



SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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<u>February 8th 2010 Minutes</u>	Action
<p data-bbox="363 678 1193 779" style="text-align: center;"><u>Minutes of the Meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council held in Clark House, Shipston on Stour at 7.00pm on Monday 8th February, 2010</u></p> <p data-bbox="196 896 403 925"><u>Those Present:-</u></p> <p data-bbox="196 927 1214 1016">Town Councillors: Cllr. A. Noyce (Town Mayor), Cllr. I.C.Cooper, Cllr.Mrs.D.Courtney, Cllr. Mrs. F. Ivens, Cllr. Mrs. J. Peace, Cllr. K. Peacock, Cllr. P. Rathkey, Cllr. P. Vial, Cllr. S. Welch, Cllr. R. White</p> <p data-bbox="196 1048 724 1077">Stratford District Councillor: Cllr. R. Cheney</p> <p data-bbox="196 1108 564 1167">Press: 2 members of the press Public: 3</p> <p data-bbox="196 1294 355 1323"><u>Introduction</u></p> <p data-bbox="196 1326 1353 1384">The Town Mayor, Cllr.A.H.Noyce, welcomed Town Council members, the press, and the public to the February meeting of Shipston on Stour Town Council.</p> <p data-bbox="196 1447 491 1476"><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p data-bbox="196 1478 954 1568">Apologies for Absence were received from:- Cllr. Mrs. A. Henderson, Cllr. Mrs. J. Warner, Cllr. Mrs. P. White County Councillor: Cllr. C. Saint</p> <p data-bbox="196 1630 523 1659"><u>Acceptance of Apologies</u></p> <p data-bbox="196 1662 1198 1720">Proposed by Cllr. Vial, seconded by Cllr. Courtney to accept apologies for absence - unanimously accepted.</p> <p data-bbox="196 1783 499 1812"><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p data-bbox="196 1814 1198 1843">Cllr. Noyce declared an interest in item 9 – Shipston Town Management Partnership</p> <p data-bbox="196 1906 427 1935"><u>Previous Minutes</u></p> <p data-bbox="196 1937 1246 1995">Cllr. Courtney proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th January be accepted as a true record, seconded Cllr. Vial – this motion was unanimously agreed</p>	

Reports:
Town Councillors

Cllr. Courtney – stated that there were a number of pot holes in Mayo Road and that the Watery Lane sign had still not been repaired (*Town Clerk has notified Highways and SDC*). Cllr. Courtney noted that she had attended the Flood Fair Exhibition and that it had been a brilliant event.

Cllr. Vial – reported that he had attended the Communications working party meeting, report later on agenda.

Cllr. Cooper – stated that he was confused by the relationship of Shipston Town Council with Shipston Town Management Partnership and asked why they were using STC logo. The Mayor responded that the town crest was not specific to STC. Cllr. Welch explained that STMP were completely independent to STC and were able to carry out projects that STC were unable to pursue, adding that STMP work for the benefit of the town. Cllr. Cooper felt that STMP had been critical of STC in their newsletter and asked why STMP were listed on the agenda to give a monthly report to the council. Cllr. Vial also asked this question, stating that he would like to remove the STMP from the reports list. Cllr. Rathkey considered that we should support STMP for the work that they do and not take on an adversarial approach. (*Town Clerk to remove STMP report from agenda*).

Cllr. White – reported that Cllr. Pauline White was unwell.

Cllr. Pearce - Reported that she had attended two meetings for Vision for the Stour, finalising projects for the year and funding for the next financial year.

Cllr. Vial – reported that he had attended the fairs planning meeting.

Cllr. Peacock – raised two items:

1. The parking meter in Elliot Court is not working again, commenting that it is continually breaking down.
2. Dog fouling is continuing to be a problem in Railway Crescent, Cllr. Peacock asked if signs could be posted and a new dog bin could be installed near to the play area. (*Town Clerk to arrange for signs*)

Cllr. Ivens – reported that she would be meeting with Cllr. Saint this week and hopes to make progress on the Safer Routes to School issues. Cllr. Ivens had received complaints about late delivery of the Forum in the London Road and Hanson Avenue area. (*Town Clerk to investigate*)

Cllr. Rathkey – had attended the Flood Fair and passed on his congratulations to the STMP for such a successful event. The Town Mayor wholeheartedly agreed. Cllr. Cooper added that the event had been well organised and well attended.

Cllr. Welch – A resident had asked about a potential flood risk, where the Sports Club had filled in a ditch in order to gain access by the mowers to the pitches. The resident concerned will be sending a letter and map describing the problem more fully.

The “Bus Information Points” instigated by WCC will not now be installed due to funding issues.

