

Shedfield Parish Council

(Incorporating the villages of Shedfield, Shirrell Heath and Waltham Chase)

MINUTES OF THE COMMON COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th AUG 2008 AT 8 P.M. AT SHEDFIELD PAVILION

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors: Alan Cox, Sarah Keen, Lesley White, Val Green
Clerk: Yvonne Wheadon
Administrator: Jackie Hardaker
Others: Rupert Irons

11/08 - Apologies for absence - David Ogden

12/08 - The minutes of the Common Meeting held on 19th May 2008 were reviewed as follows:

05/08 (i) Clerk has spoken to the Environmental Department who have agreed to pursue the issue of dumped asbestos. They will remove and prosecute as necessary.

06/08 (ii) The Ditch along Shirrell Heath High Street has been cleared. There is some concern that this ditch is now filling up with rubbish.

13/08 - Meeting adjourned for public participation - Alan Cox welcomed Rupert Irons to the meeting. Rupert is exploring the possibility of becoming a Parish Councillor.

14/08 - Meeting resumed

15/08 - Parking on the Common

A Solicitor has been instructed to draft a letter regarding the issue of parking on the common at the rear of Heathlands. Clerk to seek clarification regarding charges for this. A date for closure of the gate will be determined and actioned once letters distributed.

Parking on the piece of common land off Pricketts Hill is still an issue. This will need to be progressed with a solicitor's letter and police intervention.

16/08 - Horse Riding on the Common

None of the councillors present thought it necessary to ban horses on the common. As no dangerous incidents have been reported it was agreed to monitor the situation and make a decision based on any evidence that arises.

17/08 - Weed Clearance

The Clerk is still waiting for a written quote with regard to clearing the Ragwort and Japanese Knotweed from the Common. Some of the councillors have done work to remove the ragwort. It was agreed that if the quote did not exceed £300 that contractors would be instructed to start as soon as possible.

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18/08 - Correspondence/Communication

(i) **Report of infection from Dog Faeces**

A young dog had died from a gastroenteritis infection that may have been contracted from contaminated faeces while walking on Shedfield Common. More information would be sought regarding this case and notices placed on the common to warn people that there is always a risk of picking up infections from dog faeces and to politely remind people to clean up after their dog.

(ii) **Notice of Essential Replacement Water Mains**

Portsmouth Water Ltd will commence this work on or after the 10th September 2008 and have agreed to meet with Councillors on site to ensure that care will be taken to protect flora and fauna. Full details were circulated.

(iii) **Report of a Pony on the Common**

A pony has been illegally tethered for grazing on the common. It was agreed to obtain quotes for hiring the services of a professional Bailiff and if necessary a meeting may be called to make a decision. The matter has also been reported to the police.

With no further business to be transacted the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm.