

Shirland and Higham Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting held in Stonebroom Pavilion on  
Monday 11 May 2015

**Present:** Cllrs: Mr B Barnes (19.10), Mrs A Brown, Mr D Williamson, Mr T Wild, Mrs M Green.

**In Attendance:** Tom Tait (Clerk), Sally Plummer (Assistant Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer), four members of the public.

**20/15 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13 April 2015 were approved as a true record. Proposed: Cllr A Brown, Seconded by Cllr P Stevens.

**21/15 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllr D Skinner, Cllr Lewis, the Clerk advised Cllr Barnes would be late as attending NEDDC Cllr induction.

**22/15 to elect Chairman for one year**

The Clerk advised that Cllr Barnes had asked to be put forward as Chair for 2015-16. Cllr D Williamson proposed, Cllr M Green seconded. Votes **FOR** unanimous.

**23/15 to elect a Vice-Chairman for one year**

Cllr D Williamson stood for position of Vice-Chairman. Proposed Cllr A Brown, Seconded Cllr Stevens. Votes **FOR** unanimous. At this point, in the absence of Cllr Barnes, Cllr Williamson chaired the meeting.

**24/15 Declaration of Acceptance of Office by Chair and Vice-Chair**

Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Members' and Members' Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests were completed and returned to the Clerk.

**25/15 Election of a Member to oversee Financial Transactions**

Cllr D Williamson proposed Cllr M Green as an elected member to oversee the financial transactions seconded by Cllr A Brown. RESOLVED Cllr Green to continue to carry out the 3 monthly reviews of the financial procedures, records and control to ensure an effective system of internal audit as required to comply with Financial Regulations

**26/15 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr A Brown and Cllr M Green declared an interest in Shirland Village Hall. Item 14 e on Agenda.

**27/15 Disclosable Pecuniary Interest(s) – none declared.**

**28/15 Police Items**

In the absence of a police representative the Clerk read the police report.

### **29/15 Public Participation (Timed at ten minutes)**

It was reported that a tree at Stonebroom School was in need of attention. The overhanging branches onto Quarry Lane are a potential danger. AGREED Clerk to write to school as the tree is its responsibility.

The abandoned property on the high street was raised as an area of concern. A large stretch of fencing is down making walking in the area hazardous. Cllr Barnes advised that the property is privately owned and therefore the owner is responsible. AGREED Cllr Barnes agreed to contact the enforcement officer at NEDDC.

Problems with parking on Common Lane making access difficult. Advised to refer to the police as not a matter for Parish Council.

### **30/15 Co-options to Parish Council**

The Clerk referred to legal briefing from NALC in relation to co-optioning members following an election.

The Clerk proposed to advertise for 4 weeks on Parish Notice Boards, the Webpage, Village Hall, Community Centres and Shops to reach as many people in the community as possible. Press advertising not considered being cost effective. Expressions of interest to go to the Clerk and then invitations to attend the next meeting will be made. Members were asked to think of anyone they could encourage. Concern expressed that many people in the Parish are not aware who their local Councillors are. After discussion it was agreed that when a full Council is in place some of the marketing newsletter budget would be used to publicise the roles and members of the Council including contact details. The importance of covering the whole Parish was stressed. AGREED the Clerk will advertise vacancies for co-option during the next 4 weeks.

### **31/15 New Assistant Parish Clerk**

Sally Plummer introduced herself and spoke briefly of her background. The Clerk proposed that Sally would be the Responsible Finance Officer to the Council. Cllr Barnes put this to the members present who unanimously supported the proposition. RESOLVED Sally Plummer will be the Responsible Finance Officer to Shirland and Higham Parish Council.

### **32/15 Proposed Parish Walks Initiative**

Dan Boys introduced himself and his business, both Higham based and producing visual audio tours that can be linked to Smartphones. Dan has completed a number of projects including 18 audio trials in NEDDC, with a view to taking people places they had not been before. Groups can apply for funding, initially it can be quite basic to put an area on a map. Councillors expressed an interest and asked Dan to proceed with an audit of walks. AGREED a small working party be formed with a dedicated member to lead.

### **Continuing Items**

#### **33/15 Adoption of Telephone Kiosk, Shirland**

Agreement previously circulated (6/15). The Clerk needs to negotiate taking on responsibility for payment of electricity or opt to have no electricity. AGREED Council will pay for any electricity required. The question of planning permission for change of use was also discussed, as the kiosk is on common land. AGREED Cllr Barnes will check if the Council can grant its own planning permission.

