

Shedfield Parish Council

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

MINUTES OF THE COMMON COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE PAVILION 7.30 PM MONDAY 20 JUNE 2011

PRESENT:

Parish Councillors: Chair Alan Cox, presiding, Jess Bond, Kevin Dye, Lesley White and
Matt Humphrey
Clerk: Yvonne Wheadon
Councillor in attendance: Rob Helsen
Members of public: 6

10/11 - Election of Chair - The Committee agreed that Councillor Alan Cox remain as Chair and Councillor Kevin Dye accepted the position as Vice Chair.

11/11 - Apologies for absence - None

12/11 - Declarations of Interest - None

13/11 - Minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2011 confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

14/11 - Matters arising -

- (i) Clerk to request for appropriate notices to be placed at the Biddenfield Road area warning 'no vehicles allowed'
- (ii) Grants progress - Details to be circulated to all.

15/11 - Public Participation – Following the Council's letter to residents telling them to stop cutting the grass to the rear of their properties, their concern that the area should continue to be cut. It was claimed that residents had maintained the access area immediately behind properties up to approximately 30 metres. Their fears concerned rats, snakes and, in particular fire.

16/11 - The Chair thanked the residents for attending and noted their comments.

Meeting resumed

17/11 - Land at rear of Heathlands. It was confirmed that various encroachments had been resolved and it was noted that residents would continue to cut the grass at their own cost and risk and that there must be no further encroachment or unlawful acts. A letter to confirm these points will be sent to each of those residing in properties to the rear of Heathlands. Residents were thanked by the Committee for their continued care of their environment.

18/11 – Maintenance contract - It was agreed that the maintenance of the common should be under constant review and that the clerk will arrange for the contractor to meet with members of the committee to walk the common to clarify areas to be cut, pointing out protected species of plant life as well as additional work required not included in the contract, such as cutting of fern and eradicating Japanese knotweed. Clerk to check with the Ecology Group in Winchester to verify the precise name of the wild orchids.

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19/11 - The area at the rear of Canford Close is registered with the Land Registry as part of the Common but is not registered as common land. This area is currently overgrown and a decision as to a maintenance programme will be decided once the possibilities have been investigated.

20/11 - Current budget - no expenditure as yet as work on the common is mainly carried out after July.

21/11 - Correspondence - letter from residents at Heathlands - see items 16/11 and 17/11

22/11 - It was suggested to hold site meetings to enable committee members to become familiar with specific sections of the common that may be discussed as future agenda items.

23/11 - Agenda items for next meeting

- (i) Co-option
- (ii) Terms of reference

With no further business to be transacted the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.