

MEETING OF SHALDEN PARISH COUNCIL

held Wednesday 15th January 2025 at 7:30pm in Shalden Village Hall

Minutes

Present: Cllr Taylor, Cllr Whitcher, Cllr Wood and Cllr Jones

Also in attendance: K Horton (Clerk) and 5 residents

- 1) **Welcome.** Cllr Wood proposed that Cllr Jones chair the meeting. All in agreement.
- 2) **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies received from Cllr Orme due to work commitments. Apologies accepted.
- 3) **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Jones has an interest in item 7a and will excuse himself.
- 4) **Approval of Minutes** - Parish Council Meeting held on 27th November 2024. No questions raised. Proposed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 5) **Public Participation.**
 - Member of Village Hall Committee Charity introduced herself and confirmed the Cllrs had no questions in relation to the grant application (item 7).
 - Resident thanked PC for funding of Lengthsman and hopes funding for service will continue in 2025/26.
 - Resident requested update on Speed Awareness plans for Old Odiham Road
 - Potholes on Old Odiham Road: was closed for three days but not all filled. Members of public reminded to log each instance to ensure they are taken care of.
- 6) **Parish Council Finances/Administration**
 - a) Clerk's Report inc
 - i) Updates post November meeting
 - Salt Bins. Confirmation from HCC that shovels are not provided. Repair requests logged
 - Installation of SLR (Speed Limit Reminder sign). Works logged with HCC. Advised that up to six months for work to be carried out. Clerk will complete licence application in meantime. Will PC have been advised of timeline.
 - Humbly Grove Oilfield planning application. Thanks to County Cllr Kemp-Gee for coordinating a site visit. Cllrs Orme and Whitcher attended and reported back to other Cllrs. "No Comment" lodged with EHDC Planning.
 - Golden Pot bus stop. No additional data available to help confirm the demand for a stop at the location. Highways do not support reinstating bus stop at the location. Cllrs noted it is disappointing that parish will not have a bus stop but agreed that safety at junction has to be priority. Clerk to confirm hazard signs and road coating work will be carried out by Highways. Cllr raised concern about number of HGV movements out of industrial estate on RH side on The Avenue and damage to junction: to be added on a future agenda.
 - Summer Fete. Unmanned stall considered the best option as Cllrs are volunteering on other activities. Clerk to draft a handout with contact details and highlighting what the PC has achieved.
 - ii) **Correspondence**
 - Notification from SSEN. Engaged with PC on their own initiative. Apology for the outages experienced during Storm Darragh. Assurance that they are conducting a review of how the

network performed over the storm coupled with previous network performance to understand any underlying issues which they may need to take action on. Details will be shared on outcome and any actions moving forward. Clerk to remain in contact and request details of survey and plan of action are shared.

- EHDC CIL bids. Cllrs made aware of the rough time frame for applications.
- Concerns about forestry works on Southwood Road and dangerous driving conditions. Cllrs supportive of Clerk following up with landowner and HCC.
- EHAPTC next meeting . 7:30pm on 22nd Jan. Cllr Wood and Cllr Orme have confirmed they can attend for SPC. Leader of EHDC will speak and also provide update on Devolution.

b) Financial summary for November and December 2024 and in addition:

- i) Notification of Payments made under Item 5.5 of the Financial Regulations since the last meeting.
 - ii) Notification/authorisation of other payments
- No queries raised and Financial Summary duly signed

7) Grants

a) Request. *To consider a grant request from Shalden Village Hall Charity.* Cllr Wood was proposed and voted to Chair while Cllr Jones steps out for the agenda item. Cllrs clear on why work needs to be completed to provide clarity and structure for current and future running of village hall that is used by all residents. Grant could be made under LGA 1972 s133 - Provision of parish and community buildings. Cllr Wood proposed £1,500 be granted to the committee, Cllr Taylor seconded and all in agreement. Note of thanks to all those involved in moving this forward.

b) Application. *To agree whether the Parish Council will apply for a grant from the District Councillor.* Cllrs were in agreement to make application.

8) Recreation Ground and Pavilion. *Further to the Councillors' site visit, to agree what works should be completed at the site and confirm the relevant next steps.* Cllrs reviewed the work that may benefit access and appearance of the Recreation ground and Pavilion: painting exterior, improving stairs, parking: at front of gate (and used by all visitors) and separately parking nearer the pavilion. Clerk had shared feedback from EHDC re use of CIL monies. Cllrs asked Clerk to source quotes for improving the drainage and hardstanding at the gated entrance and costs of a stair way to the Pavilion. Cllr Wood will look to obtain the contact details of the agricultural painter previously used. Cllr Taylor also noted that installing village gateways might be use of CIL monies and be pertinent given the attention to speeding issues. Clerk will look at costings and provide to Cllrs ahead of March meeting.

9) 2024.25 Finances. *To note a report from the Clerk on the projected financial position of the Parish Council at ye 2024.25 and a review of anticipated financial commitments for 2025.26*

- a) To note the report on the Clerk's proposed remuneration from 1 April 2025 and approve the recommendation. Report had been circulated ahead of meeting. All Cllrs in agreement with salary proposal and training. Matter approved.
- b) To agree the Budget for 2025.26. Clerk talked the Cllrs through the line by line detail. No questions raised. Cllr Jones proposed the budget of £23,837, Seconded by Cllr Taylor and all voted in agreement

- c) To agree the Precept for 2025.26. Cllrs noted that with the number of inflationary items on the budget an increase in the precept would be pertinent – Increase is important to have otherwise always working to catch up. Cllrs were in agreement that finances also need to be in place to allow them to deliver on identified projects. Precept cost was considered against Council Tax Base figures. Precept of £13,500 proposed by Cllr Jones, Seconded by Cllr Wood and all voted in agreement

10) Date of next meeting – Wednesday 5th March 2025, 7:30pm.

Meeting Closed. 8:45pm

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Signed: D Orme, Chair of SPC

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Dated

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