

Shedfield Parish Council

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

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SHEDFIELD PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD AT 8.00 P.M. ON 6TH MAY 2008 AT THE SHIRRELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH HALL.

Present:

Parish Councillors: David Ogden (Chair), Alan Cox, Roy Phillips, Ruth Wiffen, Graham Smith, Sarah Keen, Lesley White,

District Councillors: Roger Huxstep, Linda Gemmell

County Councillor: Felicity Hindson

Clerk: Yvonne Wheadon

Parish Administrator: Jackie Hardaker

Police: Sergeant 1566 Andy Heward

Approximately 15 members of the public, including representatives from parish organisations as given below.

1. Apologies:

Rosie Whiter (Parish Councillor)

Val Green (Parish Councillor)

Jan Veitch (Waltham Chase WI)

Maggie Mclean (1st Shedfield Rainbows)

Angela Barnes (Horticultural Society)

Russell Algar (Treasurer P.C.C)

Cynthia Boston (Friends of Guiding)

2. Chairman's Address:

The chairman thanked everyone for attending and welcomed them to the meeting. The chairman declared his intent to remain in post for another year.

Parish Achievements

Conducting business within precept hence ensuring Council Tax increase kept to 2%.

Restoration of Shedfield recreation ground.

Parish employs a full time clerk (Yvonne Wheadon) and recently a parish administrator (Jackie Hardaker).

Pledge to implement and fund a speed warning sign on B2177 (still to be completed).

Grant given to Waltham Chase Pre-school.

Donations/assistance to other worthy causes.

Future Projects

To extend the Pavilion on Shedfield recreation ground, creating an office/meeting room suitable for use by the parish clerk and organisations and people within the parish.

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Special Thanks

Special thanks were extended to all Shedfield parish councillors for continued hard work in assisting with the running of the parish. Thanks also to Felicity Hindson (County Councillor), Roger Huxstep (District Councillor) and special thanks to Ashley Goodhall (ex District Councillor) who stepped down this year after 7 years of hard work.

Linda Gemmell was given a warm welcome as new District Councillor for Shedfield.

3. Public Participation

Hampshire Constabulary - Sergeant Andy Heward

Sgt Heward gave a summary report on crime in Shedfield Parish over the last 12 months. There were 549 incidents, approximately 1/3 of these being crime related. Sgt Heward broke this down further and explained the statistics. Overall there has been a 6.2% reduction in crime with crime detection rate increasing from 11.3% to 14.6%.

Sgt Heward also reported on the 'Safer Neighbourhoods Team'. This is designed to deal with priorities as set by the local public. Contact sheet available (copy at Shedfield Parish Office).

When questioned (Mr R Huxstep) about whether there are locations where Road Traffic Accidents are happening more repeatedly, Sgt Heward commented that he would check statistics and report back with information. Also questioned (Mr W. Stevens) about opening hours of the station at Bishops Waltham. Sgt Heward re-iterated that although the front desk only opened part-time that the station is still staffed and that people could use the intercom or ring the station/call centre numbers given outside.

County Councillors Report (Felicity Hindson)

Commented on ongoing campaign to improve road safety for children, travelling to and from local schools. Stressed the need to carry out and act on School Travel Plans.

Speed limits and signing are being reviewed in the Forest Close/New Road/Bishops Wood Road and Gravel Hill areas.

Amey appointed as new contractors for highway maintenance from 1st May 2008. Development at Silverlake Garage is still being monitored.

As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Cllr Hindson has agreed a £900,000 refurbishment programme for the residential home in Bishops Waltham.

The government's response on the South East Plan (new homes) is still awaited.

The emergency 101 number will be retained for another year.

From 10th April 2008 the restriction on trailers between 1.8 and 3 meters long has been lifted. They will be covered by a permit system allowing 12 free site visits.

Cllr Hindson is supporting Swanmore Technology College by providing a grant that will fund a counselling service for young people with drug and alcohol problems.