SDC – Cllr. Cheney – reported on the following issues:

1. Cabinet to go ahead with the next stage of consultation on the Draft Core Strategy to complete by end of March – proposed housing for Shipston on Stour is for 250 houses at Campden Road, with the addition of a food store, medical centre and homes for the elderly.
2. The lights at the skate park are to be repaired
3. Cllr. Cheney agreed that the Flood exhibition was well organised and well received
4. Reminder about the Community Forum to take place on 25th February at the High School.
5. Cllr. Cheney visited the One-Stop-Shop building to discuss SDC presence in the town, and confirmed his support for this.
6. Cllr. Cheney stated that he had received complaints about older children playing football at Railway Crescent play area and the potential for harming the younger children playing there. Cllr. Peacock stated that he had not seen this happening.
7. Cllr. Courtney informed Cllr. Cheney that spraying had been carried out by Veolia over the weekend, residents had raised concerns about safety from toxic spray. Cllr. Cheney agreed to investigate further, he reported that he was waiting for a response from the spraying company.

Forum Editor:

The editor reported that he had also received complaints about late delivery, under the contract copies should be delivered before the end of the month. A lady had collapsed in the town, no warm blankets or space blankets had been available, the editor asked if a supply could be stored somewhere in the town centre. Cllr. Welch stated that he had obtained a supply of space blankets from WCC, he suggested that they be distributed to town centre shops for use in emergency. (*Town Clerk / Cllr. Welch to distribute*)

Shipston Town Management Partnership (STMP) – Flood Exhibition Report - Councillors were informed that of 100 brochures prepared for the Flood Exhibition only two were left, and that the exhibition had been extremely successful, exceeding expectations. The cost to STC had been only the charge for the stand and for graphics, which could be used at future events. The STMP representative stated that the logo used by STC and STMP is an heraldic fleece, which can be freely used as it is the crest of Shipston on Stour, he further stated that STMP is independent of STC and has not asked for a grant to run STMP. Cllr. Vial asked how many applications for flood equipment grants had been received, he was informed that 60 forms had been taken, STC is waiting for applications to be received. Cllr. Welch passed on his thanks to the WI for providing refreshments during the day, Mr. Tolley added his gratitude to the Bakery for providing lunch bags.

Open Forum for Parishioners

Mr. Duncan Smith commented that it was a poor show that STMP members were made to feel so unwelcome at the meeting by comments made earlier, that they left the meeting. Councillors discussed the comment. The Town Mayor expressed regrets about comments made concerning the town logo, also adding that Stour Power, an organisation previously linked with STC had been listed under reports. Cllr. Pearce congratulated STMP for the work that they do, but considered that this did not give them carte blanche to criticise how STC is run. Mr. Smith stated that STC should be able to take criticism.

Planning Matters

New planning applications to be considered:

09/02322/ADV – Advertisement consent, retrospective – 2 Bondgate House

09/02323/LBC – 2 fascia signs – retrospective – 2 Bondgate House

These two items were discussed at a previous meeting and a proposal to respond with objections by Cllr. Courtney, seconded by Cllr. Peacock – **unanimously agreed**

10/00143/FUL – 42 Telegraph Street – Erection of side kitchen extension

Proposed Cllr. Courtney, seconded Cllr. Welch – make no representation – **unanimously agreed.**

Planning decisions by District or County Council:

09/02373/FUL – 42 Telegraph Street – **Permission with conditions**

Community One-Stop-Shop

Mr. Tolley of STMP introduced discussion concerning STC participation with the One-Stop-Shop at the Telegraph Street Office, he stated that the partnership had been grateful for the lobbying by STC and added that they fully accepted that STC had their own offices, but would like STC to consider ways in which they could be involved, 4 ideas were presented:

1. Filtering of telephone calls
 - using a memorable phone number e.g. 666666
 - access for all services
 - a personal answering service – directing calls to the relevant service, this could be developed into a more high-tech system

Cllr. Cooper agreed – but added that WCC already had its own main direct call centre and stated that this facility could be used.
2. Service sign posting – 10.00 am to 2.00 pm – Tuesday to Friday and 10.00 am to 12.30 pm – Saturday A member of staff would deal with visitor enquiries
3. E-services – a suite of touch screen displays – STC would have the opportunity to have a presence on this system – which would list all services provided
4. Literature distribution – Town publications e.g. Town Guide and the Forum

All the services listed would be at a total cost of £30 per week, STMP will be run as a “not for profit organisation”

There may also be the opportunity to rent the garage at Telegraph Street for use by the Town Gardening Team for the second vehicle. Mr. Tolley added that STMP is not looking for a grant, they will be selling the services available.

Cllr. Cooper commented that this service should answer for all services available.

Cllr. Welch considered that this was an interesting concept and would welcome an indication from councillors as to whether there is an interest in supporting and using the services available.

