

**SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

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**Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday, 10 November 2008 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mr. M. Miles (in the Chair)  
Mrs. L. Cohen, Miss L. Sargent, Mr. J. Sheldrick

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor Mrs. S. Murray  
Village Hall Management Committee Chairman Mr. A. Bristow  
1 Member of the Public  
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

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

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr. S. Davis.

**2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 October 2008, previously circulated, were approved.

*Mr. Miles proposed that Item 4 be brought forward, which was agreed.*

4. Mr. J. Raven, who expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor, gave a short presentation. Mr. Miles thanked Mr. Raven for his interest and *it was agreed that the two applications would be considered later during the Meeting. Mr. Miles would contact the two applicants shortly after the Parish Council meeting to inform them of the decision.*

*7.40 p.m. Mr. Raven left the Meeting.*

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

**3.1 Village sign (Minute 4.1 - October 2008 Meeting)**

Mr. Sheldrick had contacted the Contractor to make arrangements for the delivery of the sign. *A cost of £2,115-15 for the sign was approved, payable upon delivery.* The Chairman and Clerk would sign the lease prepared by Brachers Solicitors. Planning approval from TMBC was awaited.

**3.2 Interactive speed sign near The Chaser (Minute 4.2 – October 2008 Meeting)**

No reply had been received in response to an enquiry made by the Clerk to Kent Highway Services on 1 November to ascertain whether any progress had been made. *It was agreed that a second request would be sent, with a copy to County Councillor Mrs. V. Dagger.*

**3.3 "Green space" outside Wightwicks Row (Minute 4.3 – October 2008 Meeting)**

*Mr. Sheldrick declared an interest.*

The Chairman had been in contact with a representative from Fairlawne Estate to enquire whether any records existed to indicate who the landowner of this piece of land was. It would appear from the conversation that although Fairlawne Estate had been maintaining this piece of land for a number of years, it could not be confirmed that it had always remained in their ownership. Mrs. Cohen thought that this land had never been in ownership of Fairlawne Estate. Further enquiries were being made.

3.4 Churchyard Maintenance (Minute 4.4 – October 2008 Meeting)

Members felt that the current condition of the churchyard appeared to be in an acceptable condition at the moment. However, Miss Sargent asked for clarification of one of the two invoices received from the Contractor for payment this month. The invoice was queried because it came to Miss Sargent's attention that an anxious father whose daughter was getting married thought that the Churchyard was very overgrown and took it upon himself to cut the grass on 16 October, fearing that the Churchyard would look untidy for the wedding. *The Clerk was instructed to ask the Contractor to clarify the actual date of when he had cut the grass and also to indicate how often weed killing was carried out.*

3.5 Removal of BT Phone Boxes (Minute 4.5 October 2008 Meeting)

The paperwork had been completed and a response was awaited from BT. *The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote for disconnecting the electricity supply.*

3.6 Provision of Parish Council storage space in Village Hall (Minute 4.5 – October 2008 Meeting)

A quotation of £300 to "split" the cupboard space in half was accepted. *It was agreed that this cost would be paid by the Village Hall Committee, as suggested by Mr. Bristow.*

3.7 Cob Acres – Planning Enforcement (Minute 4.6 – October 2008 Meeting)

A letter dated 10 October 2008 from TMBC was noted. *It was agreed that no further action would be taken, however, Miss Sargent would report back to the Council if the situation changes.*

3.8 Structure of Footpaths Committee (Minute 6.3 – October 2008 Meeting)

As a result of Mrs. Lee's resignation, there was now a vacancy on this Committee. Members discussed the current structure of the Footpaths Committee. *The Clerk was asked to provide advice on the legislation relating to Parish Council Committees, which would be discussed at a future Meeting.*

Mr. Bristow (Chairman of the Public Rights of Way Committee), informed Members that KCC had proposed to make a diversion to Public Bridlepath MT50. Previously, this section of the bridleway formed part of Hadlow Parish for many years, but it had been changed many years ago and became part of Shipbourne Parish. Unfortunately Shipbourne Parish Council had not been advised of the proposed diversion. Mr. Bristow had written a letter to KCC advising that the Parish Council had not been consulted and that it sought to maintain the route as it was and that it did not agree with the alteration. Mr. Bristow said several Witness Statements had been sent to KCC to re-evaluate the diversion.

