**Shipbourne Parish Council: Risk Assessment – July 2019**

## Context

Shipbourne is a village of some 450 inhabitants. The key road running through it is A227. There is a Village Hall, Open Common, Tennis Courts, 2 Pubs, a Church and a Primary School.

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|  | Description | **Risk (High, Medium Low)** | **Aim** | **Action** |
|  | **Land** |  |  |  |
| 1. 111 | Dunks Green Common (Zone S), Wightwicks (Zone I) & Budds Green (Zone A) | Personal Injury (L)  Damage to the common (L)  Falling Trees/Branches (L-M) | Safety of users and availability for all Parishioners to use without exclusion to others. To preserve the conservation areas at Budds Green and “Shipbourne Village” | Carry out regular tree safety inspections. Visual Tree Inspection was carried out and works completed by Duncan Simson at Dunks Green in October 2018. Ightham Mote have confirmed that they inspect trees at Budds Green.  Ensure that service providers regularly maintain equipment on Dunks Green Common |
| **2**2 | **Highways & Paths** |  |  |  |
|  | Public Rights of way PROW, verges and paths | Personal Injury (L)  Falling trees/overgrown vegetation (L). | Protecting public rights of way | Report problems to PROW/KCC. Shipbourne Parish has been active in publicising proposed changes to village footpaths/discussions with residents and also has frequent dialogue with KCC PROW |
|  | Traffic Calming | Personal Injury (M-H)  Road traffic accidents (M-H) | To ensure road safety by considering traffic calming measures within the general village context. | Highways is a standing agenda item at Parish Council meetings. Representations made to Highways, as necessary. Parish is looking into an additional speed calming on Tonbridge Road in the location of the schooland has secured part funding £1,500 (March 2017) for this. A traffic survey was commissioned in November 2017. We are working with Tim Owen at Kent Downs AONB to get gateways on Shipbourne Common |
|  | Road surfaces & markings | Personal Injury (L)  Road traffic accidents (L) | Safety | Problems reported to KCC Highways. |
|  | Car parking | Personal Injury (L)  Road traffic accidents (L) | Safety | Considered at Parish Council meetings.  Article in Village News Letter/school newsletter to encourage considerate parking. Parish designed signs available to put in areas where there are persistent offenders. Parish has been in contact with local PCSO to discuss measures to discourage inconsiderate parking. |
|  | Drains | Flooding (L) | Hygiene and safety | Problems reported to KCC. Articles published in Parish Magazine to encourage residents to clear drains outside their properties**.** |
| 1. 7. | Litter & Dog Bins | Various locations throughout village | n/a | Risk of injury and damage/disease – to keep in good state of repair and maintain hygiene. Maintained and emptied by TMBC |
|  | **Planning** |  |  |  |
|  | Major developments | Inappropriate over-development (L) | To maintain the aesthetics of the village and comply with planning regulations | Review of applications at every Parish Council meeting; submissions prepared, as necessary, to promote village policy. Unauthorised developments challenged. |
|  | **Crime** |  |  |  |
|  | Attention to crime prevention | Crime in general (L) | Being aware of Parish Council obligations and powers | Regular review by Council; Regular reports received by PCSO since 2019 |
|  | **Finance & Purchasing** |  |  |  |
|  | Annual Budget /Precept | Inadequate funding to provide core services (L) | To maintain and provide services for parishioners | Assessed annually by all Councillors. Budget recently prepared and agreed with all councillors. Regular reporting of expenditure against budget, at least once a quarter. |
|  | Purchases | Inappropriate expenditure (L) | To comply with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations | Generally obtain separate quotes for services. Review statement of Accounts each meeting. Annual Audit undertaken. |
|  | **Accounts & Audit** |  |  |  |
|  | Book keeping Financial records | Incorrect records (L)  Misappropriation of Parish Council funds | To keep accurate records and update monthly. Keep bank statements and financial transactions | Review financial regulations annually. Statement of accounts available with agenda each meeting.  Exempted from Annual audit by PKF Litteljohn since 2018 as income and expenditure are less than £25k. Internal audit carried out in 2018 and June 2019 |
|  | Bank reconciliation | Inconsistent record of Council’s transactions & banks statements | Statements checked regularly and reconciled monthly with bank statements. | Statements checked monthly against cashbook and confirmed at the internal audit |
|  | Sign-off | Fraud, over payment, theft of funds | Timely payment of Parish Council bills, to prevent fraud. | Cheques signed by two councillors. Ex councillors removed as signatories and new councillors added in May 2019 |
|  | Year end accounts | Investigation by External Auditors/non compliance | To provide accurate statement of the Parish Council’s financial transactions for year | Consider recommendations by internal auditor in preparation of accounts. Statement of financial activity of the Parish Council for the year provided and signed off June 2019. |
|  | Income | Lack of control could result in loss of income misappropriation of cash (L) | To pay in cheques in a timely manner | Fidelity insurance £250,000. Precept and other income received by TMBC paid direct into Parish Council bank account |
|  | Parish Clerk’s salary | Failure to adhere to existing contract; adequacy of salary; Inland Revenue procedures (L) | Clerk’s salary in line with NALC pay structure**.** | PAYE in place. Report on NALC payment increases. Review of salary in line with contract, March 2019 |
|  | Asset control | Undervaluing of assets (L) | To keep insurance and initial value record of Council’s Assets and investments | Review asset register at least annually. Reviewed May 2018 |
|  | **Insurance** |  |  |  |
|  | Overall cover | Financial loss and legal claims against council. Under/Over-stated assets and risks (L) | To provide adequate cover | Review insurance schedule annually and obtain quotes. |
|  | Public liability cover | Claim(L) | To ensure adequate cover | Renewed in May 2019  Currently £10million |
|  | **General** |  |  |  |
|  | Parish records | Loss or damage (L) | Ensure safety of valuable documents e.g. deeds.  Computer files / data | Valuable documents kept in locked cupboard at Village Hall.  Clerk adheres to computer security measures, including media-duplication of critical files/data. Back ups and antivirus software in place. |
|  | Web Site /Publication of information | Quality of information (L) | To ensure availability and accessibility of information.  To maintain a Parish Council Web Site  . | Web Site maintained by Clerk. Regular updates. Details of meetings and minutes published. Old information pruned. The Parish Council focuses upon the Village News Letter and its Web Site as its “official” outlets and does not encourage other media avenues. This assists quality and regular provision. ICO’s regulations are reviewed from time-to-time and adhered to. |
|  | Village Hall | Risks associated with being leaseholder (L) | Maintain Village Hall as a local amenity | Activities of Village Hall reported at Parish Meetings.. Parish Clerk is the representative on the Village Hall Committee |
|  | Trained Parish Clerk/Councillors | Non-compliance with regulations | To ensure proper actions/decisions by Parish Councillors; keeping abreast of legislation and regulations | Regular review by Council.  Clerk is actively engaged in training.  Training recommended to Councillors. Cllr Hine attended training sessions in Summer 2019. |
|  | Data Protection | Non-compliance | To ensure we comply with new regulations due May 2018 | Parish Clerk attended training courses offered by KALC and has installed Encryption device on laptop. In process of appointing Data Protection Officer and following guidelines to become compliant.  Have registered the Parish with the ICO |

