

Shobrooke Parish Council Minutes

**Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on
Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 19.30pm**

The meeting commenced at 7:30 pm

Members Present: Cllr C Furse (Chair),
Cllr S. Collier
Cllr Squires

Cllr A Jones (Vice-Chair)
Cllr L Balkwill
Mrs A Clarke (Clerk)

Public Participation. None

Formal Business

01/04/24 Welcome and apologies for absence:

The Chair opened the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr. Tuffin and Cllr. Jenkins

02/04/24 Declaration of Interests/Dispensations: None

03/04/24 Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of Wednesday 13th March 2024 were agreed as a true record. The Chair signed the minutes.

04/04/24 Parish council - Matters arising-

4.01 Housing - as Cllr Tuffin was not in attendance, housing is deferred to the next meeting. An email was received regarding gas boilers not being put in properties. The council believes this move to stop gas installations is potentially a backwards move. There is a deadline for installations. Cllr Balkwill believes the market has dropped and there is over inflation of house prices at present by the developers. Cllr Jenkins emailed the council about a problem in relation to this and there was a discussion about this and how the Crediton cluster meeting is in effect to discuss matters like this. Cllr Balkwill may attend the next Crediton Cluster Meeting on the 22nd April 2024, with a view to ascertaining what has happened and what needs to happen.

4.02 Memorial Bench update - Cllr Furse visited Tuckers and provided details of the costs of the benches to the council which settled on the 8 seater bench. Tuckers will deliver, Cllr Furse will place the order for this. Engraving will be considered afterwards.

4.03 Rospa Inspection report - the report has been sent to all councillors in preparation for the next meeting. The clerk brought the initial pages and a discussion was held on some aspects of it.

4.04 Standing orders regulations were approved and adopted. Proposed by Cllr Furse and Seconded by Cllr. Jones.

05/04/24 Mid Devon District Council - the following were noted:-

- 5.1 No Planning Applications
- 5.2 No Planning Decisions
- 5.3 No Enforcement Notices
- 5.4 No Appeals

06/04/24 Reports from DCC Councillor, Cllr Squires.

Cllr Squires reported that the budget had gone through. There are trials to fill the pot holes with a plastic backed, 80% recycled material, which isn't pretty but appears to work and stays in place. Mid Devon are looking for a devolution deal, with Devon working with Torbay, which would result in extra money being available. Cllr Squires believes this is a better deal for Devon as a whole. They hope to make a decision by July HS2 money some has been re-allocated. Some was spent at the end of the financial year. Cllr Squires hoped that they would deal with the worse case roads, unfortunately they spent it on no through roads.

Cllr Squires went to the materials labs and were able to see core samples and to see how a road is reinstated. Cllr Jones asked if a 3 year guarantee is still provided. Cllr Squires noted a few roads don't have a substantial base as they were horse and cart roads in comparison to the motorways which have a base layer of a metre. Cllr Squires indicated that the pot hole depths in certain areas have been reduced due to resurfacing and therefore they don't meet the requirements. The road at Sandford will be due for resurfacing in 2026, to the councillors disappointment. The Mid Devon Budget was set in February, some more funds came in and they have put this towards drainage and a new vehicle (jetter) to clear out the gulleys and drains.

07/04/24 Finance

Item	Payee	Purpose	Amount £
07.04.01	Ionus	Website hosting	£1.20
07.04.02	A. Clarke	Salary and expenses	£322.57
07.04.03	HMRC	PAYE -new tax code - overpayment made last month, therefore no payment needed.	£6.80
07.04.04	MID Devon HMS	Maintenance - Grass cutting	£32.00
07.04.05	Playsafety Ltd	ROSPA Inspection	£141.60
07.04.06	Dalc	Yearly subscription	£214.06

7.1 Parish Council receipts Current Account: None

7.2 The council approved this months payments listed above

7.3 Balances:

7.3.1 Parish Council Current Account balance: £3899.92

7.3.2 Parish Council Footpath balance remains the same(in above current account figure): £311.00

7.3.3 Parish Council Reserve Account balance: £10,420.69

(£4,000.00 ring fenced for play equipment.....see below)

A discussion was held on Dalc and there increased subscriptions. After the discussion it was felt it was important to remain with the organisation. The Budget for the last year was provided for all the councillors to review. The agar was approved by all the councillors and signed by the chair. It was noted a remittance has been received from MDDC for 9k as the first instalment of the precept.

Playground equipment, items were looked at namely the toddlers swings and a decision was made to follow up the initial enquiry to Wicksteed. A single set up of cradle seats, was agreed by all the councillors. They have provided a figure of £2357.00 and vat for the basic equipment. A full quote will be needed for the installation and set up of the equipment. All the old equipment will need to be removed.

Adult gym equipment was discussed with the view to the clerk applying for grants to try and secure some funding for this. Various councillors including Cllr Squires, believe that the adult gym equipment might be very productive. Cllr. Balkwill indicated that Shobrooke is a popular jogging route. Letters in support will be required for the grant application.

08/04/24 Roads and Footpaths-

8.01 Notification of Drainage works Road from Nomansland Farm to Westwood Farm, currently on the notice board

8.02 Footpath closures are due in May for ten days. The clerk will contact the Shellys to say permission is granted for closure.

8.03 The Crediton to Tiverton road is particularly bad. The first turning after Stockley Pond the resurfacing has turned particularly bad and Creed Court was mentioned. These areas will be sent to Highways.

09/04/24 Clerks Report:-

09.01 Clerks correspondence included: Climate change correspondence from an action group of 7 people (sent to all pc in Devon) Cllr Squires said DCC remarked that the 7 people should have indicated who they are.

09.02 Information regards Locality Budget, applications for Highways related projects, the council proposed salt supplies, hedgehogs signs and Dog Waste bins etc. Discussion was held about the bench on the triangle.

09.03 Email from a parishioner about a matter in the park, the council had a discussion and the clerk will prepare a letter accordingly.

10/04/24 Miscellaneous matters/ correspondence:

10.01 Tom Vaughan (Highways queries) from DCC is attending the next Crediton Cluster Meeting on the 22/04/24 After a discussion on the email a received about 24/00012/MARM Libbets Grange from Cllr M Jenkins, Cllr. Balkwill hopes to attend the meeting.

10.02 Overhanging branches and further maintenance in the park was discussed in relation to the new equipment going in and the council will approach our current maintenance contractor with a view to securing their help with the ongoing project.

11/04/24 Minor Matters and Items for Future Agenda

11.01 Water coming from the park was discussed, it is believed to be springs.

12/04/24 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th May 2024, at 7.00 pm, at the Village Hall for the APM. AGM and the ordinary council meeting will then follow afterwards.

13/04/24 The Meeting closed at 20:58pm

Signed.....

Dated.....