*Mr. Sheldrick declared an interest.*

Mr. Bristow advised that he noticed two dilapidated wooden crash barriers on footpath MT397 and would inform KCC as a matter of urgency.

*Mr. Miles proposed that Item 10.4 be brought forward, which was agreed.*

*Mrs. Murray declared a personal interest.*

*Mr. Sheldrick declared a prejudicial interest and left the Meeting.*

10.4 Mrs. Murray had attended a recent Area 2 Planning Committee Meeting when the application for change of use and conversion of redundant agricultural buildings to holiday let use and car port at Tinley Lodge had been refused. Mrs. Murray informed Members that the appeal hearing would be held on 3 December 2008. *It was agreed that the Parish Council would re-enforce its views in writing.* Miss Sargent, who had represented the Parish Council at the Area 2 Planning Committee Meeting, was thanked for her contribution and attendance at the Meeting.

*Mr. Sheldrick returned to the Meeting.*

*Mrs. Murray was thanked and left the Meeting.*

*Mr. Miles proposed that Item 5 be brought forward, which was agreed.*

5. **REPORT FROM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

Councillors considered Mr. Bristow's written report (circulated prior to the Meeting to all Parish Councillors). The report outlined details of funding requirements for various planned redevelopment work for the Village Hall. The Village Hall Committee had already been successful in obtaining funding for part of the work, but grants from KCC or TMBC required a 25% contribution from the Parish Council, as well as proof that the contribution was available. *Mr. Bristow asked the Parish Council to consider making this contribution (around £2,500) when reviewing the budget for the next financial year, which was agreed.*

*Mr. Bristow thanked Members and left the Meeting.*

4. **CASUAL VACANCY**

*It was agreed that Mr. J. Raven would be co-opted as Parish Councillor. Mr. Raven would be asked to sign the declaration of acceptance of office at the next Parish Council Meeting.*

6. **COMPLETION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT 2007/08**

The Audit Commission completed the annual audit and the 2007/08 had been approved. The relevant notices would be displayed on the village notice boards.

7. **REGISTERS OF COMMON LAND AND TOWN VILLAGE GREENS**

A letter from KCC dated 1 October 2008 (previously circulated) was noted. KCC advised that some changes would be made in the Commons Act 2006.

8. **REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM TONBRIDGE & MALLING CRIME PREVENTION PANEL**

A request for funding from the TMBC Crime Prevention Panel was declined.

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

Questions from Members of the Public and Press were taken elsewhere during the Meeting.

10. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

10.1 Planning Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 October 2008, Reference P/03/2008, previously circulated, was approved.

10.2 Report from Chairman

No report was received.

10.3 Report from Councillors

There were no reports from Councillors.

11. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

11.1 TM/08/03190/TNCA – Old Stables, Upper Green Road, Shipbourne

Removal and reduction of trees to alleviate structural problems to property.  
*Agreed to recommend APPROVAL.*

11.2 TM/08/03298/TNCA – Huntsview House, Upper Green Road, Shipbourne

Removal and reduction of trees.  
*Agreed to recommend APPROVAL.*

11.2 **Decisions from TMBC:**

11.2.1 TM/08/02570/RD – Valley House, Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge

Details of materials (roof tiles) submitted pursuant to condition 2 of consent ref: TM/08/00934/FL (Conversion of barn to dwelling) – GRANTED.

11.2.2 TM/08/02587/FL – Land opposite Callis Wood, South of Hildenborough Road, Shipbourne

Formation of new field access – GRANTED.

*Mr. Sheldrick declared an interest.*

11.2.3 TM/08/02367/FL – Tinley Lodge, Hildenborough Road, Shipbourne  
Change of use and conversion of redundant agricultural buildings to holiday let use and car port (resubmission of planning application TM/06/03861/FL) – REFUSED.  
*Reason: TMBC considers that there is doubt as to the practicality of the conversion of the building for holiday let use in that it may involve major reconstruction.*

11.2.4 Tree Preservation Order No 19 2008 – Tinley Lodge Farm, Hildenborough Road, Shipbourne  
The Parish Council noted Tree Preservation Order No 19 2008 (Oak tree).

12. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Payments in respect of cheque numbers 100332 to 100337 was approved.

13. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The information report (previously circulated) was noted.

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

8 December 2008.

The Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.