



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Monday 13 MAY 2019, 7.00 p.m. SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Tyler (Chairman), Cllr Bate, Cllr Hine, Cllr Razaq, Cllr Redman, Cllr Sheldrick, Cllr Rayner, Borough Cllrs Taylor, Shaw and Palmer, The Parish Clerk and 10 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everybody

- Apologies – Brenda Mulligan, Peter & Helen Leach
- To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 14 May 2018 – The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

Reports from:

- **Chairman** - Cllr Tyler gave a report of the activities of the Parish Council over the last year. (Attached). The main points were as follows:
Thanks was given to members of the Council including to Cllr Razaq who will be leaving to move to the Middle East in July, Cllr Pettengell who served on the Parish Council for 8 years and to Cllr Cohen who had served on the Parish Council for 30 years. Welcome to our new Councillor, Sheila Hine. We still have 1 vacancy to fill. One of our main functions is to comment on planning applications as we have become increasingly concerned at the lack of consideration for our views in recent years and we have requested a meeting with the Head of Planning at TMBC to address our issues.
We recently gave our views on the Local Plan and are grateful to Cllr Bate for her detailed response. The Local Plan won't impact Shipbourne in terms of housing but we will be affected by the increase in traffic that the new houses will bring.
We have had to increase our precept by 10% this year to £11,215 to compensate for the loss in the council tax support grant and section 136 funding. This will help to maintain the services that we provide and maintain our reserves.
We have a problem with speeding through the village but a recent traffic survey showed little evidence to support a reduction in the speed limit. We are looking at alternative speed calming measures such as white gateway signage.
We now have 3 defibrillators in the village and will look to hold another training session.
We recently repaired the village sign which had been struck by lightning and the cost was covered by insurance.
We recently held a village litter pick and due to its success will look to make it an annual event.
Thanks to the Fairlawne Estate to keep the village tidy.
- **Kent County Council - Report from County Councillor Rayner** – Cllr Rayner commended Cllr Bate for her expertise and is pleased that Shipbourne Parish Council has recruited someone with such vast knowledge which will be of benefit to all local Parishes especially with regard to the Local Plan. Cllr Rayner sits on the Environmental and Transport Committees and the Planning Committee. There has been a lot of work in connection with Brexit and the M26 lorry park and strengthening A25. The works have been put on ice for now but closure of the M26 would have a significant impact on A227. The lorry parks can accommodate around 10,000 vehicles and we have 10-12,500 lorries coming through via Calais every day so alternative routes would quickly become congested. Despite best efforts, the 404/405 service in Shipbourne/Plaxtol has now ceased but Cllr Rayner has spoken to the Cabinet Member for Transport with a view to setting up a taxi bus to replace the service.
- **Presentation from Alison Sollis, Waste Contract Officer, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council** on the new waste and recycling collection service 2019
Alison Sollis from TMBC spoke about the new waste and recycling collection starting in September. The new waste and recycling contract was awarded in March 2019 and the changes

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will come into effect in September 2019. The new contract is between Tonbridge and Tonbridge Wells. The County Council has the disposal contract.

One of the changes is that there will now be collections on bank holidays apart from Christmas Day and New Years Day.

A lot of work is being done now to ensure that everything is in place for September including an upgrade of the IT systems, new vehicles, new bins and the sign up for the garden waste. A number of roadshows have been organised and a further communication will be sent in August about the new collection and calendar. The reason for the changes are that we need to recycle more. TMBC have remained at 41% waste recycling and they would like to remove as much from the black bin as possible and improve recycling of food waste.

There will be a weekly food waste collection and everyone will get a caddy which will use compostable liners. All food waste can be disposed except oils and liquids. The bin is fully lockable so that flies and animals cannot get in. It is recommended that people name their bins. All food waste goes to Blaise Farm where it is converted into fertiliser.

The green box will remain for paper, magazines and card. Larger cardboard boxes can be flat packed. Waste will go to the local mill to be recycled.

The green lidded bin will be used for mixed recyclables including bottles, plastics, tin and cartons. The black bin will be used for non-recyclables including soft plastic, foam, wrappers, pump dispensers.

There will be additional collections for textiles, small electricals and batteries. They should be placed in a small plastic bag on top of the bin.

Garden waste will be chargeable at £40 per year (or £35 for 2 years if you sign up early) and you will receive a brown 240 litre bin. You can purchase an additional bin for £25.

Properties that are unable to store the recycling bin will get a reusable bag.

Leaflets have been sent out with the council tax bills and a further leaflet will be sent in August. Stickers will be placed on bins to remind people what goes where.

- **Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council - Report from Cllr Taylor** – Cllr Taylor gave thanks to everyone who voted for him, Cllr Shaw and Cllr Palmer in the recent Borough elections. They will continue their work as before and will be challenging the Local Plan. In Shipbourne, one of the issues is the lack of consideration by planners to its status as a conservation area and are supporting Shipbourne and neighbouring parishes in setting up a meeting with TMBC planners. They are continuing to push for junction 5 on M25 to relieve the traffic on our country lanes and need to have 10,000 signatures to take to Parliament. We have an online petition and a hard copy (circulated at this meeting). The Government had funding of £23 billion and this junction would be worthy of investment.
- **Responsible Financial Officer** – The Clerk gave a report of the finances: Last year our precept was £10,195 Most of our expenditure is routine. We had a budget overspend of £300, this was due to the unexpected insurance excess for the repair for the village sign. We received a grant the refurbishment of the bus shelter and had to contribute matched funding. We have made an allowance this year for the repainting of the phone box. Our precept has been increased to maintain our reserves.
 - **Village Hall Management Committee** – Curtis Galbraith gave a report which is attached.
 - **Tennis Club** – Cilla Langdon-Down gave a report which is attached.
- **Questions to Parish Councillors** –
- A question was raised about the lack of attention by planners to our heritage, AONB and greenbelt status, can members of public attend the meeting with the planners? Cllr Taylor explained that this would be a meeting between Parish Councillors and the Planners.

A question was raised about the dog bins as they are frequently overflowing. Cllr Tyler said that we had been in touch with TMBC to organise more frequent emptying and will chase up again.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

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