

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHOSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 9th
MAY 2024**

Present: Ian Cannock (Chair), Tricia Wastvedt, Fred Chaytors, Lisa Coles, Jean Fossaceco (Clerk), David Cradock and Mary Bon

Also Present: Fiona Gourley (Ward Councillor) plus members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** Fiona Crockett
2. **Declaration of Interests for this meeting:** None
3. **10 Minutes public participation:** Several members of the public attended the meeting including Mr T. Marchant who presented a report on behalf of the newly formed Community Interest Group. They propose a revitalisation of the Sports and Recreation Field with a combination of sports facilities and areas for people to walk around and enjoy the wildlife. Along with up to 20 volunteers, they would like to make changes to the football/ball games pitch, more signage, remove dead trees and possibly re-plant, cut back hedging and bramble overhang, seed and plant with wild flowers a 2-metre boundary along the East and North Boundaries, level out any areas of the Recreation Field that require this with rolling and generally fulfil their vision of tidying up the whole area. This could be achieved by the creation of a Working Group, working with the Parish Council, including our grass cutting contractor, the Village Hall Management Committee and applying for grants and funding from B&NES and Woodland Trust. It was acknowledged digging/tilling would not be welcomed by the History Group due to the risk to ancient items buried there, it was also suggested there could possibly be a trial of a 2 or 3 metre square area as we should also take care not to destroy any of the good work that has already been achieved environmentally. This initiative could take up to 2 years or more to complete. **Action Points** - This will be a PC agenda item at the 11th July meeting but, as maintenance of the Rec is within the scope of the Trust, these various options, along with how to potentially achieve them, will need to be discussed at the next VHMC meeting on 23rd May. *****Agenda Item 11th July - JF**
4. **Minutes of the last Meeting 7th March:** These were found to be in order.

5. Clerk's Report	ACTION	TIMELINE
As distributed. The Clerk will email all notice board key holders to request they limit the size of the flyers/notices they insert as space is limited and bear in mind the proximity to Shoscombe of the events they are advertising i.e limit them to events taking place either in Shoscombe or nearby. The school has clarified that negotiations between the Trust, the landowner and B&NES are continuing with regard to the land behind Hamilton Terrace; this is a long term plan should the school need this option in the coming years.	JF	ASAP
6. Financial Matters		
Presentation of Financial paperwork: 1. Annual Governance Statement 2023 to 2024 – section 1 - JF 2. Annual Accounting Statements 2023 to 2024 – section 2 - JF 3. Certificate of Exemption – JF These documents will be forwarded to our Auditors – BHIB LLP Date of Exercise of Public Rights – 3rd June – 12 th July The following payments out were passed for payment: Clerk's Salary- £1000.00- HMRC - £250.00 - Clerk's Expenses-£59.33 plus £30.00 internal audit - £89.33	All approved proposed Fch - seconded DC JF JF -Notice Boards	ASAP 31/5/2024

