

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHEPTON MONTAGUE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SHEPTON MONTAGUE ON THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>  
JANUARY AT 7.30pm**

**Present:** Andrew Wiley (Chair), Oliver Dowding, Julia Hunter, Richard Reed, Jay Bunyan (Clerk), Anna Groskop (County Councillor), PCSO Tim Russell, PCSO Ellis Ryale

1. **Apologies for absence:** were received from Paul Williams and Robin Bastable
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** these were signed as a correct record.
4. **Matters Arising:**
  - **Speeding:** AW felt that monitoring and a visible presence were important. **Action:** PCSO to chase
  - **The Newt in Somerset:** Appropriate signs have been erected
  - **Access to planning applications.** Clerk now has access
  - **Wessex Wireless:** AW has written again to Councillor David Hall regarding availability of grants. AG reported that the contractors had been sacked and that there was no progress in getting new ones. Stoney Stoke now has good speeds.
  - **Parking in Wincanton:** AW had written again to Councillor Hall. AG reported that the introduction of charges had been delayed due to the large number of protests.
  - **Grit Bins:** Need to check that they have been replenished. **Action: AW**
  - **SSDC policy** – AW had a copy of the Brewham policy document which, while useful, was not what was required for Shepton Montague where more emphasis was needed on life in a village. **Action: AW** to prepare a questionnaire to be sent to all Shepton Montague residents asking for their opinions
  - **Hospitality book** One had been obtained. OD, JH, JH attended the Fire Night at the Newt in Somerset.
  - **VE Day:** AW had arranged a piper, JB had arranged bells (but possibly not at 7pm). Other ideas included village activities, cream tea. **Action ALL**
5. **Fingerposts** The Cary Edge Lane fingerpost had been restored by The Newt in Somerset. Whilst not quite the same colour, their generosity was appreciated. 5 replacement arms had been ordered from Somerset Forge and would be ready shortly.
6. **Finance**
  - **Budget and Precept** - it was agreed to request the same amount (£2,090) for the forthcoming financial year. **Action AW** signed request, clerk to send to SSDC
  - **Bills for payment** – cheques were signed for donations to the Village Hall and Citizens Advice Bureau. A cheque will be drawn for Somerset Forge when their invoice arrives. **Action: Clerk**
7. **Correspondence**
  - **Neighbourhood plan** – see item 4
  - **Nominations** for Buckingham Palace garden party on 19<sup>th</sup> May. Three names were suggested and each will be contacted. If necessary lots will be drawn. **Action: AW**
  - **Website accessibility** – the Shepton Montague site is not sponsored by

the Parish Council. **Action:** Clerk to check with Pater Gane

- **Churchyard maintenance:** Another grey area with historic links. Mr Hibbert had been contracted to maintain the churchyard for 2020 but it may be possible to obtain a better deal.
- **Christmas tree collection** the collection point organised by SSDC had proved popular
- **Climate emergency meeting** – noted
- **NALC annual meeting** This was noted
- **Well Wessex** – noted
- **SSDC Code of Practice noted.** This needs to be followed.

**Complaint about footpaths etc,** To be referred to SSDC Highways (Eve Gwynne) **Action:** Clerk

**8. AOB**

JB noted that the notice board by the bust stop was very fragile. It was suggested that John Sykes may be prepared to mend this, **Action: AW**  
It was agreed that a schedule of meetings should be organised, with additional ones as required to consider planning applications. **Action** Clerk to draw up a list and circulate.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

