

Shobrooke Parish Council Meeting

**Minutes for the meeting of Shobrooke Parish Council held at the Village Hall
on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7:30pm**

The meeting commenced at 7:30 pm

Members Present:	Cllr A Jones (Chair)	Cllr C Furse (Vice-Chair),
	Cllr L Balkwill	Cllr S Collier
	Cllr Tuffin	
	Mrs A Clarke (Clerk)	

Public Participation : Two members of the public attended, as they did earlier on in the year, to voice their concerns with the on going issue at Efford and Shute, with the traffic and speeding of vehicles including agricultural and construction vehicles, speeds are in excess of 45mph.

They explained there is a dip in Shute and a blind bend, there have been numerous near misses, and there is a blind rise outside there house. Concerns have been raised regarding children walking along there and horse riders as Efford goes from 30mph to 60 and then drops back to 30. They do not believe (others confirmed) there should not be an area of 60mph in between, as the road speeds are out of date. Previously we were looking at the potential for 20 is plenty signs, as this is a B road.

They went onto say they have a set of steps onto the main road and they don't feel safe. Occupiers could be hit and the various road closures have increased the traffic. Councillors tried to offer some solutions i.e. Parking a car there but tractors can't then get round with a trailer on. A blind dip sign is needed and the council will pass this onto DCC Squires for her contact Steve to arrange to meet to discuss this.

01/11/24 Welcome and Apologies for absence from Cllr Squires, Cllr Leaming, Cllr Jenkins

02/11/24 There were no declaration of Interest

03/11/24 Minutes of the last meeting held - on 9th October 2024 were agreed and will be signed as a true record at the next meeting.

04/11/24 Co-option to be carried forward to the next meeting. There is interest in this vacancy.

05/11/24 Parish council - Matters arising-

05.01 Housing - One of our parishioners with an interest in the housing didn't attend however, we wanted to know if anything had changed. Cllr. Tuffin indicated they're is a building program but nothing in the way of enlarging or changing existing homes which was mentioned at Shobrooke. The Councillor has raised this a number of times. Z pods are cheaper to instal rather than altering buildings.

Cllr. Tuffin well ask again as there is a new administration. Our housing needs were discussed, namely for families, where there is a shortage of available properties, so the councils are encouraging down sizing. Surveys have been sent, giving 6 proposals for incentives for people to downsize. Other incentives other than money seen to encourage this. However some homes still end up empty whilst renovation is carried out.

Our location does have its problems with no transport, yet there are 1000 people on the housing list, some homeless. We want families and a range of people. The village needs some young people. The gardens on our properties are large and would accommodate families etc. and/or rebuilding.

05.02 Street Lights - School Close/Silver way Cllr Collier received an email from a parishioner about a light on overnight outside her house, so a request has been put forward to have them switched them off overnight. Cllr Jones, indicated that they came to do the light, they were going to put up a shade but they were not able to fit it. They will be coming back at some stage to solve this. There was a dispensation to have the lights on at night due to the elderly wandering due to dimensia.

05.03 Budget proposals - a discussion was held on the various aspects and suggestions made in preparation for the December meeting to finalise the precept for the following year. There is a requirement to have at least one year of reserves.

Currently the council has always used some of its reserves to keep the precept low on purpose and will continue to do so. The precept has been set for £9500

06/11/24 Mid Devon District Council

06.01 There were no Planning Applications or Planning Decisions to note

07/11/24 Reports from MDDC Councillors Tuffin:-

Letter for winter fuel, which has been put on the village email. The Chair raised some queries on this as we have no transport or bus so we have people who can't claim it. The eligibility requires sending in a pdf, which is not easy for people who don't have the Internet. The Parish Council is happy to help with anyone who needs help to apply, we can fill the forms in.

The clerk has put some information into The Brooke, as the people who need this payment are unable to access to it. Parishioners will not be able to get to Tiverton council either. Subsequent to a discussion how potential claimants could get their identity checked, Cllr. Collier has ascertained that CHAT (who are in the food bank) in Crediton already does this for claimants. A leaflet will go over the next month or so and the deadline is March 2025.

"If any villager thinks they may be entitled to the winter fuel payments please contact Councillor Allan Jones on phone number 01363 777444, so he may assist you with your application, particularly if you do not have access to a computer and/or transport. We don't want anyone going cold this winter."

08/11/24 Finance

To approve this month's online payments:-

Item	Payee	Purpose	Amount
08.02.01	Ionus	Website	£7.20
08.02.02	A. Clarke	Salary and expenses	£325.87
08.02.03	HMRC *	PAYE (nothing to pay as still in credit)	£6.80
08.02.04	MDHS	Maintenance	£80.00

8.1 Parish Council receipts Current Account: £8.62 (interest October)

8.2 Parish Council payments Current Account: As in the table above.

8.3 To approve all the payments, as above.

8.4 Balances:

8.4.1 Parish Council Current Account balance: £8020.47 (End of October 24)

8.4.2 Parish Council Footpath balance (in above current account figure): £311.00

8.4.3 Parish Council Reserve Account balance: £ 10484.39 (£4,000.00 ring fenced for play equipment)

8.4.4 Lloyds Bank will be charging £4.25 per month from January, this was discussed and councillors decided to stay with Lloyds at present to see what happens over the next couple of months, bearing in mind the interest we receive counteracts their charges.

09/11/24 Roads and Footpaths.

11.01 An enquiry has been raised by a parishioner. About water coming from the park, the councillors point out it's not a drain, it's springs from the park. The parishioner will be advised to contact the owner of the park in due course.

11.02 P3 footpaths there has been no response from DCC, after providing them with the new details of the new footpath warden's.

10/11/24 Clerks Report:

10.01 New pay scales will take effect from December 2024. This goes to £15.33 from £14.61 on the scale. They are back dated to April however, the clerk does not intend to take the back dated payment leaving the difference in the councils accounts as a donation.

10.02 The clerk updated the councillors on new requirements for websites and listed the correspondence/emails received.

10.03 Airband is unable to fulfil their contracts to supply broadband across Devon and Cornwall rural areas.

10.04 Dates for the meetings next year were provided and will be put on the website as well.

11/11/24 Miscellaneous matters/ correspondence

11.01 Play park Report for the park. Stepping logs will be coming out.

The slide has been cleaned by Cllr Jones along with the Carousel. The gaps in the 166 tiles, have been cleaned off and re-routed with some sand and cement, moss has also been removed. The swing seat were also cleaned. Next year the tiles will need re-siting and park maintenance must be discussed.

11.02 John Hill memorial bench position was discussed and is to remain in place. The notices boards have also been cleaned and mended by Cllr. Jones.

11.03 National lottery funding was turned down, however the clerk will apply via other funds

11.04 Next month's meeting venue will need to be confirmed as the pantomime may be using the hall.

11.03 The Memorial needs a clean, Cllr Collier indicated 34 people attended the remembrance service and its suggested the council organise a wreath for this next year as it will be 80 years.

12/11/24 Minor Matters and Items for Future Agenda

12.01 Cllr Collier mentioned, Sally is delighted the new sign up by the Holy well, as it is now visible. However as people are still using this area, registration numbers are required to report this to the police.

12.02 Sign for Silver way/ School Close needs replacing - the clerk to contact highways

12.03 Cllr Balkwill received a complaint about dog mess, by two small dogs, enforcement action to be considered.

12.04 The Dog mess bin lid in park is broken and needs replacing.

12.05 No further information has been received from the Crediton cluster, however the clerk was notified the next day about the clusters next meeting.

13/11/24 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10th December 2024, at 7.30 pm, at TBA

14/11/24 The Meeting closed at 21.12