

Shirland and Higham Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
conducted via Zoom, Thursday 18th March 2021 at 6.30pm.

Councillors Present: Cllr Anne Brown (Chair), Cllr Peter Allsop, Cllr Barry Barnes, Cllr John Epton, Cllr Michelle Green, 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 Cllr C Cupit.

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Roe.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2020

The minutes were approved as a true record, this was proposed by Cllr A Brown and seconded by Cllr G Mather.

3. Chair's Report

Although this last year has been both a difficult one and like no other due to COVID 19 the Parish Council has strived to continue to work in the Parish listening to residents needs and complaints, looking at planning applications and raising our views/concerns and the opinions of residents with North East Derbyshire District Council.

During the last year we have purchased and installed more litter and dog bins around the Parish when requested by residents.

All grit bins have been re-filled where necessary.

The area chosen for the new outdoor fitness equipment was professionally cleaned and the equipment installed.

The extension in height to the fencing on the MUGA at Stonebroom Sportsground has been carried out.

An extra CCTV camera has been installed at Stonebroom Sportsground after it was realised that existing cameras did not cover the new equipment.

A new boundary fence has been erected at the allotments at Stonebroom as the existing one was no longer serviceable, saplings have also been planted here.

A new line-marking machine has been purchased for the football pitches at Stonebroom Sportsground.

The new CCTV system has been installed at the Shirland Village Hall and play area site to protect it both from vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

A tree survey has been carried out at the CISWO woodland to evaluate the health of the trees; no action is required at this time.

New panes and roof panels have been fitted on the bus shelter on the A61 at Mickley after they were vandalised over a period.

The Armed Forces Covenant was agreed and signed.

We met with a representative from Highways to look at two sites for new bus shelters in Shirland which some residents had requested. We received plans and a quote for the one at the bottom of Strettea Lane going towards Clay Cross, this was agreed and it was put out to public consultation prior to proceeding.

We have now received plans and a quote for the site near the Red Lion going towards Alfreton, this will be going out to public consultation this month.

It has been decided to create more allotments at Mickley on part of the field we own next to the BMX track because of having a waiting list that does not go down very quickly. We hope to move forward with this in the next few months.

The lease for Shirland Village Hall with the Management Committee was eventually agreed and signed.

It was agreed to have the tennis court at Stonebroom Sportsground marked for this coming season.

We have applied for planning permission to install a container at Mickley adjacent to the BMX track on behalf of the BMX and Cycle Club that is starting up for all residents in the Parish after lockdown, so that they can store equipment.

Work has at last started on the car park and roadway in the new cemetery extension which we will be needing to use soon.

We requested DCC to provide a 'stop' crossing on the A61 at Mickley which residents have asked for, unfortunately for the second time this has been refused.

The Royal British Legion Riders again put up all our lamp-post poppies and took them down again after Remembrance Day. We gave a £200 donation to them as a thank you.

£200 was donated to the Chair of NEDDC for the Chair's charitable appeal.

£200 was donated to the Royal British Legion.

A new Caretaker was appointed for Stonebroom Pavilion after the previous one resigned.

Shirland Welfare Football Club have finished however we have another adult football club (Eastwood Albion) using the pitch at Stonebrom Sportsground.

The children's football club continue to use the pitch when COVID rules allow.

The Stonebroom Youth Club has been unable to open during the pandemic.

Shirland Village Hall has been open to small groups when allowed with all safety rules applied.

Unfortunately, it has been closed more than open during COVID.

Councillors agreed the cemetery charges and allotment fees remain the same as the previous year.

The recommended donation for the use of the pavilion is £10 per hour.

The Parish Council is committed to fighting over development in this Parish and supports residents when large developments are applied for.

Cllr C Cupit joined the meeting at 6.37pm.

4. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Cupit reported that throughout the Covid-19 pandemic North East Derbyshire District Council has continued to support residents in many ways.

Cllr Cupit reported on recent investments in the Planning, Enforcement and Environmental Health teams.

Cllr Cupit informed the meeting that the Dog Public Space Protection Orders will be launched very soon, an educational approach will be carried out initially.

Cllr Cupit finished by mentioning that the Green Homes grant scheme work at Mickley is almost complete, an additional grant has been obtained for another 200 homes across the district.

Cllr H Liggett reported that several residents have received free insulation and boilers over the last twelve months. Cllr Liggett also reported that three local families have been found new housing and two older residents have been allocated bungalows.

Cllr H Liggett mentioned that the dog warden service is carrying out regular patrols and enforcement action is being taken with regards to fly tipping.

Cllr H Liggett passed on the Chair of North East Derbyshire District Council's thanks for the Parish Council's donation to the charity appeal.

5. County Councillor's Report

No report received.

6. Fidler & Laverack Charities report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

The opening balance on 1st January 2020 was £1676.57.

55 pence has been paid in interest and two payments were made totalling £300 - £200 to St Leonards PCC and £100 to St Peters PCC. Rents were received to the total of £985.34. The reserves at year end stood at £2362.46.

All tenancy agreements are now up to date and the charity returns for 2020 have all been submitted.

7. To consider any other Parish matter

No issues reported.

The meeting ended at 6.45pm.