



Shenley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2021, AT 7.45PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, 108 LONDON ROAD, SHENLEY

(DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS AND HEALTH AND SAFETY ONLY COUNCILLORS WERE ABLE TO ATTEND IN PERSON, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE ABLE TO VIEW VIA ZOOM)

PRESENT: Councillors Justine Ash, Nicky Beaton, Rosemary Gilligan, Annie Keen, Sharon Madsen, Gavin O'Sullivan, Anthony Spencer, Natalie Susman and William Susman

In attendance:

- Amanda Leboff, Clerk to the Council

44/21.22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were submitted from County Councillor Morris Bright.

45/21.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillors Gilligan, Spencer and Madsen Declared an Interest in the item concerning Shenley Park Trust. Councillors N & W Susman declared they would abstain from any votes concerning Cowley Hill.

46/21.22 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th JULY 2021.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting, held on the 13th July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record, and to be signed by Cllr Beaton and adopted by the Council.

47/21.22 REVIEW OF ACTION PLAN FROM ABOVE MEETINGS

The Action plan was **NOTED**.

48/21.22 MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17th AUGUST 2021.

The meeting **NOTED** the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting, held on the 17th August 2021.

49/21.22 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19th AUGUST 2021.

The meeting **NOTED** the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting, held on the 19th August 2021.

50/21.22 PUBLIC ISSUES

The Parish Council had received the following questions from residents: -

1. Why is Hertsmere Council claiming that there is an obligation them to provide 760 houses p.a when a) this is higher than initial estimates and b) the government has made clear that councils can apply for exemptions based on the percentage of greenbelt land in the borough and that Councils should be protecting the greenbelt.
2. Why has the Harris Lane/included when already expert reports made it clear that the site was inappropriate for development because it is ecologically valuable grassland and there are no natural



Shenley Parish Council

boundaries to prevent subsequent further urban sprawl? Where are the references to these reports and please can the Council demonstrate how they have been used to come to the decision to include this site.

3. The parish council's dialogue to date with Hertsmere about which Shenley sites were shortlisted and any reasons known for inclusion of Harris Lane in the shortlisted sites.
4. The council's initial views on the proposals (acknowledging that the full plan has not yet been released to the public)
5. Strategy for the council's response to the Hertsmere plans for Shenley.

In response to these questions, it was highlighted that residents will have to ask Hertsmere Borough Council all these questions when the public consultation opens on 11/10/21. The Parish Council want to do presentations to all residents regarding the local plan, so people know what is happening. It was suggested that HBC Councilors be invited to hear what the Shenley residents feel.

It was also noted that there was surprise that the Harris Lane site had been prioritized. SPC confirmed they had no idea what sites would be prioritized.

It was also noted that over 2000 have been proposed in the Shenley Parish.

It was also suggested that a campaign group be started to tackle the issues surrounding the Local Plan.

The Chair thanked the residents for their questions.

The issue of private homes, whose shrubbery overhangs pathways was also mentioned. It was confirmed that the Parish Council have a joint letter with Highways that can be sent to these home owners.

51/21.22 REPORTS OF COMMITTEE, MEMBERS AND CLERK

- (i) Amend Planning Committee Terms of Reference
Following a proposal and seconder, it was: **-RESOLVED** that the Planning Committee Terms of Reference be amended to 3 Councillors being needed for quoracy instead of 4.
- (ii) Cowley Hill – Letter to the Secretary of State
Following a proposer and seconder it was **AGREED** that this item together with item 52/21.22 (ix) will be discussed following Exclusion of Press and Public at the end of the meeting.
- (iii) Keep Tidy Signage
The meeting was informed that the majority of signs are now up, with the rest to follow.



Shenley Parish Council

(iv) Allotments and Horticultural sheds

The next allotment committee meeting is due to take place at the beginning of October.

(v) Action for a Cleaner Shenley – Update

The meeting was informed that the team have collected to date for August 23.5 bags and for September so far 29.5 bags. Year to date 397 bags have been collected (compared to a total of 418 bags in 2020).

The Groundwork team are doing great work clearing the Spinney.

(vi) Community Payback Scheme – Update

The team are hoping to return very soon.

(vii) Harris Lane/Rookery Field/Pursley Field

Complaints have been made regarding overflowing bins in both Harris Lane and Rookery Field as well as around the pond. These have since been emptied.

The lease for Pursley Field is currently in the final review stage.

(viii) Media Committee

Following the meeting of the media committee, the SPC were informed that the costings of changing SVM to A4 size would be £200 cheaper. It was **AGREED** to keep SVM in A5 format. Articles are still needed for the next edition of SVM.

