

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHEPTON MONTAGUE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SHEPTON MONTAGUE ON THURSDAY 28TH JANUARY AT 7.30pm

Draft minutes subject to approval at the next meeting.

Present: Mr R Reed (Acting Chair), Mrs J Robinson, Mr A Wiley and Mrs. M Hill (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Mr. R Ellis ,Mr P Williams
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 3. Minutes of last meeting:** These were approved and signed as a correct record.
- 4. Matters Arising:**
 - It was noted that Hopkins have acquired a further one of the four cottages at Townsend.
 - Janet Robinson requested some salt sacks for use in the village and she will contact Richard Ellis who collected them on behalf of the Parish.
 - Dog waste bin – see below, item 6.
- 5. Budget for 2016/2017 and setting of precept.** The clerk had distributed the accounts for 2015-16 prior to the meeting which indicate that just over £3,000 will be carried over to 2016-17. This was felt to be a sensible sum to be held by the Parish Council against any forthcoming eventualities but that it would be inappropriate to allow this to increase. Members considered the budget expenditure for 2016-17 and decided to maintain the precept at the same level as 2015-16 despite the slight drop in the Council Tax Reduction Support Grant (from £65 to £30). (In 2017-18 the CTRSG will be further reduced to £10 and phased out altogether after that.)
- 6. Dog waste bin.** The clerk had received an email from Chris Cooper, Streetscene Manager, offering the parish a dog waste bin, assuming the Parish Council funds the purchase and installation. Details of installation costs had not yet been received and the preferred location had not yet been approved by Highways. Members decided on a green, plastic bin of approximate purchase cost of £175.
- 7. Correspondence** None received.
- 8. a.o.b** Andrew Wiley suggested that the Parish should have a Plan, drawn up and agreed by residents, which could guide and inform the decisions of the Parish Council on matters such as planning. The clerk mentioned that she had attended an information session on Community and Neighbourhood Plans at the beginning of last year. The minutes of the meeting on 24th March 2015 refer. This may be raised as an agenda item at a future meeting.
- 9. Open discussion**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.56pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____