

# **SHUTTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008

### 1. PRESENT/ APOLOGIES

Present: Cllr J Tattersall in the Chair, Cllrs B Frost, E Wood, J Savage & N Perry. Parish Clerk: Mrs A Allsopp. Also in attendance Borough Cllr Tilly May & two members of the public.

Apologies: Carol Cotterill & Borough Cllr Richard Jenkins.

### 2. OPEN FORUM

Tilly May informed Councillors that a Grot Spot Team were being made available to clear litter and debris from particularly grotty areas that fall under Borough responsibility.

Steve McCloskey asked about the church's holly hedge that the Parish Council paid to be cut last year, and also raised concerns about the state of the footpath between Coronation Crescent and Main Road, and also the footpath from Church Lane into Coronation Crescent. The Clerk promised that this information had been forwarded to both Mick Stanley and Chris Lambert and was in hand.

A stile has been reported collapsed in a field to the rear of the church.

### 3. MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July were proposed by Cllr Wood as a true record, seconded by Cllr Perry and signed by the Chairman.

### 4. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk apologised that the September Parish Council meeting, which should have been held on 8<sup>th</sup> September had to be postponed by one week. Due to various unforeseen circumstances there wasn't a quorum of Councillors able to attend.

### 5. TRAFFIC CALMING – CHRIS LAMBERT TO REPORT BACK AFTER MEETING ON 23.9.08 WITH MICK STANLEY

With no available update from Chris Lambert, it was agreed to wait until after the meeting between Chris Lambert and Mick Stanley before commenting.

Concerns were, however, raised about vehicles on Main Road parking facing the wrong way and Cllr Tattersall agreed to contact CPSO Julie Arbuckle to see if something could be done to stop this happening.

### 6. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - UPDATE

Carol Cotterill provided a written summary, updating Councillors that all signs were now in place and that official letters had been delivered to residents advising them that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme is now operational and how they could obtain information. Notices are currently being posted at the shop and volunteers communicate information via phone or e-mail. Availability of information to residents should improve further as soon as the proposed Noticeboard is available.

### 7. COMMUNITY SPEED AWARE PROJECT - UPDATE

Cllrs Savage and Tattersall reported that speeds in excess of 50 miles per hour had been recorded in Alvecote. More volunteers are required for the 8.30 time slot as most people are heading to work at that time of day. It was also agreed that it would be easier with more people per session in future. The next village to operate the scheme will be Shuttington.

### 8. ALVECOTE TRAVELLERS SITE - UPDATE

The Clerk reported that Rob Leahy is happy for a Noticeboard to be fixed to the wall of the Traveller's Site at Alvecote.

### 9. PLAY AREAS & GOAL POSTS - UPDATE

The Clerk reported that due to the Football Foundation approving our application for two sets of goal posts, these had both been purchased from Edwards and half the cost refunded. One set of goal posts has now been removed and the pitch improved to an acceptable standard. Until the new grass has grown adequately all teams will still be playing on one pitch. When this pitch has recovered the first new set of goal posts will be mounted and all teams will play on the repaired pitch whilst the other pitch is repaired. It is hoped that within several months both pitches will be fully functional.

Carol Cotterill also sent a written report updating about the Kick Wall, which is almost completed and will be ROSPA checked before the end of the month.

Cllr Tattersall is liaising with Rob Leahy and is still in the process of trying to obtain an extended lease for the Play Area at Alvecote, so that funding can be tendered for. Ideally the hedge needs re-laying and youngsters seem to favour a Teen Shelter on the site.

No further ideas or requests have yet been submitted for Milner Drive.

#### 10. BUS SHELTER & BENCHES – UPDATE

Cllr Tattersall reported that the Alvecote bench had been delivered and is now waiting to be fixed securely and the Clerk reported that the Jim Harding Memorial Bench had been ordered but that delivery had been delayed.

The Clerk also reported that the WCC WASP fund had agreed to provide £1,000 for each bus shelter and that the Area Forum North funding decision will be made on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

#### 11. TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL FOR A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Carol Cotterill has offered her services in creating a quarterly newsletter and provided a rough draft. Cllr Frost proposed that the newsletter go ahead. This was seconded by Cllr Wood and unanimously agreed. After further discussion it was agreed that a twice-yearly newsletter might be adequate, but the frequency should be determined by the amount of information to be shared. It was further suggested that funding or sponsorship might be looked at in the future and Cllr Wood agreed to pursue the suggestion that youth might deliver the newsletter as part of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

#### 12. REPORT FROM NORTH WARWICKSIRE AREA COMMITTEE OF PARISH COUNCILS

Cllr Savage and the Clerk reported that there was little of interest appropriate to Shuttington & Alvecote at this time and that the AGM and election of officers took up the greater part of the meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk should request “Quality Council Status” be discussed at the December meeting.

#### 13. PLANNING

No new Planning Applications have been submitted but Cllr Frost requested site of the plans for Alvecote Wood, Robeys Lane, Alvecote. The Clerk agreed to deliver these for Cllr Frost to view.

#### 14. COUNCILLOR VACANCY – STRATEGY TO FIND A COUNCILLOR FOR CO-OPTION

The Clerk had already posted new notices around Shuttington and it was agreed that the newsletter should be used to raise awareness of the need for a further Councillor.

#### 15. BANK ACCOUNTS UPDATE

The Clerk reported that most of the money had been removed from the Halifax savings account and that the account would be closed when the tax had been refunded. The Clerk also reported that a large amount (including funding for the Kick Wall) has been placed in a high interest account until required.

#### 16. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was dealt with as per the September Correspondence List.

The Clerk agreed to give Tony Cox a copy of the letter received from Smiths Gore and update him on the situation of flooding at Alvecote, which seems to indicate a blocked ditch that prevents the water draining away quickly after the flooding has occurred. The Clerk also agreed to communicate to Tony Cox the support that was being given by Mr Lee to ensure that UK Coal deal properly with the hedge below the Wolferstan.

#### 17. INVOICES

Invoices were approved for payment as per the September Correspondence List.

#### 18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Perry remarked that the surface of the road outside the pumping station was still very uneven, even though it had been patched. The Clerk agreed to communicate this to Tony Cox again.

It was agreed that there should be an official opening of the Kick Wall once it was finished, but who should be invited to do so was not agreed and Councillors agreed to make further enquiries as to who might be available. It would be nice to include this information in the forthcoming Newsletter.

Cllr Frost raised concerns about the costs of the Playing Field in connection with the amount being raised through the Football Teams and the Clerk agreed to provide another copy of the most recent accounts comparison with recent years, in preparation for considering the precept for next year. Cllr Wood agreed to take concerns about payments from the Whippet Club, etc that do not seem to be filtering through to the Parish Council, to the next Parish Hall meeting.

#### 19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

Anita M Allsopp  
8<sup>th</sup> October, 2008