

**Minutes of Shevington Parish Council Meeting
Held Thursday 24 January 2019
7:00pm – Shevington Library**

Present: Councillor I Whiteley (*Chairman*), Cllrs W McKnight, C Horridge, J Ball, C Miles, J Fletcher and K Shaw
Dist Cllrs J Brown and M Whittham
Twelve members of the public
Ms J Yates (Service Manager – Age Well) and Ms S Hanbury (Service Manager – Housing Policy & Reform) at Wigan Council were present for Items 1055 – 1057.

Officer in Attendance: Mrs K Pilkington (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting by introducing the visitors:
Ms J Yates and Ms S Hanbury

1055 Apologies for Absence

Dist Cllrs P Collins

1056 Declaration of Interests

Cllrs J Ball and I Whiteley w.r.t. Item 1070 (*personal*)
Cllr C Miles w.r.t. Item 1070 (*personal and prejudicial*)

Standing Orders were suspended.

1057 Plans for the Future of the Former Shevington Community School Site in Miles Lane

Ms Yates and Ms Hanbury took it in turns to make their presentations on the LA's proposals for the introduction and development of Extra Care Services on the former school site. They then took questions from both elected members and the members of the public present. *See Appendix A.*

Cllrs K Shaw and C Miles joined the meeting at different times during the presentations.

Ms Yates and Ms Hanbury were thanked for their contributions to the meeting and were invited to return later in the year to update the Council on progress. Dist Cllr Whittham thanked all those present for the very pertinent questions that they had asked.

Ms Yates and Ms Hanbury left the meeting.

1058 Matters Introduced by Members of the Public

No matters were introduced by members of public.

1059 District Councillors' Reports

Reports, both previously circulated and verbal, were received from District Councillors. See *Appendix B*.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

1060 Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Council (13 December 2018)

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13 December 2018 were approved as a true and correct record.

1061 Chairman's Report

Christmas Shop-Front Award

The Chairman reported that she and the judge had presented the awards to the three winners and the four shops that had been 'highly commended' on 11 January. All had received certificates. The judge had written a wonderful report on the reasons for her choices and the Clerk had included relevant extracts from the report on the certificates.

1062 Reports from Councillors

Over-Grown Tree at Forest Fold Allotments

A member reported that he had passed on the contact details of the farmer, whose land had a boundary with the allotments at the spot where the tree was located, to the Clerk. During the conversation the farmer had complained about a tenant who persisted in throwing his rubbish over the allotment fence into the farmer's field. The Clerk advised that the tenant had been written to several times and that she and the Chairman of the Allotments Society had met with him in December to discuss the issues.

Shevington Methodist Church Car Park

It was reported that the Methodist Church car park would be closed to the public the following day to facilitate a large funeral. This would cause issues in the village, as there would also be a large service at St Anne's Church the same day.

Broken Swing Basket

In response to an enquiry from a resident, the Clerk advised that she had visited the playground to inspect the swing basket after it had been reported to her. The part that had become detached was no longer attached to the fence, as in the photograph sent to her, and the swing basket appeared intact. The Clerk had compared the swing basket to a photograph taken of it during the Summer of 2018 and had found that the basket currently there was a very new one – the implication being that the whole basket had been replaced.

1063 Reports from Representatives

Shevington & District Community Association

The meeting was due to take place the following week.

Crooke Village Residents' Association

There was no report.

Shevington Youth Club

A recently submitted bid for funding had been rejected on the grounds that the plan was excessively large, so a smaller plan was being prepared.

Shevington Recreation Ground Trustees

There had been a meeting earlier in the week and there were several things to report:

- The football club had previously only been allowed to start playing at 11am, but the Vicar had said that play could begin at 10:30am on the grounds that the noise did not impact on the Service at St Anne's. A member observed that the football club members used the Methodist Church car park and an earlier start could create issues for the congregation. This would be raised at a future meeting of the Trustees.
- The end of year balance had been £486, which the Fete Committee had recently boosted by making a donation of £100.
- The representative of the football club had reported that two of the young football teams would be going to Angers at Easter to play with their French counterparts.

