

**Shapwick Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting held on 26 November 2019**  
**at 7.30pm at Shapwick Village Hall, Shapwick**

- 19/20/76 Present:** Brian Norris, Martin Davies, Jerome Hayes, Nigel Phillips, Sally Richardson and Sue Sellick
- 19/20/77 In Attendance:** Sue Williams (Clerk)
- 19/20/78 Also Present:** County Councillor David Huxtable  
4 members of the village
- 19/20/79 Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies were received from Laura Anderson.
- 19/20/80 Minutes of the Meetings held on 17 September 2019**  
The minutes were agreed and duly signed.
- Villagers' Open Period**
- 19/20/81 County Councillors Reports**  
County Cllr. David Huxtable drew attention to the monthly reports he sends to PCs. Took questions from the floor. Jerome Hayes asked about the Gravity Road works enquiring where the road will come out. David Huxtable explained that a roundabout will be built to allow access to the A39 from Puriton.  
  
8.00pm Cllr. David Huxtable left the meeting.
- 19/20/82 Ditch and Drainage Maintenance**  
Councillors agreed that the annual maintenance of the village's ditch and drainage system is proving successful as water remains free flowing even during periods of heavy rain.  
  
Jerome Hayes has been in contact with the contractor who has suggested that, once the areas for maintenance this year have been decided, the work is carried out as early as possible.  
  
Jerome Hayes and Brian Norris to carry out a village walkabout to determine the areas to be covered under this year's cycle. Brian Norris to contact the Jenkins family to ensure that access to the ditch in their field is obtained. This ditch is one of significant important in the drainage system and was not cleared last year.  
  
Jerome Hayes to liaise with contractor.
- 19/20/83 Dog Fouling**  
The Clerk and Councillors have received a number of complaints regarding dog fouling around the village – Mill Lane, Bridewell Lane and the churchyard seem to be the worst hit areas.  
  
*On 22nd July 2008, The Fouling of Land by Dogs (Sedgemoor District Council) Order came into effect. It is the responsibility of the dog owner to clean up after the dog if it fouls in a public area. Failure to do so may incur a Fixed Penalty Notice of £75, or a criminal conviction in Court.*

**19/20/83 cont'd**

Discussion took place as to how best to tackle the issue. It was agreed to contact the dogwarden and ask them to visit the village so that siting of signs/bins can be discussed. The use of cameras was discussed – need to consider GDPR before pursuing this route.

Jerome Hayes drew attention to the health issues surrounding toxoplasmosis.

**19/20/84 Housing Needs Project**

Clerk to liaise with Chair and Vice-Chair to arrange a suitable date.

**19/20/85 Shapwick News**

Several people had expressed disappointment at the cessation of the Shapwick News particularly those who prefer a paper copy to an online one. However, despite this no one has come forward to volunteer to help with the production.

The Chair proposed that another call out for volunteers is made in the hopes that the News can be reinstated in the New Year.

**19/20/86 Planning Application 43/19/0004 - Mendip View**

The application has been withdrawn and the agent has advised SDC that a new one is being worked on. Whilst this remains the case the enforcement team has no authority to pursue the matter. District Councillor Duncan McGinty had previously warned that common practice is to submit, withdraw and resubmit applications to increase the timeframe.

Jerome Hayes proposed that a letter is sent to Councillor Duncan McGinty expressing, in the strongest terms, the disappointment of the Parish Council that operations continue without any permission and that action is required. Seconded by Brian Norris. Unanimous.

**19/20/87 Village Sign**

Obtaining other quotes is proving difficult. Many contacted have not replied or declined to quote. One further avenue is being pursued. Clerk to complete the process.

**19/20/88 Community Christmas Tree**

Jerome Hayes to purchase the tree. Date to put up tree is Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am. Clerk to liaise with Rosemary Hargreaves to ensure the church will be open including the small chancel door and that there will access to the storage cupboard.

**19/20/89 Litter Pick 2020**

Date selected Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020. Clerk to check availability of hall or pavilion. WI to asked to provide refreshments.

**19/20/90 Councillors' Reports**

**Highways** – Chestnut Lane: Recent hedge cutting has left a lot of debris in the road – it is the contractor's responsibility to clear up after hedge cutting. There is also a lot of mud on the road. Bad potholes at edge of roadside to be reported. Northbrook Road: Bad potholes along the road to be reported. Collapsed culvert near Sunflower Cottage (cone marking the spot) to be reported. Wood Lane: Leaf debris from overhanging trees causing a safety issue as vehicles are finding it difficult to get traction as they pull out onto A39. To be reported. Hawk and Owl Trust: Overhanging willows at side of road – Clerk to contact to ask for them to be cut back.

19/20/90 cont'd

**Verges** – Bulbs have been collected and require planting. Hedge overhanging path on Main Road – Clerk to write polite letter to home owner.

19/20/91

**Finance**

**a) Requests for Funds** Mendip Community Transport – request for funds to support the service. Agreed not to support on this occasion.

Previously, Tracey Lockyer had contacted the PC about siting a memorial bench on the verge close to her field. Jerome Hayes proposed that as the bench would be a village amenity and that Tracey does a lot for the village the PC support the cost of the fixing of the bench (Clerk waiting for advice from highways about siting of bench on verge) up to a maximum of £250.00. Seconded by Martin Davis. Unanimous.

Brian Norris proposed that the PC agree expenditure up to £250.00 in respect of signs/bins in relation to the dog fouling problem. Seconded by Sally Richardson. Unanimous. Purchase will not be made until consultation with dog warden has taken place.

**b) Cheques for Signature** Walton Press £82.00 (Chq 876, News printing) and Mrs S E Williams £397.01 (Chq 877, salary and expenses).

**c) Bank Mandate** It was agreed that Sally Richardson and Nigel Phillips will be added to the bank account as signatories. Clerk to complete paperwork.

19/20/92

**Date of Next Meeting**

Date of next PC meeting will be Tuesday 21 January 2020 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

