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**SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on ZOOM
on Wednesday December 2, 2020 at 6.30pm**

Couns. Bev Bingham (Chairman)
Lee Smith, Lesley Churm Simon McLoughlan Heather Miller

The clerk Mike Elliott and Notts County Council member Kay Cutts was in attendance.

1] APOLOGIES There were none

2] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none

3] MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING SEPTEMBER 30 were accepted as presented, approved and would be signed by the chairman when appropriate.

4] CLERK’S REPORT

 NALC are still recommending council meetings are held on the Zoom system to the end of this financial year in April.

5] REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER

 Coun. Cutts said she would be retiring from the Notts County Council local authority in May next year. In the meantime she was attending her various parish council meetings by the Zoom onsite system. She said the County authority were currently working on its requirements for its precept for 2021-2022. Arrangements were being made ready to organise the coronavirus pandemic vaccine roll out which was expected to be available in the UK shortly. Following the ending of the UK virus lockdown Nottinghamshire libraries were now operating again.

The charman said the Borough member Coun. David Simms had given apologies.

6] PLANNING

 Rushcliffe Borough Council planning applications

20/02622/ful. Stephen Fisher, Field Cottage, West Street. Construct first floor extension above existing garage. No objection.

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning decisions

20/02007. Mr Mrs Bingham, Shelcliffe Cottage, Church Street. Two storey rear extension. Grant.

Coun. Leslie Churm presented a report on changes to the original planning application for two new properties built on land opposite the Village public house and was critical of the fact the parish council were not made aware of them by Rushcliffe Borough Council who had informed her they were not obliged in the instances concerned to do so.

The council agreed that a letter opposing the stance by the planners be sent to them.

7] CORRESPONDENCE

 EoN had confirmed details of the new contract for electricity for the village hall. The Standing charge currently 27p, would be 39.3 and normal units currently 20.99, would be 21.05. Both the agreed figures were lower than the company had originally proposed following negotiations by the clerk’s office.

 Nottingham County Council gave details of a Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme. It was agreed to invite the officer concerned, Mr Callum Jones, to talk to a parish council meeting. The money for the project comes to an end in March next year.

8] ENVIRONMENT

 No matters were raised.

9] VILLAGE HALL

 The chairman commented on various matters involving the hall. She spoke of a need to upgrade the play equipment on the village playing field. The clerk was to make contact with the Langar and Barnstone parish council

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to seek information on the question of grants for the improvement scheme that had been carried out for their site in Barnstone.

Coun. Smith commented on the neat appearance of the hedge around the village hall car park following work that had been undertaken there.

In the report presented by the chairman, she said: “Here we are again at the end of what seems to be a successful lock down period, according to government broadcasts the rates of infection are falling in our area, hospital admissions will hopefully follow and news regarding a vaccine will continue to be optimistic.

It has certainly been a very challenging year not only for us but for the country as a whole. Let’s hope, as many people have already said, 2021 proves to be a much better year.

I haven’t too much to report since the last meeting so will keep this brief.

COVID-19

I would just like to say that during this difficult time Shelford has generally pulled together as a village and much effort has been made by all to ensure that no one has been left to cope on their own, whether it has been offering to collect prescriptions, do shopping or generally just be available at the end of a phone so thank you to everyone.

VILLAGE HALL

I’m pleased to say that until this latest lock down period the village hall has been in use, obviously with the correct precautions in place and only for the permitted activities, thus providing some much needed income. The Post Office service has continued throughout as an essential service. Unfortunately however, with the new restrictions added to the Tier system, we are unable to hold any activities at the present time and will have to wait until December 16th to see if any of those are lifted.

PLAYING FIELD

I have emailed Steve Rose regarding a start date to replace the fencing as previously discussed, I’ll update you if I have heard before the meeting.

I was recently working in Barnstone and took note of the amount of play equipment they have in their small park area and have to say it’s very impressive. I feel that it’s now time to investigate any grants that may be available to us and wonder whether it’s possible to speak to their Parish Council to enquire about any funding they may have accessed.

NALC AGM

I was part of the Zoom meeting for the AGM and can report that it was a very abbreviated version, due to circumstances and, other than voting on the various budgets there was little else added.

Robert Jenrick MP joined the meeting and was of course asked whether the lock down would be lifted for the Christmas period, as we now know this seems to be the case with the Tier systems in place either side of those few days which are to be confirmed in due course.

COUNCILLOR KAY CUTTS

It was with great sadness that I learnt of Kay’s planned retirement, she has been a stalwart of support for our village over many years both in her official role and as a friend to many, she continues to offer help and advice through her vast knowledge and I, amongst many others, have benefited greatly from this thank you.

10] FINANCE

 a] Accounts to pay were approved as circulated

 b] Budget and precept 2021-2022. Members discussed a report presented by the clerk which suggested a need for an income of £12,395. Income from village hall hiring’s was put in at £2,000, some £3000 lower than normal because of a loss of bookings brought about by the coronavirus restrictions. The council agreed to seek a precept the same as in the current year -- £10,000 – but delayed a final decision until the next meeting in case the national virus situation was more clear.

11] NEXT MEETING date was confirmed as February 24, 2021.