved as was the format of the invoicing proposed by the Clerk. He said that over 6500 page visits have been made and that amendments are implemented as and when necessary in order to keep the site up to date.

Nick Giles said he had had a response from Fairlawne and would now contact the Charities Commission to inform them of the desire to wind up the John Swan Charity.

It was agreed to make one payment: To Mr Hards, £158.00 (Churchyard maintenance for March to October) (100271).

8. Roads / A227

The Clerk reported that Simon Allsopp of Kent Highways had met with Kent Downs AONB regarding the A227 scheme and despite his initial view that there could be no more changes he had agreed that some good ideas had been forthcoming. He was prepared to allow KDAONB a further three weeks to come back with any other proposals which he would then consider subject to the usual safeguards and approvals. The parish council agreed that it may be worthwhile to wait and consider this additional input particularly as Kent Highways saw difficulties in erecting signs due to the amount of vegetation immediately adjacent to some stretches of the road. Simon Allsopp had confirmed that in his opinion it would still be possible to get the scheme built in this financial year.

Dangerous and unlawful parking was still occurring at the junction of Upper Green Road and the A227 during periods of peak activity. PC Tony Wiles had met with the manager at The Chaser who had agreed to put up some laminated warning notices provided by Kent Police. PC Wiles had informed the Clerk that he had already attached formal warning notices to cars parked unlawfully. It was felt that the TMBC Parking Office was still not responding during peak periods despite the council offering to discuss financial assistance specifically to assist Shipbourne. The Borough Councillors will be lobbied again for their assistance to get TMBC's Parking Office to attend when most needed. Due to area amalgamation PC Wiles has said his services are currently being 'directed elsewhere'.

9. Commons

Following the grant application previously minuted it was agreed that the council should approach The Fairlawne Estate to try and establish a route forward. Martin Miles will write to Mr Ian Gibbs to propose a meeting and to suggest some dates. *James Sheldrick declared a personal interest in this item by connection of employment.* Rachel Simpson said that she had not heard of any issues affecting any other area of Common in the parish.

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

a) Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council decisions:

1. TM/06/02840/LRD Old Woodcocks, Reeds Lane, Shipbourne, TN11 9RR
Proposal: Details of infilling and door and architrave pursuant to condition 5 of Listed Building Consent ref. TM/05/02204/LB (replacement kitchen and bedroom windows and internal alterations).
TMBC Decision: *Details Approved*

b) Planning Applications:

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

1. TM/06/03242/FL East House, Hildenborough Road, Shipbourne, TN11 9QA
Proposal: *Replace existing garage with single storey annexe extension to existing dwelling and provide new detached garage.*
View: (already submitted) *"No Objection"* Comment: *The parish council commends the applicant for the high standard of presentation of the submission of this application.*
2. TM/06/03423/FL Barrwood, Hildenborough Road, Shipbourne, TN11 9QA
Proposal: *Rebuild existing dwelling house (amended scheme to that approved under planning refs. TM/06/00255/FL and TM/06/02136/FL)*
View: *to be submitted. (Mark Beadle declared a personal and prejudicial interest as applicant and left the meeting).*
3. 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*
Mr Richard Olley outlined the application to the council and during subsequent discussion answered a number of questions.
View: *to be submitted*

4. TM/06/03573/TPOC Providence Cottage, Upper Green Road, Shipbourne, TN11 9PL
Proposal: *Remove three branches from Scots Pine to balance tree; reduce one Red Oak and one Ash by 15% and remove dead wood.*

View: *"No Objection"*

Nick Giles declared a personal interest in this application as a neighbour.

5. TM/06/03542/EL Tinley Lodge, Hildenborough Road, Shipbourne, TN11 9QB

Proposal: High voltage overhead line replacement / diversion.

View: *"No Objection"*

James Sheldrick declared a personal interest in this application by connection of employment.

c) Enforcement and other planning issues:

The Meadows, Hildenborough Road, TN11 9QA. Planning Inspectorate appeal decision awaited.

Puttenden Manor, Puttenden Road. TMBC will be contacted again to progress action to enforce the ongoing breach of planning permission. A letter from a resident underlined the terms of the enforcement action and pointed out that, in any case, in the event of an appeal the Local Planning Authority had stated that it would not grant planning permission.

A letter from Mr Steve Humphrey, The Director of Planning at TMBC and sent to all parish councils attaching a copy of a general report on planning enforcement matters, will be circulated to councillors.

11. Rights of Way

None.

12. Village Hall

The Clerk will arrange the proposed meeting with Alan Bristow to discuss the appropriate sum for the future funding of the village hall.

13. Correspondence (not circulated or dealt with elsewhere)

Mr Ron Williams has replied to the parish council's proposal letter previously minuted. Nick Giles agreed to deal with a response prior to setting up the agreements.

TMBC has advised that plastic bottle recycling facilities are now available in the borough. The nearest to Shipbourne are in Borough Green, the Angel Centre and Tonbridge Farm. The Newsletter will be advised of the exact details and how to obtain the borough council's leaflet.

An email from Gillian Broad, a past resident now living in Australia, requested a copy of the Shipbourne Design Statement and any photographs of Shipbourne by email. The Newsletter will be advised of her contact details and the council agreed to forward a copy of the SDS.

The Tonbridge Volunteer Bureau has appealed via the council for volunteer drivers, expenses paid, to assist elderly residents of Tonbridge to get to doctors, hospitals and shopping trips. The contact at the Volunteer Centre is Julia Cronin on 357978.

An email from Alan Bristow, just received, covering various topics will be circulated for reply.

14. Any Other Business

The Clerk said he will begin the Risk Assessments as soon as possible.

Regarding the matter of retirement of some of the present parish council and the recruitment of new blood interest had been shown from two residents. The Clerk had responded to one in writing and would provide further details whilst the other thought to seek further information prior to any decision.

The Clerk will contact Arthur Greer to enquire about repairs to the bus shelter.

Provisional dates for parish council meetings for the first quarter of 2007 are January 8th, February 12th, March 12th and April 9th.

The meeting closed at 22.20

Signed: _____ (Chairman)

Dated: _____

Dates of future meetings: (Meetings held on a Monday at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall: December 11th. Provisional dates as noted 14.4 above.