

SHAP PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Monday 4 February 2008 at 7.30 pm
Venue: Market Cross**

Attendance:

Chairman: Mrs J Jackson

Councillors: Mrs A Bindloss, Mrs P Watson, Mr D Mallinson, Mr H Harrison, Mr E Hodgson, Mr A Sowerby, Mr G Stainton, Mr W Warburg, Mr M Weightman

County Councillor: Mr R Bird

PCSO: S Brownrigg

District Councillor: Mr N Hughes (from 8.15 pm)

Members of the public: Two

Note: the Clerk was absent due to annual leave and Cllr Warburg took the minutes.

Public participation: at the Chairman's discretion item 5 was brought forward at item 4.

- 1 **Apologies for absence** None
- 2 **Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 7 January 2008 approved and signed** as a true and accurate record.
- 3 **Declarations of interest** None
- 4 **Football stand – project update.** The Clerk had circulated the notes of the Committee Meeting re. the new Football Stand. The Chairman confirmed that TIGNA had been appointed to undertake the work. They are able to finish within the timescale required by the grant funding and had provided the lowest quote. The steelwork was being made and Mallinson Builders will be digging the foundations.

Cllr Sowerby offered to arrange for the existing cladding to be removed with the help of the Football Club. The Cricket Club has expressed an interest in using the cladding. Council agreed that this needed to be completed by mid-February.

The Chairman also reported that the Fire Officer had visited the site, which was a necessary preliminary to completing the project.

Members of the Football Club present informed the meeting of the problems they are experiencing with vandalism of the nets and graffiti and PCSO Brownrigg took note of the problems. The Club is now working to achieve charter status.

The Council received the Notes of the meeting.

5 Finance

- 5.1 Council RESOLVED to approve the Statement of Accounts to 1 February 2008. *Proposed by Cllr Weightman, seconded by Cllr Bindloss.*
- .2 Council RESOLVED to authorise payment of accounts as follows:

Payments made between meetings:

British Gas Business – electricity (Direct Debit)	£57.93
BT – telephone charges (Direct Debit)	£59.60
EDC – parish election recharges	£140.00
C&W Herald grasscutting tender notice	£42.30

Signed(as a true record) **Date**

Minute
12-07/8
38

Eden Farm Supplies – bulbs	£53.74
Wages – 4 January to 1 February 2008	<u>£477.10</u>
Total	£830.67

Payments for approval this meeting:

Cllr Warburg – freedom2surf Broadband service	£211.36
Clerk’s salary – January 2008	<u>£175.78</u>
Total	£387.14

Proposed by Cllr Warburg , seconded by Cllr Mallinson.

- 5.3 Council RESOLVED to approve virement of £110 from contingency to administration and £45 from contingency to environment. *Proposed by Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr Watson.*
- 6 **Housing Needs Survey** – The Chairman informed the meeting that EDC are happy to help with the survey which the Council wishes to undertake. EDC have also offered help with the necessary forms.
- 7 **Street Cleaning, litter bin emptying and dog waste bins.** The Council received the notes circulated of conversations with EDC officers about these issues. Cllr Hodgson reported that the litter bin at Brackenber Lane had been emptied. The Chairman said that the Street Cleaner will be asked to empty the Froggo bin. Cllr Warburg raised the question of whether Shap was correctly zoned under the new CNEA rules, although he was not sure whether a re-zoning would necessarily benefit Shap. He will discuss this with the Clerk on her return.
- 8 **Highways – response relating to Area Highways Team trial.** The Chairman said that there had still been no visit about the drainage problems as far as anyone was aware. A reply had been received from John Banks at Highways, who said that current plans were to carry out work on Croft Avenue early in the new financial year.

Cty Cllr Bird informed the meeting that, of £1m of extra money allocated to highway maintenance, £180,000 had been allocated to Eden. He undertook to find out how much of that was allocated to the Shap area.

Members discussed a problem with flooding near the cemetery. Cllr Hodgson thought it could be related to original pipeline works for the reservoir.

Members also discussed the problem of the bollard by the King’s Arms, which had been knocked down again, and where there have been a number of minor accidents. Members agreed that the Clerk should write to the Highways department to ask for the island to be removed. Cty Cllr Bird said that he thought that the Highways department would want to retain the island as traffic calming. Members felt that it had been installed as more of a crossing point, which was no longer required.

- 9 **Revised Standing Orders Orders** In line with CALC guidance, Council RESOLVED to adopt the following amendments relating to prejudicial interests and public participation:

Standing Orders 58 and 69 to be deleted and replaced with:

Standing Order 68A:

At all meetings of the council, the Chairman may at his/her discretion and at a convenient time in the transaction of business, allow members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted.

Standing Order 68B:

At all meetings of the council, the Chairman may permit members of the council who have a prejudicial interest in relation to any item to be transacted at the meeting to (a) make representations, (b) answer questions or (c) give evidence relating to the item, provided that members of the public have been permitted under SO 68A to attend the meeting for the same purpose.

Proposed by Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr Warburg.

