

MINUTES OF SHERFIELD ENGLISH ORDINARY MEETING

Held on Wednesday 4th September 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Parish Cllrs Griffiths, R Noble, G Noble, Cook and Hoffman, Cllr Adams King, four members of the public and clerk to the council, Sue Holder.

25/031 APOLOGIES: Received from Cllrs Dovey, Lewis and Bailey.

25/032 OPEN FORUM:

- MAN – reported that Gambledown Lane needed maintenance and believed some of the recent repairs on Doctors Hill and Branches Lane were not necessary. The chairman responded that the parish council had no authority to influence which roads were maintained, other than by reporting on the Highways website. Cllr Adams King responded that roads are assessed by qualified Highways Engineers who prioritise repairs and lesser used roads are not a priority. Some potholes in Gambledown Lane should be reported, however it was not considered necessary to resurface the entire road. It was said that Hampshire Highways were not being charged for the latest road resurfacing in Branches Lane because the original work was unsatisfactory.
- DSW – reported that the Billetts have sold Hillfarm Caravan Park, and the family will be leaving by the end of October. This information was confirmed by the Chairman. The parish council are concerned that the village may lose the post office and shop from the village but will also need to be vigilant in ensuring the planning conditions provided by the Planning Inspectorate are adhered to at the site.

25/033 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATION TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

25/034 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING(S): were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

25/035 MATTERS ARISING: None

25/036 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR / COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Cllr Adams King reported that the Government have increased the new housing target for the borough by 75%, from 540 houses to 950 per year. Furthermore, as the TVBC Draft Local Plan is not at the Regulation 19 stage, the process of producing the plan must start again, to demonstrate a 5-year supply of land with plans for those 950 houses per year. This will make the borough vulnerable to Developers using the appeal process to fulfill the supply of houses required. The New Forest will need to demonstrate a plan for 1045 houses per year (was 450) and may be required to look at neighboring land. Land from Southampton to Romsey is at risk of new development, as are the villages of Ludgershall and Grateley. Sustainability is low on the list of priorities against fulfilling the housing targets. 50% of all developments will be required to be affordable housing.

It was reported that Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight are to become a combined authority, resulting in more devolved powers and funding.

Hampshire County Council have a £174 million deficit in the budget due to financial pressures, which include special educational needs.

25/037 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

For consideration by the parish council:

24/02000/LBWS Sherfield Manor Replacement of main house library timber fireplace surround.
The parish council resolved to make no objection on this application.

24/01839/AGNS Glebe Farm Determine if prior approval required for agricultural storage building.
The parish council resolved to make no comment on this application.

24/01817/FULLS Land off Salisbury Road Covert barn to one bed dwelling.
The parish council resolved to make no comment on this application. It was noted that the application was missing a bat and environmental survey, which TVBC planners will be required to address with the applicant.

23/02044/OUTS Sandhill Farm – revised planning statement
The parish council resolved to discuss this application at the October meeting.

Decisions from planning meeting 24/7/24

Goddards House 24/01573/FULLS

Single storey garage/outbuilding, carport, garage and store

The parish council resolved to object to this application as it does not sit within the curtilage and will be obtrusive for other residents and a loss of daylight to another property.

St Michaels 24/01375/FULLS

Removal of post box only

The parish council did support the concerns raised by a parishioner over the removal of the post in Newtown Lane and objected to the proposal, however it was reported by the applicant that the post box was to be relocated on the same road and so the objection was withdrawn.

Decisions received from TVBC

24/01395/FULLS Old Bush, Permission

24/01375/FULLS St Michaels, Permission

25/038 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Hoffman reported that a final draft of the Neighbourhood Plan would be made available for the parish council to review as soon as possible.

25/0239 LENGTHSMAN

It was reported that the Lengths man had completed cutting back the overgrown foliage from the A27 footpath and would be tasked with repairs to the Newtown Lane bus stop in September.

25/040 HIGHWAYS /MAINTENANCE ISSUES

It was reported that all the verges in the village were now so overgrown the foliage is encroaching on to the road resulting in a narrowing of the road in places. Branches from trees hanging over the road are also being knocked off by large vehicles littering the roads. Steplake Lane towards the Children's playing field is an issue, as the footpath is overgrown forcing pedestrians onto the road. The overgrown hedges of Steplake Lodge will be reported to Hampshire County Council.

Potholes in Gambledown Lane will also be reported to Hampshire County Council.

21754760/21743247 It had been previously reported that areas of Branches Lane have now been resurfaced.

21725261 – Junction of Pound Lane with Branches Lane – tarmac needs redressing, and Church Lane also requires maintenance.

25/041 VILLAGE HALL

Concerns were raised about the lack of heating in the village hall heading into winter, even though the chairman has written on two occasions to the SEVH Trust, requesting an update.

25/042 CORRESPONDENCE

Rural affordable housing briefing, noted.

St Leonards 120yr celebration 15.9.24 invitation, Cllrs responded directly.

TSB – G Noble, noted.

M Arnison Newgass – Branches Lane, discussed in open forum.

TVBC community funding, noted.

Kate Evans / Jenny Kerr – Postbox in Newtown Road, reported under planning.

C Pybus – Tintabinackle – referred to NP group and agreed it was a family matter and not for the parish council.

SSEN funding, noted.

Highways – 21754760, Branches Lane, noted.

HCC report, noted.

SERP accounts – copy for next pc meeting, noted as still not received.

BDO – conclusion of audit, reported under Finance.

25/043 COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

CHURCH – Cllr G Noble reported that a celebration service would be held at the church on the 15th of September to commemorate the 120th anniversary of the consecration of St Leonard's Church to be led by Right Reverend Philip Mounstephen, Bishop of Winchester.

SERP – Cllr Hoffman reported the recent Music Day, arranged by SERP, had been well supported raising funds of approximately £1500.00. The new equipment at the children's playground is being enjoyed and solutions to allow better access for families, possibly with cars, is being considered. A large fund-raising application has been submitted to TVBC as an initial contribution towards the drainage solution at the sports ground. It was reported that the Bowls Club have been unable to pay SERP £600 rent and may ask the parish council for funding. A formal application has been requested.

25/044 FINANCE

a) Bank Balance as at 01.08.24 was confirmed to be £6540.59.

b) Cllr Cook, as a non-signatory on the bank account, confirmed the bank statement reconciliation with figure presented at this meeting.

c) The following payments to be ratified at this meeting:

Parish online, website services	£378.00 ®	#160
Clerks Expenses	£433.00	#161
BDO External Audit	£252.00	#162
Parish online, mapping software	£90.00	#163

d) Conclusion of audit: It was reported that on the basis of the External Auditors review of sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, prepared and submitted by the Clerk, in their opinion the information is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. A notice of the conclusion of audit will now be published on the website.

25/045 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 9th of October 2024, full committee.

The meeting closed at 09.15pm