



Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Shaw-cum-Donnington Village Hall on Wednesday 16 October 2024 at 7.30pm

### **Present**

Councillors Margo Payne (MP) (Chair), Richard Almond (RA), Paul Bryant (PB), Mary Carter (MC), Ian Miller (Vice Chair), (IM), Glyn Thomas (GT), Colin Yates (CY), Gillian Durrant (GD) Parish Clerk, WBC Councillor Martha Vickers (MV) and one member of the public.

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

### 224 **Apologies** None

The Chair announced that in future meetings there will be a dedicated item for questions from members of the public.

225 **Declarations of interest** MC is an acquaintance of the carpenter that has quoted for the disabled toilet in the pavilion.

### 226 **Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2024, subject to a typo on item 222, were approved, (P – IM, S – GT).

### 227 **Matters arising**

- GD has added the .gov.uk email addresses to the newsletter and website.
- GD to collate response from councillors and find a date for the donated bench to be installed.
- Thames Valley Police 'Have Your Say' meeting was held. The two policewomen attending were a reassuring presence to the public attending.
- IM to investigate if we need to replace the lawn mower.
- The Autumn Litter Pick went ahead on 12 October, with a low turnout, possibly due to the wet weather.
- New toddler swings have been installed in the playground.
- Grass cutting in the churchyard – there will be 2 more cuts and another collection this year.
- The WI are purchasing a flowering cherry to add to the hedge.
- RoSPA report has been issued and the basket swing needs to be raised – GD to organise this to be done. RA to take photos of worn wooden rungs on the Castle equipment.

228 **Correspondence** there was none.

## 229 Finance

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

### September

Litter picker	Litter picking September	83.20
Clerk	Salary for September (net)	1,131.51
Clerk	Pavilion items and printer paper	16.00
Clerk	Printed Easy newsletter printing	193.20
Clerk	damp proof course materials	117.00
Clerk	bulk bags for pavilion works	22.99
James Snelling	Grounds maintenance September	231.00
Petrol		24.00
Cleaner	September	27.80
NBB Recycled furniture	Donated bench	516.00
Marios Plumbing	Replacement shower etc in pavilion	648.00*
Ava Recreation	replacement toddler swing seats	618.86
Clear Insurance	Insurance premium	1,853.40*
Village Hall	Hire for 'Have your Say' meeting	21.20
WBC	Charge for RoSPA inspection	65.51
HMRC	PAYE/NIC for September	130.54
Tactical Facilities Mgmt	Bin emptying September	174.84
Tactical Facilities Mgmt	Mowing Owen Road Field	96.00
NEST (DD)	Pension for clerk September	170.19*
Veolia (DD)	Termination fee for bin removal in December	60.00*
Veolia (DD)	Bin emptying for September	47.30*
		<b><u>£6,248.54</u></b>
Total payments authorised for September (excluding Direct Debits and Invoices already paid*)		<b><u>£3,639.84</u></b>

- b. Review of the council's investments: CCLA interest rate today was 4.93% for the Public Sector Deposit Fund.
- c. Councillors noted the budget to actual report for 6 months to September 2024
- d. Councillors considered grant requests, and agreed to donate £200 to the NWN Over 80s Parcel Fund and £50 the West Berkshire Heritage Forum (P - MP, S - CY)

## 230 Planning

- a. Decisions

- 24/01698/NONMAT – Shaw Valley, amendments regarding conserving fuel and power.  
Approved
- 24/01924/NONMA – Meadowcroft, Castle Lane, amendment to reduce scope of works.  
Approved

- b. Councillors discussed the recent Local Plan Review hearing at WBC's council offices on 2 October that was attended by GT, RA and PB. RA reported that the PC was against piecemeal developments without the necessary infrastructure. WBC planning officers

appeared to be in agreement that the land either side of the B4009 should not be developed because of flooding. PB spoke to agents from Turley Associates and Donnington New Home and they seemed to be enthusiastic about consulting with us while developing their plans. GT felt that the Inspector had done his homework and that Turley Associates on behalf of David Wilson Homes seem to be very single minded, saying they are ready to go ahead with a planning application tomorrow, rather than wait for a comprehensive plan.

MV mentioned a new Government policy called 'Healthy New Developments', and there has been a meeting about this at WBC with stakeholders.

