



SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL Minutes

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<u>January 2008 Minutes</u>	Action
<p data-bbox="399 632 1206 720" style="text-align: center;"><u>Minutes of Shipston on Stour Town Council held in Clark House, Shipston on Stour at 7.00pm on Monday 11th February 2008</u></p> <p data-bbox="380 753 589 781"><u>Those Present:-</u></p> <p data-bbox="380 787 1195 909">Town Councillors: Cllr.A.H.Noyce (Town Mayor), Cllr.N.J.Kaye (Deputy Town Mayor), Cllr.I.C.Cooper, Cllr.J.Evans, Cllr.S.C.Gray, Cllr.A.Henderson, Cllr.Mrs.A.A.Noyce, Cllr.K.Rutter, Cllr.M.A.Stevens, Cllr.R.Taylor, Cllr.R.White, Cllr.R.Wolf.</p> <p data-bbox="380 945 768 972">County Councillors: Cllr.C.Saint</p> <p data-bbox="380 1008 789 1035">District Councillors: Cllr.T.Russel.</p> <p data-bbox="380 1071 461 1098">Press:</p> <p data-bbox="380 1134 1143 1161">Public: 8 members of the public plus one member of the press.</p> <p data-bbox="380 1197 542 1224"><u>Introduction</u></p> <p data-bbox="380 1230 1117 1318">The Town Mayor, Cllr.A.H.Noyce, welcomed Town Council members, the press, together with the public to the February meeting of Shipston On Stour Town Council.</p> <p data-bbox="380 1354 683 1381"><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p data-bbox="380 1388 849 1415">There were no Apologies for Absence.</p> <p data-bbox="380 1451 711 1478"><u>Acceptance of Apologies</u></p> <p data-bbox="380 1484 704 1512">No acceptance necessary.</p> <p data-bbox="380 1547 688 1575"><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p data-bbox="380 1581 846 1608">There were no declarations of interest</p> <p data-bbox="380 1644 1206 1703" style="text-align: center;"><u>Minutes of the Last Town Council meeting held on 14th January 2008</u></p> <p data-bbox="380 1709 1219 1881">It was proposed by Cllr.Mrs Noyce and seconded by Cllr. Rutter that the minutes of the last Town Council meeting held on 14th January, having previously been circulated were a true record of the meeting, and that the Town Mayor can sign as so - this motion was unanimously agreed.</p>	

Reports

Town Cllrs.

Cllr.Mrs.Evans commented that lately the press have been highlighting the issue of Councillors remuneration implying that this applies to all Councillors, it therefore seems to Cllr.Evans that the Town Council should address this issue with the local press, by pointing out that Shipston On Stour Town Councillors receive no remuneration at all.

Cllr.Mrs.Henderson asked whether the issue of dog mess on pavements and elsewhere can be addressed, and the Town Mayor noted that although notices have been put out regularly over the last few years, this seems not to have had much effect. Cllr.Cooper noted that although a new dog warden has been appointed by the District Council we perhaps shouldn't expect too much at least in the early stages. Cllr. White indicated that there has been a number of prosecution of dog owners in Banbury, and this appears to have had an effect on other owners, but securing prosecutions is not easy. The Town Mayor will talk to the District Council on this issue, and will ask what can be done.

Reports of meetings attended

Cllr.Gray pointed out that the old school for women building has now been let to the café Rico.

Cllr.Mrs.Noyce reported on a meeting with the District Council regarding the draft corporate strategy of that authority, and pointed out that a copy of the report has been circulated to all Cllrs., together with a draft copy of the Town Plan. Cllr.Mrs. Evans noted that the draft corporate strategy does not indicate ownership of all the constituent parts within the strategy, and this could lead to the strategy not being fully implemented.

The Town mayor gave a report on the meeting of the allotment holders which was a little heated, however the mayor is confident that all outstanding issues can be resolved.

County Council Issues.

County Cllr.Saint pointed out to the meeting that as he represents other parishes in the area he regretfully cannot stay for the whole meeting, but will give his monthly report.

Cllr.Saint reported that a new Director of Environment and Economy has been appointed at the County Council (a Mr.P.Galland), on three months notice.

Regarding the speed limit review Cllr.Saint has asked the County Council via a formal memorandum to the Safety Engineering Team for an extension to the 30mph limit on the Campden Road, and Cllr,Saint further noted that there is a history of this request and he hopes that it will be implemented.

Cllr.Saint also noted that the area committee will meet in March.