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|  | **Fixed Assets Register** |  |  |  |
|  | **Asset Type** | **Location/Zone/Responsibility** | **Original Value & Insurance Value** | **Aim & Action** |
| 1 | Shipbourne Village Hall | Upper Green Road, Zone J, Cllr Bate | Unknown  Covered by SVH Trustees | To keep in good state of repair and oversee Trustees. Clerk is on the Village Hall Committee and involved in decision making. Parish Clerk attends SVH Trustee meetings. See 24. |
| 2 | Common Land | Dunks Green (Zone S), Cllr Sheldrick & Parish Clerk | Unknown  £1 | To report fly tipping |
| 3 | Dog Waste Bins | Upper Green Road (Zone J), Ightham Road (Church, Zone E), Roughway Lane, Back Lane (Zone H/I) Parish Clerk | £1000 (2013)  £1000 | Risk of injury and damage/disease – to keep in good state of repair and maintain hygiene. Maintained and emptied by TMBC. Dog bin on Common moved to edge of car park in June 2019. |
| 5 | Benches (7) | Shipbourne Common (3) Tennis Court (2), East Common (1) Zone J) Back Lane (Zone H/I) Cllr Sheldrick | £1000  £3000 | Personal Injury and damage (L) To keep in good state of repair. Insured. Carry out necessary repairs as and when required. |
| 6 | Notice Boards | Village Hall (Zone J), Dunks Green (Zone S) Parish Clerk | £1000  £1000 | Damage (L) To keep in good state of repair. Insured. Carry out necessary repairs as and when required. New noticeboard in bus stop. Noticeboard by village hall no longer in use and has been removed |
| 7 | Village Sign | Common (Zone J) Cllr Bate | £2000  £3000 | Personal Injury and damage (L). To keep in good state of repair Maintained by Parish Council. Insured. The Parish Council has recently carried out repairs to the sign and has had it secured (Dec 2016). Damage by lightening in 2017, repaired under insurance policy in early 2019. |
| 8 | Telephone Box | Upper Green Road (Zone M) Cllr Hine | £1  £4500 | Personal Injury and damage (L). To maintain and keep in good state of repair Adopted in 2009. Door repaired in 2017. Electricity supply cut off following notification from EDF of unmetered supply agreement April 2018. Repainted in May 2019. |
| 9 | Hand Crafted Bench | Dunks Green (Zone S) Cllr Sheldrick | £750 (2011)  £1000 | Personal Injury and damage (L) To keep in good state of repair. Insured. Carry out necessary repairs as and when required. |
| 10 | Bus shelter | Upper Green Road (Zone M) Cllr Hine | £2650  £10000 | Personal Injury and damage (L).Insured. To keep in good state of repair Carry out necessary repairs as and when required. New roof and noticeboard in 2018. |
| 11 | Defibrillator (2) & Cabinet | Back wall of the Chaser Inn (Zone E). Parish Clerk | £1850 2013 + cabinet £750 loan defib £800 2016 (*update when renew policy)* | Theft (L) & Malfunction (L). To maintain the defibrillator and cabinet which is situated on the back wall of The Chaser Inn. Leased from CHT . Regular checks by Parish Clerk via Webnos and by Sevenoaks CHT. Registered with SECAMB. The Chaser Inn also has the access code.  Training carried out in November 2017 with residents. Second defib installed on the outside of Village Hall in 2019.  .. |
| 12 | Fountain | Churchyard (Zone E) Cllr Tyler | £300 2013  £600 | To keep in good state of repair. Damage (L) Insured. Carry out necessary repairs as and when required. |
| 13 | Laptop | Parish Clerk Office. Parish Clerk. | £509 (2013)  £509 | To keep virus checks up to date and backup data. |
| 14 | War Memorial | *Check ownership* | Not Insured |  |
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|  | **Total Original Value** |  | **£11,061** |  |
|  | **Total Insurance Value** |  | **£26,701** |  |

**Areas & Responsibility**

ZONE E – Stumble Hill - Cllr Tyler

ZONE H & I – Back Lane Cllr Hine

ZONE J – Upper Green Road – Cllr Bate

ZONE M – Upper Green Road South Cllr Hine

ZONE S – Dunks Green – Cllr Sheldrick

JULY 2019