



Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Shaw-cum-Donnington Village Hall on Wednesday 17 July 2024 at 7.30pm

### Present

Councillors Margo Payne (MP) (Chair), Richard Almond (RA), Paul Bryant (PB), Anni Gruner (AG), Ian Miller (Vice Chair) (IM), Gillian Durrant (GD) Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

**Note:** P – proposed, S = seconded (All decisions unanimous unless otherwise indicated)

194 **Apologies** Councillors Mary Carter (MC), Glyn Thomas (GT), Colin Yates (CY)

195 **Declarations of interest** there were none.

### 196 **Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2024, were approved, (P – RA, S – PB).

### 197 **Matters arising**

- RA is yet to set up new email address, but will do so before the September meeting.
- Cold Ash Parish Councillors have offered to meet with us to discuss the pros and cons of doing a Neighbourhood Plan. RA and GD to meet with them, a date is to be arranged.
- The grass has been cut at Owen Road field.
- MP's meeting with the Trinity headteacher to discuss traffic issues outside the school will be held tomorrow afternoon.
- GD is yet to meet with member of the public re the donated bench.
- The newsletter has been printed and most already delivered. GD to chase CY re delivery.
- Most grass in the parish has now been cut, with the exception of the verge on Shaw Hill. GD to chase WBC again regarding this.
- GD has not yet had success in finding someone to quote for removal of concrete behind the pavilion.

### 198 **Correspondence**

- WBC Senior Transport Officer has emailed about the planned bus stops in Bastion Street.
- VE Day 80 will be commemorated on 8 May 2025 with beacons at 9.30pm. Councillors agreed to hold a beacon lighting. GD to chase English Heritage to see if we can have a real beacon rather than a gas one.
- WBC email offering free bus shelters for parish councils. It was agreed that we would request a provisional number of five bus shelters, but subject to consultation with residents. Councillors to consider where they could go and GD to ask the public for suggestions on Facebook.

### 199 **Finance**

a. The following payments were approved (P – RA, S – AG), IM and GT will authorise the payments.

Litter picker	Litter picking June	83.00
Clerk	Salary for June (net)	1,131.51

Clerk	Bouncy Castle for fete	90.00*
Clerk	printing of newsletter	216.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Newbury Scouts	donation for children's activity at fete	100.00*
Sout Berks Concert Band	Fee for playing at fete	200.00*
Vodafone	Refund for cancelled event at recreation ground	80.00*
Berkshire Rosettes	Rosettes for dog show at fete	70.70
James Snelling	Grounds maintenance June	280.50
James Snelling	Petrol	53.13
Mark Ulry	Mower repair	50.00
Cleaner	June	41.70
Village Hall	booking for village fete	93.20
Volker Highways	50% cost of new lampposts on Shaw Hill	10,343.12
SSE	Electricity for lampposts (May)	394.26
HMRC	PAYE/NIC for June	130.74
Tactical Facilities Management	Bin emptying June	174.84
NEST (DD)	Pension for clerk June	170.19*
Veolia (DD)	Bin emptying for June	<u>46.82*</u>
		<b><u>£13,749.71</u></b>

Total payments authorised for June (excluding Direct Debits and Invoices already paid\*) **£13,062.70**

b. Review of the council's investments: CCLA interest rate today was 5.17% for the Public Sector Deposit Fund.

c. Councillors considered the council's expenditure from 1 April to 30 June 2024.

## 200 Planning

a. Applications

1. 24/01030/REG3 Castle School new classrooms on former site of bungalow. No objection. (P – PB, S – RA).

b. Decision

1. 24/00695/COND White Lodge, Donnington Grove. Two storey rear extension. Approved.

2. 24/00731/HOUSE 81 Kingsley Close, front porch. Approved.

## 201 To adopt policies on Complaints Procedure, Disciplinary Procedure and Reserves Policy

It was agreed to adopt the three policies. (P – MP, S – IM).

## 202 District Councillors Report

MV sent her apologies but sent an update regarding the bus and ANPR; GD to chase WBC to find out when the turning circle at Bastion Street is to be installed. MV has emailed an update regarding the transfer of land for the school –David Wilson Homes have served notice on the Council under the terms of the s106 unilateral undertaking to transfer the school land. The Council will be responding shortly to require additional information on matters such as ground levels, contamination, noise and frost heave.

## 203 Road Safety in the Parish

- Report on Community Speed Watch

IM reported that there had been one CSW sessions since the last meeting. Those caught speeding on the B4009 did have valid insurance. IM is struggling to get volunteers for CSW sessions, as many do not respond. The B4009 CSW meeting with adjacent parishes and WBC will be held tomorrow. IM will attend.

- Next steps for the campaign for a crossing by The Castle Pub. A group of councillors will take paper petitions to the recreation ground on a sunny weekend to gather signatures. GD to put the electronic petition link on local Facebook groups.

204 **Amenities**

Councillors considered the latest RoSPA report on the play equipment at Donnington Recreation Ground. GD to find a checklist or training for councillors for visual play area inspections. RA offered to make fortnightly playground inspections.

205 **Grass cutting in the churchyard and the open space opposite the churchyard on Church Road**

Item postponed until September.

206 **Members reports and questions**

RA mentioned that the car park at the top of the recreation is growing unevenly, so may need some more seed in the autumn. Some of the beech hedge will need to be replaced in the autumn too.

207 **Exclusion of members of the public due to the contractually sensitive nature of the item to be discussed.** The member of public left prior to this item, so no vote was required.

208 **To agree on a contractor for replacement playground surfacing at Donnington Recreation Ground.**

GD to contact Ava Recreation for some examples of their work. If councillors are happy their quote will be accepted, and we will ask for the surfacing work to be done in September. It was agreed to include surfacing by the gates to the toddler play area and the side of the slide. (P, MP - S, RA)

209 **To agree to proceed with a quotation for the replacement of the lanterns in Church Road Car Park.**

All agreed to go with Callum Eley's quote so long as the price is correct for 5 lanterns and the spec is agreeable to PB. (P - AG, S - PB).

Chairperson

The meeting closed at 20.39pm