

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF SHEPTON MONTAGUE PARISH HELD ON MONDAY 9TH MAY 2022 AT 6.30pm

**Present:** Paul Williams (chair), Julia Hunter, Ali Willasey-Wilsey, John Sykes, Margaret Bowden (clerk) and 3 members of the Parish.

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from Oliver Dowding and Richard Ellis
2. **Minutes** of the last Annual Parish Meeting were approved and signed as a correct record.
3. **Matters Arising:** Pile of tyres: still no progress. Environment Agency are not pursuing the matter.  
Footpaths: Ongoing project.
4. **Parish Council Chairman's Report for the year 2021-2022**

Paul Williams read out his report as follows:

Another year dealing with Covid restrictions which saw last year's AGM conducted on Zoom but subsequent meetings took place in the village hall as normal.

A busy year with several different issues to address.

PLANNING – as usual was the main subject with major proposals from Emily Estates.

The proposed vineyard at the roman villa site was a contentious issue as was the new road through Welham & Lily Farms to provide disabled and service access to the roman villa.

Our concerns over the development at Welham Cottages resulted in an alteration of the plans to the general consent of those involved.

The plan to turn a barn at Knowle Rock farm into a dwelling was approved as were alterations to The Old Vicarage.

Minor alterations to the new house at Stoke Farm were approved but the issue of the earth banks alongside the B3081 were an ongoing concern.

SIGNPOSTS – The project to renovate all the village signposts was completed thanks to many hours work by the volunteers. Our thanks also to the several donations we received. A small gathering of all those involved took place at the final post to be completed at the crossroads by the pub – photos on the website.

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FOOTPATHS – This is the next project to sort signage and repair stiles/fences etc. Our thanks to Oliver for the work he has put in so far and we hope to get stuck into this very soon.

TRAFFIC THROUGH THE VILLAGE – This is an ongoing problem with speeding traffic particularly with vehicles using the road through past the pub as a rat run going to and from work i.e., 8-9 am & 5-6 pm.

There was a recent incident where a dog was severely injured when hit by a car.

There are also problems with HGV's trying to negotiate the T Junction with East Street and getting stuck and damaging property. We are attempting to find ways to improve these issues.

AGGRESIVE DOG – There is an ongoing problem with an aggressive dog which has knowingly bitten two people. The police have been advised and have visited the owner. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Margaret our clerk has secured funding from the County Council for small projects. We received 3 tranches totaling £ 4263 which were used to buy various items for the village hall and development of the village hall garden including a Jubilee Bench.

During the year Richard Reed resigned from the council being too busy with his farm move to give his full commitment. I am delighted to say we co-opted Richard Ellis back onto the council to replace him.

I would like to express our thanks to Peter Gane for running the village website for many years. This valuable service is used by most of the village. Peter has now left the village but is continuing to run the site until we can sort out a replacement. Thank you, Peter.

My thanks also to my fellow councilors who put in the time and effort, all unpaid, to serve the community.

Last but most importantly our thanks to Margaret our clerk who is absolutely brilliant at the job. Her conscientious commitment to dealing with the multiple issues of the job is invaluable to us.

Paul Williams

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## 5. Presentation of Parish Council accounts (unaudited)

<b>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022</b>			
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>
Bal B/F	£ 4,246.29	Executors of J Bunyan	£ 495.00
Precept	£ 2,090.00	SALC	£ 53.34
Lloyds compensation	£ 93.00	Zurich Insurance	£ 257.60
Grant 1 - village fete	£ 1,155.00	Fingerpost restoration	£ 1,680.00
Grant 2- projector	£ 608.00	Clerk expenses/compensation	£ 50.00
Grant 3- village hall garden	£ 2,500.00	Churchyard maintenance	£ 800.00
Fingerpost donation - Micklethwaite	£ 450.00	Fete expenses	£ 772.51
Fingerpost donation - O'Callaghan	£ 750.00	Village hall expenses	£ 941.00
		Noticeboard repairs	£ 137.08
		Village hall (use of)	£ 100.00
		CAB	£ 40.00
		Clerk pay	£ 495.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 11,892.29</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 5,821.53</b>
		Less cancelled cheques	£ 515.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 5,306.53</b>
		<b>Income minus Expenditure equals</b>	<b>£ 6,585.76</b>
		<b>Balance as per bank statement @ 31st March 2022</b>	<b>£ 6,585.76</b>
		<b>Balance as per cash book @ 31st March 2022</b>	<b>£ 6,585.76</b>

The clerk explained that there were 2 cheques issued in 20-21 and subsequently cancelled: £20 to CAB which had gone out of date and had therefore been replaced with the £40 to cover this year as well, and £495 made payable to J. Bunyan which had been replaced, made payable to her Executors.

The above accounts were signed by the Chair as a correct record with £6585.76 being in the Parish Council account at the end of the financial year and carried over to 2022-23.

## 6. Open discussion.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.45pm.

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