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Roger Huxtep (District Councillor)

Reported that Cllr George Beckett will remain in charge of the council and that measures are in place to hold councillors accountable for their actions. Roger also reported on efficiency savings, council tax, affordable housing, hygiene ratings and WINAC (Winchester action on climate change).

St Johns Primary School (chair of governors Mrs Sarah Moore)

The school is currently full to capacity with a waiting list.
Had an outstanding Ofsted Report.
Still waiting for Church Ofsted Report which was carried out on Maundy Thursday.
School has achieved 'healthy eating' status.
Financial management standards met.
Travel Plan complete - awaiting analysis.
£1800 raised for NSPCC and other charities.
New 'outdoor classrooms' complete.

1st Shedfield Brownies (Leader - Mrs Sarah Moore)

Based at Shedfield Reading Room. Currently full with 22 brownies.
Have had varied activities over the last year including trip to London, pack holiday, Burns Night, Talent Show, fundraising £200.

Waltham Chase Brownies (Leader - Katie Shepherd)

Situated on Sandy Lane. Currently full with a waiting list of 10.
Varied range of indoor and outdoor activities.

Waltham Chase Pre-School (Jane Kennedy Scott)

Expressed thanks to the parish council for the generous grant that is being used to pay for hall hire.

Tree Warden (Robin Boston)

Would like to encourage local residents to be vigilant in identifying trees, of local 'amenity value', which could be under threat of removal.
The dead/damaged trees on Shirrell Heath Rec. ground have been replaced.
An aftercare plan for these trees is in place.
Volunteers required as tree wardens, particularly in Waltham Chase. Please contact the Parish Office or a Tree Warden if interested.

Trust 2000 (Chairperson - Anne Taylor)

Established by the late Rev Geoff Morrell, it has 9 trustees and aims to raise funds with which to help disadvantaged people. Local people are canvassed via the parish magazine, school and church, for suggestions of worthy causes.

Horticultural Society (Brenda Burn)

Reported on continued success of the society and listed a number of events that have taken place recently and some due to happen over the next year.

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Monica Simpson (Toddler Group)

Reported on its continued success and good attendance numbers.

Roger Huxtep (Shedfield Society)

Requested that parishioners continue to be vigilant in spotting problems in the area and mentioned a couple of issues that people had raised within the parish.

Village Championship (Organiser - Sean Beech)

The Village Championship will take place at St Johns Primary School this summer, in July. Volunteers still required to help with the event.

Lorrie Smith (Community Representative)

Provided an update on developments in the Waltham Chase Area and extended thanks to parishioners for support and vigilance over the past year. Thanks also to the Parish Council for the donation to assist with expenses. The Chairman responded with thanks to Lorrie for all her hard work.

Waltham Chase WI

In her absence, the Chairperson read a report that had been provided by Jan Veitch. They meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month and currently have 22 members and would welcome new members. They have had a busy year with interesting speakers, social events, fund raising, supporting local campaigns, attending national AGM and meeting with twin WI in Wiltshire.

Shedfield Rainbows

A report was sent in by Maggie Mclean (Guider), stating that one Rainbow unit (girls between the ages of 5 - 7 years) still meets in Shedfield on a Wednesday at the Reading Rooms but unfortunately the other group had to close due to lack of leaders.

General Questions/Comments

William Stevens (Parishioner)

Requested that parishioners continue to write to councillors and increase communication regarding unwanted developments in the parish. The Chairman reiterated that the Parish Council would continue to liaise on behalf of people in the parish with regard to planning applications.

John Par (Parishioner)

Requested that formal thanks should be expressed, to the couple, (Mr & Mrs Bostock), who voluntarily pick up rubbish in the parish. The Chairman expressed his appreciation for their work.

The meeting finished at 9:45pm

The next full council meeting is 23rd June 2008 at 7.15 at Shedfield Reading Rooms. For other Committee dates please contact the Parish Clerk