Cllr.Saint pointed out that the last time that there were road works in

Mill Street it was an unsatisfactory diversion signage arrangement with Severn Trent Water in charge, he has therefore contacted the Highways Dept. asking for a more sensible signage which doesn't steer customers away from local traders. J.Morris of the Highways Dept. noted that this is a difficult procedure to follow in that diversions should be to the same class of road, however those who know the town appear to be using the town streets to alleviate traffic problems, with heavy traffic being diverted. The contractor hopes to have the work completed within the week. Cllr.Mrs.Evans pointed out that when she came to "road closed" area she was forced to go against what appeared to be a one way system. Cllr.Stevens added that the traffic lights themselves added to the previous problems, and asked that a different system be utilised this time, and J.Morris responded that the contractor will be responsible for the light to be functional at all times during the day and night for as long as the repairs take. The Town Mayor asked that all HGV traffic be made aware by the signage that there is no through road through Shipston, but make sure that ordinary traffic does not think that Shipston is closed. J.Morris studied the traffic flows this morning (10 Feb.) and it appeared to be working well but will monitor. The Town Mayor thanked J.Morris for sorting out the parking problem in Berry Road, and Cllr.Gray also thanked him for the formation of dropped kerbs, and the pedestrian crossing. Cllr.Rutter noted that the gully at Calloways Road has not been functional for a long time, and J.Morris replied that an order has been raised for all gullies to be inspected for the free flow of water.

District Council issues

District Cllr.Russel indicated that the District Council is working with partners to identify the causes of the floods in July, and are giving grants to Parish and Town Councils to help with flood prevention measures. Cllr.Stevens pointed out that the Environment Agency have been clearing rubbish from around the river bridge. County Cllr.Saint noted that last week the County Council has included £300K in its budget for two years in order to clear culverts etc. Cllr.Russel also pointed out that there is a staffing shortage within the planning department, but that from today there will either be a planning officer or duty officer in attendance daily. Vision for Stour was accepted together with a plan that outlined actions/time frame/ownership, and whatever is in the strategy will be delivered within four years. Cllr.White thanked Cllr.Russel for standing in for him over the period since the floods. Cllr.White also noted that in 1690 there were 4 arches on the Shipston bridge, and it was formally determined at that time to increase these to 6 arches in order that flood water escape without damaging the town. Cllr.White also noted that currently there are only 1.5 arches available to let the flood water away. The flood water rose by 5 feet in his passageway, and unless something is done about clearing the river this will happen again, even though it hasn't happened in the last 38 years.

Cllr.Mrs.Henderson asked why the individual from the Environment Agency (EA) reiterated that there was no point in dredging the river when common sense suggests that it would, the Town Mayor pointed out that the person in question appeared not to want to be at the meeting, because all he did was to repeat that dredging would not work – it would be a waste of money. Cllr.Mrs.Henderson further noted that the EA response that dredging would not work still remains unchallenged (money was not used as an argument).

Shipston Forum

Although at last month's Town Council meeting agreed that candidates for election could advertise (and pay for the advert) in the April issue, the District Council (to whom the matter was referred) indicated that there could be a perception that public funds were being used for election purposes, with the consequent question of whether the Town Council can lawfully fund this. This was discussed and it was determined that the Forum will only give a small description of all candidates.

The next issue (April) will contain photographs from a Mr.Baber whose wife was in the Land Army locally.

It was reported that Mrs Hardy was hosting a tea party for the elderly, and that Shipston On Stour was only one of seventy places to be funded for this.

With the new gateway signs there appears to be three main problems for residents:

1. Design not acceptable, although there was public consultation
2. Cost, the misapprehension that the Town Council paid for them, when in fact the funding was from outside
3. Darlinscott Road sign has been placed in the middle of a tarmac footpath, this is causing a major fuss within the town and needs to be addressed.

Cllr. Mrs Henderson asked whether the Forum will make no reference to the coming Town Council elections. County Cllr.Saint pointed out that in his view the Town Council should not identify political parties in the Forum, however District Cllr.Russel disagreed with this view. After a full discussion it was determined that only candidates names will be carried in the Forum.

Stour Power

Cllr.Gray pointed out that there has not been a meeting since the last Town Council meeting, and that the new Chairman's name is A.Heckles. Cllr.Rutter asked whether Stour Power is being wound up, and in reply Cllr.Gray answered that as Stour power has some outstanding business, it will continue as normal.

Open Forum

The Town Mayor suspended Standing Orders in order that the public can make representations to the Town Council meeting