Signed(as a true record) Date

Minute
12-07/8
39

10 Revised public participation policy and procedure The Clerk had circulated the relevant document and Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised public participation policy and procedure. *Proposed by Cllr Warburg, seconded by Cllr Bindloss.*

11 Correspondence:

- 11.1 An invitation had been received from EDC to submit topics for the 2008/9 Scrutiny Reviews. Cllr Hughes suggested that the Council might like to ask for a review of EDC's policy towards support for community organisations, in view of the proposed cuts in expenditure. Cllr Warburg suggested that a review of the Sport's policy, which is heavily weighted towards Penrith, might be advantageous.
- 11.2 Council acknowledged receipt of grant acceptance forms for signature for CALSF/LDNPA projects at Cooper's Green and Shap Abbey and noted the immediate commencement of work on the Cooper's Green footbridge.
- 11.3 Council acknowledged receipt of a notice of Cumbria Police Eden Liaison Meeting on 29 January at Penrith, which had now taken place. PCSO Brownrigg informed the meeting that PC Lovick's appointment had only been temporary, and that his replacement should be starting shortly. PCSO Brownrigg said that he was hoping to start a regular drop-in session, probably at the Memorial Hall at a set time every month. He said that levels of reported crime were at a very low level, and he wanted to ensure that the community had every opportunity to keep the police informed. He also reported that the youth in the village are starting to talk to him.
- 11.4 Council acknowledged receipt of the minutes of Dec 2007 meeting of Eden District Association of Local Councils.
- 11.5 Council acknowledged receipt of a consultation document from Department for Communities and Local Government on orders relating to conduct of local authority members – deadline 15 February 2008. Cllr Warburg commented that he had reviewed the document, which was mainly about Standards Committees. His understanding was that it was a technical document on which the Council might feel it inappropriate to comment. He undertook to liaise with the Clerk.
- .7 Council acknowledged receipt of a preliminary notice of Eden Fells Neighbourhood Forum meeting on Tuesday 26 February at Crosby Ravensworth Village Hall at 7.30pm.
- .8 Council acknowledged receipt of a consultation document from CCC on replacement of six residential care homes in Cumbria – deadline 28 April 2008.

12 Matters for report:

- .1 In relation to the Playgroup, the Chairman drew attention to the fact that the County Council are asking for £1,000pa in rent, and £400 per quarter service charge and Cty Cllr Bird undertook to investigate the level of charges. A request from the Playgroup for financial assistance would be on the next Parish Council meeting's agenda.
- .2 The Chairman reported that Eden Housing Association have undertaken extensive studies of their proposed development site, and have found a serious problem with the water levels, possibly even a natural spring. They have withdrawn their current application, and are considering an alternative scheme with buildings on the top side only, leaving a "sump" as a "garden feature".
- .3 Cllr Sowerby reported that the West Lane gate previously discussed had now been damaged. Members agreed that this was the responsibility of the owner, and Cllr Bindloss agreed to pass the matter on.
- .4 Cllr Sowerby reported that a new fence had been erected close to the eastern school wall which would adversely affect the ability to repair the wall. Cllr Bindloss agreed to notify the School Governors. Cllr Sowerby also mentioned that the school drain had now been cleared.
- .5 Cllr Hodgson reported that residents adjacent to Fell House were still upset about the smell from the extractor, as the new flue had not been erected as he understood was required by the planning consent. Cllr Hughes asked for the residents to contact him directly so that he could investigate. Cllr Weightman commented on the new sign, and the Chairman undertook to investigate whether this conformed with planning requirements.
- .6 Cllr Hughes reported on the EDC budget proposals for 2008/9 due to be considered on 7 February, including scrapping the village halls' budget and reducing the community budget. He also described the proposed reduction in the toilets' budget for the year 2009/10 and subsequently. The proposal specifically mentions those in areas which are over-provided or those which are under-utilised. More details will be presented to EDC at their 17 April meeting, and he suggested that the Council should be represented at then. The Chairman read out the article from the Westmorland Gazette on the subject.
- .7 Cllr Mallinson asked about the litter which was accumulating outside the reading room of the Memorial Hall, and whether anything could be done about it. He felt that the recycling area was to blame. The Chairman informed the meeting of the latest recycling figures, where Shap was 4th. Members discussed the difficulties of keeping the whole area clean, particularly as, at times, the bins fill up more frequently than they are emptied.

Signed(as a true record) **Date**

Minute
12-07/8
40

- .8 Cllr Bindloss asked whether menus should be placed on the public notice board. The Chairman said that the open section of the notice board was not controlled by the Council, but that she thought that menus were mostly short-term promotions.
- .9 Cllr Bindloss reported that a cover was missing from the zebra crossing, which was causing a nuisance to local residents. There were also 2 lights missing at Nook Farm and Hawesbank.

13 Date of next meeting:

- Monday 18 February 2008 (councillors' workshop) Memorial Hall, 6.45pm.
- Monday, 3 March 2008 (ordinary meeting).

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed(as a true record) **Date**