Cllr. Rathkey proposed that the Communications Group on behalf of STC consider the suggestions made and any other ideas to work in co-operation with STMP to provide a profile / presence for the Town council at the Community One-Stop-Shop in order to make a success of it. This includes any necessary costs involved, seconded by Cllr. Pearce – **unanimously agreed**

Burial Map

Cllr. Cooper proposed that the quotation to preserve the burial map be accepted, but not to be restored, that this should be further investigated by the Town Clerk and be added to the March agenda, seconded Cllr. Welch – **unanimously agreed**

Fairs and Markets

Cllr. Welch stated that at the last meeting the suggested Italian Market had been deferred until February, this had led to some correspondence from residents. He stated that STC need to form a structure of agreement to go forward with decisions on Fairs and Markets, not the ad hoc decisions made previously. He asked for general agreement to closing the High Street for events. Cllr. Cooper commented that a small minority were against closures; Cllr. Peacock felt it was those who didn't want any change who objected and that the previous Italian Market had been a good day for trading. Cllr. Cooper stated that it was difficult for STC to dictate dates to continental markets, as they are touring markets.

Cllr. Welch asked – does anyone oppose closing the town centre – **no one against closures**

Cllr. Welch asked if anyone opposed closures during the day – **no one against**

Cllr. Welch asked if anyone opposed closures during the evening – **non one against**

Cllr. Welch stated that results from the questionnaires to residents and traders showed a preference for Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holidays.

Cllr. Welch asked how many events during the year should close the roads – consensus – 6 events – 3 to 4 markets (the top 4 requested by residents in the questionnaire results)

Cllr. Vial proposed 4 markets for the first year, following this interest could be gauged for the following year

Cllr. Welch proposed Sunday 11th April – French Market, Sunday 18th July an Italian Market, with a German Market on a Sunday before Christmas, seconded Cllr. Courtney – **unanimously agreed.**

The Mayor considered that the provision of a Farmers Market should be put on hold for now, but be looked at again in the future.

Cllr. Rathkey stated that the continental markets should be promoted to support and promote Shipston.

Cllr. Peacock suggested that to enhance the market as town events, the schools should be involved e.g. a French Day and that a shop window competition should also take place.

Financial Matters

It was proposed by Cllr. Welch and seconded by Cllr. Cooper that all invoices, shown on Appendix 1 be paid – **this motion was unanimously agreed.**

Correspondence

Letter 245 – reply to Lions and encourage an application for a grant next year.

General Purposes Report

Cllr. Welch introduced his report:

Item 1: Allotment holders have been given three months free rent to bring payments in line with the financial year, payments to be increased to £20 for a full allotment and £10 for a half allotment at New Street, £16 full and £8 half at Shoulderway Lane proposed Cllr. Welch, seconded by Cllr. Courtney – **unanimously carried**

Courtney – **unanimously carried**

Item 2: Grit bins, 7 new bins to be sited within town, 3 lockable sand bins to be positioned in West Street car park, and Mill Street car park, proposed Cllr. Welch, seconded Cllr. Courtney – **unanimously carried**

Item 3: Security at Clark House – the front door lock has been changed and the Town Clerk is gathering quotes to meet other security needs. The employment process for an Admin Assistant should commence, aiming to have a new employee in place during April. The above proposed by Cllr. Vial, seconded by Cllr. Welch – **unanimously agreed**

Item 4: Traffic and parking in the Town Centre. Cllr. Welch described a draft scheme to introduce a one way traffic system into High Street, he asked councillors to support progress of this plan, he noted that Jeff Morris of WCC Highways had been consulted for advice on how to proceed. Cllr. Vial stated that this is a problem that needs to be addressed. Cllr. Welch added that the next stage was to confer with Cllr. Saint and also to undertake public consultation, he asked if STC would support this plan. Cllr. Cooper stated that other areas identified as danger

points also needed to be addressed. Cllr. Rathkey asked if the General Purposes working party could look at pedestrianising the High Street, as this would solve all parking problems, stating that there was no apparent enforcement of illegal parking at present. Cllr. Cooper stated that pedestrianisation drains the life out of town centres. General purposes will progress the draft scheme and report back to council.

Communications Working Party

Cllr. Vial stated that decisions on the website provider would have to be deferred until the March meeting. Cllr. Vial reported that a proposal had been received from the present Editor of the Forum, this represented an increase of £1.50 per page, Cllr. Vial commented that STC had no control over the number of pages in each issue, considering that there were too many pages and also there was no editorial control; he would prefer that an editorial panel be introduced. Cllr. Cooper proposed that the offer be accepted, but that the price remain as last year, seconded Cllr. Pearce – 5 for, 4 against, 1 abstention – **motion carried**

Cllr. Vial asked councillors to consider a proposal from the existing Forum deliverer for 2010 - 2011, showing an increase from £250 per month to £300. Cllr. Cooper proposed that the contract be offered at last year's price, if a lower price cannot be found, seconded Cllr. Courtney – **unanimously carried**

Finale

The Town Mayor noted that the next meeting will be held on Monday 8th March in Clark House commencing at 7.00pm.

The Town Mayor thanked all Councillors, the press and members of the public for their attendance, and closed the meeting at 9.50 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Councillor A. Noyce
Town Mayor
Shipston on Stour Town Council