<p>McFee (2024/25) - £109.99 ALCA – £117.20 (already approved and paid) Newsletter – £750.00 includes £200 from the Church (received) Dunkley’s Payroll - £48.00 (already paid) Website Domain Names – it was agreed only the clerk’s and the Chair’s emails would be the only ones listed the website. BH1B Insurance 2024/25 - £716.93 plus £59.65 to include subsidence cover = £776.58. This was agreed by the Council. Possible PC ‘top up’ to Finger Post Restoration costs –*** agenda item July</p> <p>Payments in: Precept - £5,524.15 Church newsletter contribution - £200.00 Finger Post donations - £50.00, £20.00, £20.00, £20.00, £25.00 and £1,000 from The Pilgrim Trust</p> <p>Following investigations by our Chair, it was acknowledged there is no requirement to change the Village Hall Trustee Agreement from ‘corporate’ to ‘incorporated’ – the Parish Council, as a corporate body, is the Trustee and not individual councillors.</p>	<p>All approved</p> <p>Proposed - FCh and seconded – TW JF</p> <p>Noted</p>	<p>***July Agenda</p>
7. Planning		
Parish Council Local Plan comments were submitted and acknowledged.		
8. Climate, Nature and Sustainability Working Group		
<p>Report distributed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It has been agreed that the installation of EV charging points is not viable in the village. 2. The oak tree will be planted in Autumn 2024/Spring 2025. 3. This item will be referred to as the Management of the Recreation Ground. Following a meeting and discussions with the Village Hall Management Committee, it was agreed the area usage varies considerably over periods of time. A map with the parts being left to thrive environmentally was agreed and it was acknowledged care should be taken not to destroy what has already been achieved. A botanist will be visiting the site. This is now listed as having Nature Recovery Status on the B&NES site as well as offering sporting opportunities. This is still a trial with results and feedback being assessed at the end of the season. The Community Interest Group will email their proposal. 	<p>TW</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
9. Councillor Reports		
<p>A. Village Hall – it was agreed the proposed Safeguarding Policy needs to be amended and this will be discussed at the Village Hall meeting. The clerk will mention the possibility of allotments in the next newsletter to assess interest. It was noted this initiative could come with some significant costs – land purchase/change of use etc. There was a report of a broken lamppost in the car park and attention needed to the verges bordering it – these have now been cut back and general renovations will take place.</p> <p>B. HELAA/Local Plan – comments were submitted and have been noted.</p> <p>C. Public Rights of Way – no footpath issues have been reported but some posts, which belong to B&NES, need attention. They will be contacted.</p> <p>D. School – nothing to report</p>	<p>JF</p> <p>FC</p>	<p>Newsletter Item</p> <p>By next meeting</p>

<p>E. Highways – 20mph speed limit at Double Hill is in hand and the green 20 mph sign near the school has been reported and will be changed to red. Our Ward Councillor has offered to also report this and will be contacted. The clerk will remind residents in the next newsletter about the advantage of contacting Fix My Street on the B&NES website as this can often lead to a swift, efficient rectification of issues.</p> <p>F. Church and Burial Board – nothing to report.</p>	<p>JF/DC</p> <p>JF</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>Newsletter Item</p>
10. Restoration of Finger Posts		
<p>Report Distributed by John Davey. It was noted the total costs for this is still £2000.00 short even with public donations, the PC Community Grant donation and the Pilgrim Trust grant. There is a table top sale planned, further applications for funding will be submitted including from Somer Valley, the Milestone Society, the National Lottery and possibly the Ward Councillor Fund. Other quotes for the restoration are still be sought.</p>	<p>JD/MB</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
11. Welcome Pack for new Residents		
<p>It was agreed that this is in need of some updating. TW and the clerk will make a start on this in the next few weeks.</p>	<p>JF/TW</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
12. Update on Residents' thought on possible parking/road improvements		
<p>Report distributed. Some subbase has been laid in Applecroft. It was noted a further mention will be put into the next newsletter to remind people to park both safely and considerately together with keeping overhanging vegetation in check to enable clear routes for vehicles throughout the village.</p>	<p>JF</p>	<p>Newsletter Item</p>
13. Communication between and at Parish Council Meetings		
<p>It was agreed that collective decision making would be adhered to, reports should be succinct and from now on, all emails will go via the clerk who will then pass this/these on either to all councillors or to the specific councillor whose area of responsibility the email pertains to. During the meeting, all effort will be made not to talk over each other.</p>	<p>JF/All councillors</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
14. Notice Boards – Content and Key Holders – Confirmation of wish to continue		
<p>The clerk will contact key holders requesting they limit the size of posters/adverts they insert in the notice boards and to be aware of how close therefore how relevant they are to Shoscombe. This is due to a space issue in the boards themselves.</p>	<p>JF</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p>DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS</p> <p>11th June – ALCA - TBC</p> <p>14th June – Bathavon Forum</p> <p>26th June – Parish Liaison</p> <p>11th July - Parish Council meeting</p> <p>17th July 2022 – Parish Liaison</p> <p>7th September – ALCA – TBC</p> <p>12th September – Parish Council meeting</p> <p>18th September – Parish Liaison</p> <p>7th November – Parish Council meeting</p>		