

Shottisham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 1st May 2018
at Shottisham Trust Hall

Present: Chairman Philip Bouscarle (PB)

Attendees: (SCDC) Cll C Block (CB), Cll P Widdup (PW), Cll R Kay (RK), Cll M Harrison (MHR), Clerk L Roberts (LR) and thirteen members of the public.

1-01/05/18 Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from (SCC) Cll Andrew Reid (AR).

2-01/05/18 Signing of Minutes

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 9th May 2017 were duly signed off by the Chairman PB as a true and accurate record.

3-01/05/18 Chairman's report:

- Chairman PB reported that the parish council had lost and gained 3 councillors over the last year, including the previous chairman Mike Hazelwood. There are still two vacancies to fill to reach the full complement of seven and Cll PB encouraged villagers to consider putting themselves forward to fill the roles. Cll PB expressed his thanks to Mike Hazelwood for all his hard work and commitment over the years. He also thanked the clerk Lesley Roberts for her continued hard work throughout the year.
- **Highways Issues:**
The council have recently agreed to purchase a Speed Indicator device and posts, which should help to reduce speeding in the village. This has been ordered and will be installed shortly. We have been informed that Highways are cutting back on maintenance jobs and will no longer keep road signs in good order or keep roadside paths clear. This will now be down to villagers to manage and volunteers to help would be very welcome. Due to relentless pressure from Cll MHR, James Adeane's representatives have agreed to control the butter bur field between the Street and the Mill and to keep the nettles off the road during the summer.
- **Playground Issues:**
A programme of remedial works have now been carried out that have addressed some safety issues raised by RoSPA. These include: an attempt to control the moles by employing the local mole catcher Bob Moles at a cost of £80, who caught nine moles in two visits. Unfortunately, they are already coming back and the PC will have to decide how much they can afford to allocate to mole destruction. The rabbits are still an ongoing problem but rabbit-proof fencing is not an option as the gates will inevitably be left open and the rabbits will find a way in. We have replaced the rubber safety matting under the seesaw at a cost of £135 and repaired the matting under the swings. The two rockers in the playground have

been removed as they have been broken and will not be replaced as the cost of £1,000 was not justifiable. The existing rubbish bin has been replaced with one supplied by Suffolk Norse at a cost of £250 which includes regular emptying.

- **Future Plans:**

Suffolk Norse have now been contracted to come and cut the play area and the dog-walking field for £75 per cut. This will be done on a two-monthly basis and will be either three or four cuts per year depending upon weather and need. We have also awarded a contract to Kiwi Services to remove the existing fencing and replace it with new post and rail fencing with stock-proof fencing. The area to be enclosed will be reduced by running the new fence across the play area in a line roughly five metres above the hill with the fort on it across to the existing fence. The quote for this is approximately £4,500 including rehangng the existing gates and providing one extra for the new southern side. This money has been in our account for over a year to date and is ring-fenced for playground improvements.

- **Housing Needs**

The issue of new housing in the village has still not been resolved although James Adeane has agreed in principle to grant some farmland adjacent to Heath Drive to be used to build a small development of rental-only affordable housing. However, this is likely to take some years to come to fruition. The Peninsula Villages Community Land Trust (PVCLT) has been setup recently and will explore the affordable housing requirement of the villages on the peninsula, including Shottisham. It will work with both Local and National government and will be eligible for funding to pay for feasibility studies and the purchase and development of sites. The PVCLT will be subject to the same planning rules as any other organisation with individual villages being represented through their own parish councils.

- **Big Lunch**

The parish council have agreed to take over the responsibility of running the Big Lunch as from next year. The Sorrel Horse have kindly agreed to sponsor a Shottisham Street Party instead this year which will be held at the pub on Saturday 19th May to celebrate the royal wedding of Harry and Meghan. A barbecue has been laid on that is free to all residents and has received a good response from villagers. Dawn Kay is in charge of co-ordinating donations of salads and puddings to help out with the food.