	<p>A member of the public pointed out that there is a pothole in Donnington Road, and the gullies at the top of the road need to be looked at. J.Morris noted this and will look into it.</p> <p>A member of the public pointed out that the roadway to the Nursery is full of potholes and needs to be properly tarmaced, The Town Mayor indicated that he is hopeful that this will be dealt with within the year.</p> <p>Mrs Dot asked whether there will be an Ann Sankey award this year, and the Town Council answered in the affirmative.</p> <p>It was brought to the attention of the Town Council, that from the river bridge on the A3400, looking towards Burmington, it is apparent that someone is erecting a stone bridge and has encroached into the river. It was noted that none of the adjacent villages has a Parish Council, they only have Parish meetings, but Cllr.Saint indicated that this was a measure for the EA, and he will look into it.</p> <p>Mr.Tolley pointed out that in developments monies can be obtained under Sec.106 to the Town and Country Planning Act , and that he has found out that in regard to the Village Estate off Tilemans Lane development agreements were reached for a total sum of £689,612 between the developer, Stratford On Avon District Council, and Warwickshire County Council, and asks where the money has gone. The Town Council is unaware that any Sec.106 arrangements were agreed, and indeed neither were County Cllr.Saint, or District Cllr.Russel. Cllr.Saint noted in most Sec.106 agreements Cllrs. do not get to hear about them as they kept with the Council Officers (and legal dept.). He will look into this issue , and guesses that the dropped kerbs, and reshaping of Station Road came from this funding.</p> <p>With regard to the gateway signs.J.Morris pointed out that the County Council was not given a site identification plan, and agrees that the sign is over a footway, and discussions are taking place to resolve the problem. Cllr.Cooper pointed out that the whole issues of signs and planters was the subject of various safety procedures. The Town Mayor pointed out that the twinning sign is still missing and asked that it be replaced (S.Harrison of the County Council is dealing with the issue).</p> <p>Mr.Tolley noted that at night the gateway sign does no appear to be connected to anything, Cllr.Gray noted that currently there are two nice signs into the building, and the rest are a disgrace, therefore the Town Council should look at replacing those signs.</p> <p>Cllr.Gray pointed out that the cemetery chapel is in poor repair, and some work is necessary. It will also be necessary to obtain further information regarding what other work needs to be done (the existing architect is unwilling to carry out this work), the Clerk was therefore instructed to place this issue as an agenda item for the next meeting.</p>	
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Planning Matters

07/03551/FUL, 17 Banister way, Improvements to front entrance hall and conversion of garage to study. Erection of conservatory to rear of house (application in retrospect for conservatory) **No representation.**

08/00079/TREE, Gerrards Leys, 10 Green Lane, Shipston On Stour: T1-sycamore remove deadwood and reduce crown by 25%; T2-cypress reduce height by 25% **No representation.**

07/03361/FUL, 6 Clark Close, Shipston On Stour: proposed two storey side extension – application now withdrawn.

08/00083/ELEC, Parish of Shipston On Stour: To install a third conductor in the existing 11Kv line on wooden overhead poles as shown on attached map **No representation.**

08/00096/ELEC, Parish of Tredington, Shipston On Stour: To install a third conductor in the existing 11Kv line on wooden overhead poles **No representation.**

08/00152/TREE, 5 Redwood Park, Shipston On Stour: T1 – willow, Reduce crown by one third **No representation.**

08/00194/TREE, Gerrards Leys, 10 Green Lane, Shipston On Stour: T1 Sycamore – fell ; T2 Lawson cypress – fell **No representation.**

Financial Matters

It was unanimously agreed that all invoices presented be paid.

Correspondence

Warwick District Council Art exhibition: It was determined that this invitation be forwarded to Cllr.Mrs.Evans.

Twinning signs: It was determined that the Clerk investigate the possibility of getting the signs replaced.

The Town Plan

Cllr.Mrs.Evans commented that it was a good sensible plan, perhaps Too verbose, and refers to other plans. It would have been helpful to have an executive summary covering the major points.

Cllr.Gray proposed that the Town Plan be formally approved (District Cllr.Russel pointed out that an action plan is necessary). Mr.Tolley noted that the meeting on 13 Feb is to cross reference the Stour Vision Action Plan with the Town Plan actions, and in his view the Town Council will need an open day to get other volunteers in place for the action plan.

Cllr.Cooper noted that if the actions are those identified at the bottom of the page then the plan can be accepted.

Cllr.White seconded the proposal **The motion was unanimously agreed.**

Town Council Committees

Cllr.White left the meeting at this point. After a full and frank discussion it was proposed that Shipston On Stour Town Council utilise a committee system, the vote was 3 for the proposal, and 7 against, the proposal was lost.

Allotments

It was noted that the cost of the allotments will be the same as last year, however the discrepancy between the cost of allotments on different sites will need to be addressed. It was proposed by Cllr.Rutter and seconded by Cllr.Wolf that from next year there will be a uniform cost of £18 per full allotment, and £9 per half allotment on all sites The voting was 9 for the proposal and 1 against -**The motion was carried.**

D.Addley Training Award

The Clerk gave a choice of training schemes e.g. Working with Your Council, or a module from the University of Gloucestershire. The Clerk is to look at further training options to include Moreton Morrell College. The Town Council will fund this for 5 years, and an advert to be placed for applications.

Bus shelter

The Town Mayor is still awaiting a meeting with Stagecoach.. Cllr.Stevens suggested that if the buses came down Telegraph Street to the back of the plantation, then the shelter could be erected opposite the trees.

Clerks Report

Office security: after discussion the Town Mayor indicated that a stable door may be the best option, and will get costs. The Town Mayor will investigate a lock for the front door.

Advert for a new Town Clerk: It was determined that an advert be placed in this issue of the Forum, and also the Banbury Guardian, Stratford Herald, Cotswold Journal and any local free paper.

The Town Mayor noted that the next meeting will be on Monday 10th March 2008 in Clark House commencing at 7.00pm.

There being no further business the Town Mayor thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting at 10.10pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Councillor A.H.Noyce

	Town Mayor	
	Shipston on Stour Town Council	