'in Bloom' Groups

The RHS theme for entries this year would be Wildlife and Ecology.

Appley Bridge would have two entries: Edible Appley Bridge and Appley Bridge in Bloom.

Shevington in Bloom would not be entering either the Britain in Bloom or the North West in Bloom competitions. They had decided that in future they would only enter every three years, when Wigan included them in their entry. However, they had said that, if the Parish Council decided to enter Memorial Park in the Small Parks section, they would be willing to support the preparation of the park for the entry.

Patient Participation Group

There was no report.

Shevington Rugby & Football Clubs

There was no report.

Vicarage Lane Fields Developments

Twelve new raised beds would be available from about May.

Friends of Shevington Memorial Park

Tickets for the Quiz Night the following evening were sold out.

1064 DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee (10 January 2019)

The draft minutes of the meetings of the Finance Committee held on 10 January 2019 were received.

1065 Memorial Park: NWinB Judges Feedback

The Council discussed the judges' feedback for the park's gold winning entry in the 2018 Small Parks category of the North West in Bloom competition.

Resolved: The Council would enter Memorial Park in the Small Parks section of the 2019 North West in Bloom competition.

1066 Memorial Park: Heritage Lottery Funding Plan

Earlier this month the Finance Committee delegated the preparation of a pre-application letter to the HLF to a small working party. However, as it had since been discovered that the HLF were re-structuring their grant funding programmes and at the end of January would be publishing a new framework. Hence, the preparation of a pre-application letter had been postponed until the new information was available.

The Chairman had prepared and circulated a paper in connection with a Heritage Lottery Funding Plan. This was discussed. It was agreed that the working party should meet once the new guidelines had been published and prepare the pre-application letter. They should then consult the LA's Community Funding Manager before submitting it to the HLF.

1067 Permission Request: Photoshoot

The Council had recently received a request from a student of Fashion Photography for permission to carry out a photoshoot in Shevington. This was discussed.

Resolved: The Council agreed to give the student permission to carry out a photoshoot in Memorial Park with the restriction that the Memorial Garden was not to be included in the exercise.

1068 Budget & Precept 2019

The budget and precept for 2019/20, as recommended by the Finance Committee, were briefly discussed.

Resolved: The Council approved a budgeted expenditure for 2019/20 of £115,506 (including an expenditure contingency of £5,000) and a precept of £69,889.

1069 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was received. *See Appendix C.*

1070 Financial Aid Applications

An application from an individual for a contribution towards a new wheelchair was considered at length. Legislation prevented the awarding of grants to an individual.

Resolved: The application was rejected.

The members were sympathetic towards the applicant's situation and asked that helpful suggestions about the way forward should be included in the reply sent to the applicant.

1071 Payments, Income & Bank Balances

The Income / Expenditure Schedules for December / January were received.
See Appendix D.

Resolved: That the Accounts be approved and the cheques signed in payment, due notice being given to the bank statements exhibited.

1072 Planning Applications

None to note.

1073 Next Meetings

7 February (Policy & General Purposes Committee); 28 February (Council)

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Resolved: That, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Dist Cllrs J Brown and M Whitham and most members of the public left the meeting. The representative of Shevington's rugby and football clubs remained for Item 1074.

Cllr J Fletcher withdrew from the meeting and returned shortly afterwards.

1074 Vicarage Lane Fields Developments Update

The representative of Shevington's rugby and football clubs reported on progress with the grant applications for the new community building and the clubs' vision for the future.

The representative of Shevington's rugby and football clubs left the meeting.

1075 Memorial Park Drainage

Confidential documentation relating to the design of the drainage system for the park and the tendering process was considered.

Resolved: The Council approved the designs and the specifications for the work to be carried out. They agreed that the contracts should be awarded prior to the submission of bids for grants and be subject to the funds having been secured. The quote of £1,200 from TGMS for assistance with the tendering process was accepted and approved. The above amount was vired from the General Reserve to the 'Memorial Park Drainage' cost centre.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Chairman