#### **34/15 Christmas Decorations, Shirland**

Cllr Wild reported that this is being looked into and will liaise with Cllrs Williamson and Cllr Tomlinson.

**35/15 Mining Memorial, Shirland**

Cllr Wild is awaiting contact from the supplier of Mining Wheels. A recommendation will be made to the Council as soon as possible.

**36/15 Shirland Cemetery**

No burials in the last month. A deceased person's remains are to be moved from another cemetery to Shirland. The Clerk has been liaising with the Department of Justice. Joanne Taylor, Clerk to Stretton Council has agreed to deal with any cemetery arrangements during the Clerk's Annual Leave.

**37/15 Shirland Village Hall**

Still awaiting one further quote from a builder. The only estimate received to date appears to be fairly competitive, the outstanding ones have been chased. Cllr Brown advised that they have not been able to locate the water meter. RESOLVED Football posts to be erected at far end of play area as soon as possible.

**38/15 NEDDC Consultation Local Draft Plan**

This was moved to Agenda item 23.

**39/15 Report from County Councillor**

On behalf of Cllr Lewis, Cllr Barnes reported verbally that road repairs had been identified, temporary repairs actioned and then to be fully completed, the work will be extensive and includes Mickley Lane.

**40/15 Report from District Councillor**

Cllr Skinner sent apologies, Cllr Barnes advised that he would be reporting on an item in confidential section. The District Office has now moved to Mill Lane, Wingerworth. There will be a small office in Chesterfield for public access.

**41/15 Reports from Councillors on outside bodies**

The sum of £200 has been awarded by Cllr Lewis to pay for St John's Ambulance attendance at the summer fête.

An application under Section 137 had been received from Stonebroom Carnival Committee. RESOLVED Stonebroom Carnival Committee be awarded £200.

Cllr Barnes attended Mickley Village Hall Committee and reported that the BMX track and field has been mowed and new gates have been welded on.

**42/15 DALC circulars previously circulated to Councillors 09/15**

No issues to raise.

**43/15 Correspondence**

The Council has received an invitation to Shirland Band Commemoration of 50 year's since the pit closure. Please respond to Cllr Barnes.

Campaign to Protect Rural England Annual Report

Notification of Temporary Road Closure at Amber Green, Shirland.

Rural Matters May Bulleting

Viridor – invitation to join Committee looking at distribution of Viridor credits.

An invitation has been received for members to participate in a Consultation on local minerals plan.

#### 44/15 Audit 2015

The Responsible Finance Officer read Section 2 of the Audit “Annual governance statement 2014/15” to the Council. The statement was approved and duly signed by the Chair. The audit is to be returned on 12 June 2015. RESOLVED the Audit documentation will be returned to Grant Thornton.

#### 45/15 To consider the following Planning Applications

**Application No:** NED 15/00357/FLH  
**Parish:** Shirland And Higham  
**Ward:** Shirland  
**Officer:** Colin Wilson

Conservatory extension to house (conservation area) at Punch Bowl Cottage Main Road Higham for \*\*\*\*\*

**Application No:** NED 15/00360/FL  
**Parish:** Shirland And Higham  
**Ward:** Shirland  
**Officer:** Luke Ashley

Proposed construction of detached 3 bedroom dwelling and associated garage ( revised scheme of 13/00650/FL ) at 63 Cleveland Road Stonebroom Alfreton for \*\*\*\*\*

Recommendation: No issues.

#### 46/15 Finance: To approve the following payments

**The following payments were approved by the Council**

Payee	Goods	Amount
NEDDC	Shirland Village Hall Pumping Station	52.97
Quantum DM	Web Hosting	24.00
BT	Pavilion Broadband (direct debit)	23.40
Viking	Printer Ink	57.58
Viking	Stamps	54.00
NEDDC	Trade Waste (Cemetery)	175.24
Walls	Skip Hire	120.00
Severn Trent	Pavilion Water Rates	44.26
Jo Taylor	Audit Fees	250.00
T Tait	Clerk Broadband+Telephone Line+Calls	26.00
DALC	Clerk Training	75.00
T Tait	Clerk Travel	10.72
T Tait	RFO Council Lap Top (paid by Credit Card)	179.99
B Barnes	Travel Expenses (Petrol)	20.00
B Barnes	Markovitz (Rock Salt paid by Credit Card)	84.00
Aon Insurance	Annual Insurance Policy	7,150.00
Wages and Salaries	Four employees – May 2015	1912.15

The meeting closed at 21.30.