

Shirland and Higham Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
held at Stonebroom Pavilion, Monday 16th March 2020 at 7pm.

Councillors Present: Cllr Anne Brown (Chair), Cllr Peter Allsop, Cllr Barry Barnes, Cllr Guy Liggett, Cllr Heather Liggett, Cllr Alistair Lomax, Cllr Geoff Mather, Cllr Sue Smith and Cllr David Williamson.

In Attendance: Helen Dowson (Clerk & RFO) and 7 members of the public.

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Epton, Cllr Green, Cllr Roe, Cllr Cupit and Cllr Lewis.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2019

The minutes were approved as a true record, this was proposed by Cllr D Williamson and seconded by Cllr H Liggett.

3. Chairman's Report

Cllr Anne Brown reported that in May 2019 following the local elections all twelve places on the Parish Council were filled and Councillors took their places at the May meeting.

During the year various S137 grants have been granted to groups in the Parish. Donations have been made to St Peters Church, Stonebroom towards the cost of servicing the clock, NEDDC Chairs' charitable appeal and the Royal British Legion Riders Branch for putting up and taking down the lamp post poppies around the Parish.

A new caretaker was employed for Stonebroom Pavilion after the previous one resigned.

A request to extend the area for the pigs kept on the CISWO land was granted to a local resident.

The BMX track at Mickley has been resurfaced.

Broken roof tiles have been replaced and the guttering repaired and cleaned at Shirland Village Hall.

The CCTV cameras at Stonebroom Pavilion have been cleaned and serviced.

A light on a timer has been installed above the door at the pavilion in Stonebroom for safety reasons when locking up in the dark.

Repairs have been carried out to a door frame and door, downpipes and guttering plus the guttering cleaned out at Stonebroom Pavilion.

The goal mouths on the football pitch at Stonebroom have been repaired with heavy duty grass being laid.

A new intruder alarm has been fitted at Shirland Village Hall.

A recycled plastic seat has been installed in the Shirland play area.

A seat has also been replaced at St Leonards Place Shirland where the previous one was destroyed by a drunk driver. This seat was relocated from the Pavilion at Stonebroom.

New double metal gates and a disabled access have been fitted at Stonebroom Sportsground entrance.

Orders have now been placed for outdoor fitness equipment at Stonebroom Sportsground, extension in height to the fencing on the MUGA at the Stonebroom Sports Pavilion and for a CCTV system to be installed to protect both the Village Hall and the play equipment at Shirland; all these should soon be completed.

The cemetery extension due to quotes being over £25000 has had to go out to tender, NEDDC are dealing with this process for us and we hope to be able to have this work started in the next few months.

As well as all the above the usual inspections and repairs have been carried out.

At the Remembrance Day services wreaths were laid by Councillors at both St. Peters and St. Leonards Churches.

Shirland Village Hall continues to be well used by local groups and residents as well as some hirers from outside the Parish.

The Youth Group still meet in the pavilion, the Shirland Welfare football team play on the pitch during the season and there are children's football training sessions taking place during the spring and summer.

The BMX track at Mickley is also well used as are the play areas, all which are inspected regularly to make sure they are safe for children to use.

The Council continues to fight against over development in this Parish and supports residents when large applications are made by developers.

4. District Councillor's Report

No report received.

5. County Councillor's Report

No report received.

6. Fidler & Laverack Charities report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018.

The opening balance at 1st January 2019 was £2000.39.

£1.18 has been paid in interest and one payment of £325 was made to the Friends of Stonebroom School. The reserves at year end stood at £1676.57.

New and updated tenancy agreements will be required for two of the areas of land later this year – one expires on the 31/10/2020 and one on the 31/12/2020 and one is still being finalised by Miller and Miller.

The charity returns for 2019 have all been submitted.

7. To consider any other Parish matter

No issues reported.

The meeting ended at 7.08pm.