The media committee discussed the use of Facebook and **AGREED** to encourage the use of the SPC Facebook page, and direct traffic to it. It was **AGREED** that for a big campaign, all media channels will be used.

It was also requested that more Councillors post on the SPC Facebook page.

(ix) Shenley Community Activities Group

The meeting **NOTED** the money that has been saved by SPC as a result of being unable to run the trips. This led on to a discussion about money for Christmas lights.

The meeting was informed that the current street columns are not fit for the purpose of holding Christmas lights. As such many of the columns will need new circuits to allow the use of Christmas lights. Following a lengthy discussion and a proposal and seconded it was: -

AGREED that a one-off payment of up to £15,000 be spent in order to get the lamp posts up to standard.



Shenley Parish Council

It was also **AGREED** that the Clerk will see if The Cage can have Christmas lights.

(x) Police Update

The meeting was informed that there will be another bike marking event. Following a discussion it was highlighted that residents can log speeding cars details online.

(xi) Shenley Park Trust

There will be a SPT meeting next week.

(xii) First Aid training

The meeting **AGREED** they would be interested in First Aid Training. It was **AGREED** the clerk would look into this.

(xiii) Suggested Team Building

The meeting **AGREED** that the First Aid training would be used as a team building event.

52/21.22 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (i) The Accounts for payment for July and August 2021 were received and it was: - Following a proposal and seconder, it was: **-RESOLVED** that the monthly Accounts for payment in July 2021 totalling £ 5329.44 be **APPROVED** and August 2021 totalling £3041.97 be **APPROVED**.
- (II) Following a proposal and seconder, it was: **-RESOLVED** that the monthly budget monitoring reports for July and August 2021 be **APPROVED**.
- (iii) Grant Requests using the General Power of Competence: -
- Shenley Primary School request for a grant to help towards the cost of swimming coach expenses (£1,500.00 given in 2019 and 2020)
The meeting asked for clarification from the school as to what the funds were spend on last year, as there were Covid restrictions in place.
Following a proposer and a seconder it was **RESOLVED** to approve a donation of £1,500.00, if the school can confirm what the funds were spent on.
- (iv) It was resolved to **ACCEPT** and **APPROVE** the external auditor's signed annual return and opinion for year ended 31 March 2021
- (v) It was **RESOLVED** that the annual return and notice of audit was displayed on the Andrew Close notice board for in excess of 14 days
- (vi) The council resolved to **ACCEPT** and **APPROVE** the Parish Council insurance quote came and company for £2,218.62.00 (using ecclesiastical).
- (vii) Following a proposer and a seconder it was **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** and **APPROVE** the quote from Mr. A Gough to carry out repairs to the 3 bus shelters at Shenleybury totaling no more than £4,500.
- (viii) Following a proposer and a seconder it was **RESOLVED** to approve £100 to be used to take the Volunteer groundwork team to the team rooms for a meal as a way of thanks



Shenley Parish Council

53/21.22 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED** under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to confidential nature of the business to be transacted, namely, to approve a letter to be sent to The Secretary of State and to consider professional legal advice.

54/21.22 COWLEY HILL - LETTER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Following a lengthy discussion, it was **AGREED** that: -

- (i) A letter will be sent to The Secretary of State requesting that Hertsmere borough council application 20/2141/FUL be called in.
(Vote was 6 in favour and 3 abstentions)

55/21.22 TO DISCUSS COUNSEL'S ADVICE

Following a lengthy discussion, and following a proposer and a seconder it was **RESOLVED** to that: -

- (i) Costs for legal advice concerning potential challenges to the Neighbourhood Plan with regards to planning application 20/2141/FUL, up to £10,000 can be spent. It was also **AGREED** to use the same solicitor that was used previously.
(Vote was 6 in favour and 3 abstentions)

56/21.22 The meeting ended at 9p.m. Chairman

ACTION LIST - 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

PROVISION	ACTION	BY	ACTION
Horticultural sheds	Risk assessment to be carried out	Clerk to look into	ASAP
ACS Group - wildlife cameras	Location for wildlife cameras to deter fly-tipping to be identified	Cllrs Beaton and Keen	ASAP
Highways	Who owns path between Newcome Road and Anderson Road? Who owns Menorial waste on Rectory Lane?	Clerk	ASAP
Shenley Park Trust	Letter highlighting concerns	Cllrs	ASAP
Shenley Primary School Swimming	Contact school enquiring about last year's grant spend	Clerk	ASAP