#### 231 **District Councillors Report**

MV reported that the unfulfilled developer conditions mean that the land for the new school has still not been transferred. GT said that DWH have around 90 out of 222 houses still to build and sell. TW have nearly sold all of their homes. GD suggested naming and shaming the developers in order to make them speed up the land transfer. MP mentioned that Long Lane is in a very dangerous state at the moment following the harvesting. MV said WBC is aware of the situation.

MV will be following up with a meeting with Cheryl Evans and the headteacher of Trinity School regarding the traffic issues outside the school.

#### 232 **Road Safety in the Parish**

IM reported that there had only been two sessions of Community Speed Watch due to illness and bad weather. Priors Court Road was closed so there were fewer cars on the B4009. MC reported that the letter to TVP from WBC regarding TVP action on the B4009 has not yet been sent. MP advised the IAG that it is taking the Police five weeks to send out letters to speeding motorists following a CSW session, and this will be tabled for discussion at the next meeting IAG meeting.

John Payne has persuaded many residents of Long Lane to put speed stickers on their wheelie bins.

#### 233 **Designs for new identity road signs for the Parish.**

Councillors considered several designs for new welcome signs for Shaw and Donnington. GD to get quotes for signs – and to approach Volker highways for a quote for installation. GD to go through locations and requirements with GT.

#### 234 **Amenities**

- a. MC updated the Council on the progress of the members bid grant application for the disabled toilet, cupboards and repairs to the pavilion. All agreed to go ahead with the grant application, but not to include the wall repair, as this needs to be done quickly. GD to submit application and copy MV and AA (P – MC, S - IM).
- b. GD explained the plan for the repair to the back wall of the pavilion. PB, MC and GT have volunteered to help on 7 and/or 8 November, MP may also be able to help.
- c. IM and PB carried out the Autumn maintenance check of the pavilion and as a result a leaking shower had been replaced.
- d. The Veolia bin contract has now been cancelled, and the existing wheelie bin which belongs to Veolia will be removed at the end of December. Tactical Facilities Management

will take over the emptying of the bin, and have quoted for a replacement. Councillors agreed to rent the new bin, which will be attached to a ground stake and have a lock.

**235 Parish Council's response to WBC consultation to extend the hours of pedestrianisation in Newbury town centre**

GT said he preferred that WBC don't extend the pedestrianisation due to the lack of North South routes in the town. He could not see the benefit to this. PB doesn't understand the purpose of the extension, and does not feel strongly either way. MC recalled the recent closure of Bartholomew Street and said there was gridlock in the town centre. RA said he would like to know the effect on business in the town as a result of a trial period. IM said while there is no alternative North South route it was a bad idea. CY said the plan is to increase the footfall in the town, but he isn't sure it is a good idea in Newbury due to the road layout. MV said it will give scope to restaurants and cafes to expand their outdoor space and it would provide a more pleasant environment without traffic. One option would be to reopen Parkway Bridge in the evenings. Councillors agreed that the pedestrianisation extension would only work if Parkway Bridge were to be open to traffic in the evenings. GD to respond with the Council's comments.

**236 Parish Plan Action Plan Review**

All accepted the updated. GD to publish it on website.

The last plan was refreshed in 2019 and since then hundreds of new homes have been built in the parish soon. MC suggested we may consider doing this again. GD pointed out it will be a good idea to have some sort of public consultation soon, so the results can be used when the Parish Council responds to the next Local Plan.

GD to set up meeting with RA and Cold Ash Parish Council re neighbourhood development plan

**238 Date for the Donnington Village Fête in 2025**

It was agreed that the Fete would be held on Sunday 22 June 2025, and that the working group would start meeting in the next few weeks to begin to plan the event.

**237 Members reports and questions**

MP mentioned that the signage for the Bastion Street entrance is inadequate, as it should be a no entry sign, rather than a cul-de-sac sign. A number of motorists have been seen driving through the street, and when questioned, were unaware that it was illegal to drive through. GD to email Highways with concerns and MV to follow this up.

GD to ask the developers to provide dog and litter bins on the new estates. The new bus route needs to be in the next newsletter. GD to circulate dates for Parish Council Christmas meal.

**238 Exclusion of members of the public**

Councillors agreed to exclude the members of the public due to the contractually sensitive nature of the item to be discussed. (P – CY, S – PB).

239 **Decision to progress with quote received for the disabled toilet in the pavilion for the grant application**

Councillors agreed to go ahead with the quote from J Keel, subject to the members bid grant being approved. (P - PB, S – CY).

Chairperson

The meeting closed at 21.40pm

DRAFT