4-01/05/18 Finance

- **Current Account:** £8,168.22
- **Savings Account 1:** £1,674.48
- **Savings Account 2:** £193.90

5-01/05/18 Reports:

- SCC Report**

No report received from Cll AR (SCC) who was unable to attend the meeting.

ii. **SCDC Report**

Cll CB reported on some of the main issues that SCDC have been faced with this year which include:

- The merger with Waveney council is going through parliament now and elections for new joint councillors would take place in May 2019, making this one of the largest councils in the country. There will then be a boundary review to decide on the new district wards; the size of which will be based on the number of electors. The consultation on these boundaries will take place in July and August.
- The government support grant is being phased out by 2020 and the new council will need to rely on business rates to help provide an income.
- The new arrangements for garden waste are causing some controversy too with a number of people who are not prepared to pay for a service which has been provided free until recently.

The full report can be read on the council's website www.shottisham.onesuffolk.net

iii. **Sorrel Horse Report**

Chris Harvey reported to the meeting that he has stepped down as the Chairman of the Sorrel Horse board but continues to remain on the board as a director. One of the existing board members William McMullan has now taken over the role of Chairman from him. Chris is pleased to report that a tenancy agreement has been put into place with the Flag of Suffolk who took over the running of the Sorrel Horse as of the 6th November 2017. The board are very pleased with the progress that Gary, Leila and their team have made at the Sorrel Horse since their arrival. They have made lots of changes inside and out, including new fires, new toilets, replaced part of the roof and built a new chimney too. Two new chefs have been employed who are making improvements to the food on offer and Gary and Leila are looking forward to the summer with their new team members and lots of ideas. The board have also started to explore options for the field across from the Sorrel Horse, which was identified on Suffolk Coastal's Development Plan as suitable for housing. Chris finished off by asking everyone to show support to the Sorrel Horse with continued custom: a quick drink, a meal with friends, or a recommendation to others will make all the difference to our success this year and beyond.

iv. **Village Recorder's Report**

The Village Recorder Diana Bickerton reported £360 profit has been made from the proceeds of the photographic book of Shottisham. It has been agreed that this money will go towards providing swift boxes at the church and it is hoped there will be enough left over to purchase a webcam too. A talk about swifts has been arranged for May 12th at the Trust Hall.

v. **Women's Institute Report**

Christine Blocked thanked everyone for attending or helping out at the recent flower show/plant sale which was a huge success, attended by most of the village and raised over £800 towards the insurance costs of the Trust Hall. This was despite concerns about poor weather earlier in the year which had delayed plant growth. The Trust Hall

refurbishment plans are well under way and should be going forward to planning shortly. Fund raising has started in earnest too and the project group are working on grant applications too.

vi. **Church Warden's Report**

Anne Buswell reported that the church has had another busy year this year with the most popular service being the Christmas Carol service with an attendance of fifty six. The Pet Service also proved popular with an attendance of twenty people and fourteen dogs. The average attendance at regular services was nine adults and three children. There were sixty eight new entries in the visitors' book too. Two funerals and a wedding took place during the year and the PCC held six meetings for planning events. A successful volunteer scheme has been set-up to help keep the churchyard clear which is working well so far. The Christmas Midnight Mass has now been changed to 9:30 pm which should enable more people to attend.

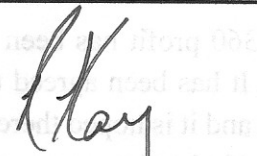
6-01/05/18 Open Forum:

A query was raised about the land made available for affordable housing in the village and it was reported that all sites have been rejected bar one, which is the field owned by the Sorrel Horse.

Concerns were raised by a parishioner about the flooding in Church Lane and sixteen photos were produced to show the effect that this is having on the road. The pig field becomes saturated during heavy rain and then floods down the sandy track and enters Church Lane. The parishioner has asked that the parish council take over the responsibility of chasing up AJ Paul to ensure he keeps his promise to resolve the situation. Chairman PB has agreed to take this on and will continue to liaise with him about this issue as well as corresponding with him about ploughing up the footpath across the field.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Chairman:



Dated:

