

# **Shedfield Parish Council**

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

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD 24 MAY 2010 AT 7.30 PM AT WALTHAM CHASE METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

### **Present:**

Parish Councillors: Alan Cox (Chair), Jess Bond, Graham Smith, Val Green, Malcolm Hogg, Matt Humphrey, Roy Skelding, Kevin Dye, Stuart Jones and David Ogden

District Councillor: Roger Huxstep

County Councillor: Felicity Hindson

Clerk: Yvonne Wheadon

Electors from the community attended this annual event, including representatives from parish organisations as given below.

### **1. Apologies:**

Ruth Wiffen (Parish Councillor)  
Lesley White (Parish Councillor)  
Linda Gemmell (District Councillor)  
Maggie Mclean (1<sup>st</sup> Shedfield Rainbows)  
Angela Barnes (Horticultural Society)  
Robin Boston (Tree Warden)  
Sue Grigg (Tree Warden)  
Jill Sutton

**2. Minutes:** The minutes from the Parish Assembly held 18 May 2009 were signed as a true record.

**3.** Chairman Alan Cox, remarked to the benefit of the Parish Council having a new permanent office, completed last year, and expressed disappointment that the offices had been recently subjected to an arson attempt.

A Parish questionnaire had given an insight into what members of the community considered important. As a result of this consultation, the children's play area at Waltham Chase will be refurbished before the summer holidays.

Restoration to the Botley Road war memorial will be carried out once quotes are to hand.

Speeding in the area was considered a major issue and a request for more enforcement has been made to the Police. The Parish Council are also very concerned about the state of road surfaces after the harsh winter.

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The proposed exception site for Affordable Rural Housing at Mount Pleasant has not progressed for a number of reasons, so other sites in the Parish may now be identified for consideration.

Council are pushing for planning issues that involve enforcement to be pursued vigorously by Winchester District Council.

Thanks went to David Ogden, and to Roy Phillips who retired from council last year, for their part in getting the accounts under control and to Jess Bond who continues to manage the finances, including the identification of reserves, thus giving a clearer picture of how the precept is used. Other Councillors and staff were thanked for their contributions.

**Guest Speaker Dick Selwood** described a new venture CHIP (Winchester's Community History Partnership) and its purpose of bringing together local history societies, museums and those interested in the heritage of the district.

He told of archaeological finds in the area such as Bronze Age axe and a pottery kiln. He explained the resources and procedures available for identifying finds that may prove to be significant. The group is currently digging at St Cross.

**County Councillor, Felicity Hindson** talked about the progress of the safer route to school scheme and reducing speed limits further south along the B2177 to 30 mph, also at Pricketts Hill. Stretches of Curdrige Lane will be reduced to 40 mph and also some funding has been secured to provide a safety refuge. The speed limit reminder has not been working but it is hoped that this will soon be back in action. She explained the difficulty in keeping the road surfaces in order following the bad winter but confirmed that more money is to be spent on improvements.

It is hoped that a Parish Lengthsman initiative will start in July, yielding 2 working days each quarter for our Parish.

**Roger Huxstep, District Councillor**, spoke of issues relating to planning, including the Sainsbury's redevelopment proposals at the Abbey Mill site, he said that District Councillor Linda Gemmell was attending a Question and Answer presentation that evening.

*Local groups were then invited to give a short report*

**Stephen Webb, Waltham Chase Caravan Club**, established since the 1930's, has members spread afar afield as Salisbury and Ringwood who share their enjoyment with others that own tents and camper vans.

**Ann Taylor reported that Trust 2000**, originally set up by Geoffrey Morrell, supports community projects both home and abroad. They have helped 14 charities in the last few years

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**Katie Shepherd, Waltham Chase Brownies** continue to enjoy games, making crafts and are particularly looking forward to joining other guiders at Paultons Park on the 3rd July.

**Waltham Chase Village Hall - Margaret Jones** reported that the committee has been busy fund raising for remedial works to the hall and the car park is due to be resurfaced very soon.

**Waltham Chase WI, Jan Veitch** reported on various excursions for members such as shopping trips and coffee mornings as well as placing fresh flowers at the War Memorial at Fords Corner.

**Monica Simpson, Shirrell Heath Methodist Toddler Group** said that the group continues to have fun with crafts and activities.

**St John the Baptist School - Roger Huxstep** reported on the many activities and achievements gained at the school.

**Shedfield Society - Roger Huxstep** gave a review of issues that are of concern to the Society.

*Written reports were read to the Assembly*

1<sup>st</sup> Shedfield Brownies  
St John the Baptist Parish Church  
Shedfield WI  
Tree Warden  
Childrens Society

The Chairman thanked attendees and declared the Assembly finished at 9 pm