

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHEPTON MONTAGUE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, SHEPTON MONTAGUE ON MONDAY 15th MAY 2017 AT 7.50pm

(Draft minutes subject to approval at the next meeting)

Present: Richard Ellis (Chair), Paul Williams, Andrew Wiley, Margaret Hill (Clerk), Anna Groskop (County Councillor).

1. **Apologies for absence:** Mike Beech (District Councillor), Tim Russell P.C.S.O. Apologies were received from Janet Robinson after the meeting as she had had to attend to a last minute emergency.
2. **Election of new Chair and declarations of acceptance of office:** Paul Williams proposed that Richard Ellis should remain Chair for a further year. This was carried unanimously. Richard Ellis and Councillors present signed the declarations of acceptance of office.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting were approved as a correct record.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Risk assessment and approval of Annual Governance Statement:**
 - i) **Internal Audit:** Council considered the results of the Internal Audit which had been carried out by Michael Holmes. Members expressed their thanks to Mr Holmes.
 - ii) **Annual Governance Statement:** Council went through the Annual Governance Statement for 2016-17 as required for the external annual audit. The statement was completed and signed by the Chair.
6. **Accounting Statement (Annual return for 2016-17)**
 - i) Members approved the accounts to the end of the financial year as a correct record and these were duly signed by the Chair.
 - ii) **Renewal of Insurance:** A cheque was signed for the insurance premium for the year commencing 1st June 2017 in the sum of £257.60.
 - iii) **Purchase of grit/salt bin:** A cheque was signed in payment of the invoice from Glasdon U.K. Ltd in the sum of £225.80 for a new salt/grit bin which had been delivered that morning to its location on the high street. A further cheque was written for £10.74 to reimburse John Hill for two paving slabs to provide a level surface on the verge for the new bin.
7. **Speed reduction Scheme:** A questionnaire had been received from the County Council requesting feedback on the implementation and efficacy of the new linage and signage in the village. Members completed the questionnaire, adding the comment that the Parish Council was disappointed by having to wait three years for the completion of the work and that, despite the now clear signage, the public continue to ignore the 30mph signs and there has been little decrease in the number of vehicles speeding through the village.
8. **Adoption of BT phone box:** The clerk advised that she had received a copy of the Land Registry documents from Mr and Mrs Barrowman together with written permission from them for the Parish Council to adopt the phone box. She was now waiting to hear from BT where to send this paperwork.
9. **Correspondence:**
 - i) Crime statistics for April had been received from P.C.S.O Tim Russell showing an increase in recorded crime over the last 12 months of 4.8% for Wincanton North Neighbourhood. There were no crimes in the Shepton Montague area in April 2017.
 - ii) A request for donations had been receive from St. Margaret's Hospice. Council did not feel able to contribute.

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- iii) An email had been received from Sarah Maude of Dairy Barn, Shepton Montague advising that, at her expense, builders would be making good some rendering on the back wall of the bus shelter and putting a coat of creosote on the barge board. This work will be carried out as she is having a summer house built which will be near to but not attached to the bus shelter. Members expressed their appreciation.

10. **a.o.b.** None

11. **Open discussion**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.36pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____

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