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**SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the village hall
on Wednesday July 7, 2021, at 6.00pm**Couns. Bev Bingham (Chairman)
Lee Smith(A), Lesley Churm(A), Simon McLoughlan, Heather Miller

 Present were the clerk Mike Elliott and Coun Roger Upton Notts County Council.

**1] Apologies** Coun. Smith and Churm

**2] Declarations of Interest** There were none

**3] Minutes from the Previous Meeting held on May 4, 2021** were accepted as presented, approved and would be signed by the chairman when appropriate

**4] Clerk’s Report**

The government are still outlawing meetings for parish councils by Zoom but are being pressed by NALC to change their decision. I am aware many councils UK wide are not abiding by the Government ruling but such meetings could be ruled to be illegal if a court was asked to rule on any decisions taken.

 The council accounts have been signed off by the auditor as being correct and has not raised any points for the council to be aware of.

 It has been suggested to us that the council stage a ‘signing’ session at the next meeting for minutes of meetings since March last year, the action having been delayed because of the pandemic situation.

**5] Report from the District and County Council member**

 Coun. Upton was congratulated on his election to Nottingham County Council and welcomed to his first meeting as the Shelford representative taking over from Mrs Kay Cutts who had retired. He spoke on various subjects involving his work on both the County Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council. He1 spoke of the development by the Borough Council of a crematorium at Stragglethorpe and general planning matters.

The Rushcliffe MP Ruth Edwards was opposing the proposal development plans at Barton in Fabis

**6] Planning**

There were no applications or decisions to report.

**7] Correspondence**

Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) provided its roadmap to unlocking suggestions and advice for village halls. It was stated the Prime Minister was expected to make an announcement on July 12 as to what Covid-19 restrictions would be left on July 19.

 Rushcliffe Borough Council announced the review of Borough electoral boundaries -- currently East Bridgford, Kneeton, Newton, Shelford – and there was no suggestion any change should be made. Notts County Council reminded the councils precise info was needed when asking for action from them such as road repairs, etc

 Rushcliffe Borough Council proposed their Public Spaces Protection Order 2021 (PSPO) to strengthen control of dogs and their owner particularly when in public areas. Members did support the Borough Move and the clerk was asked to advise the Borough the village playing field was at times a problem area and the council would welcome an Order on it.

 The Government / Buckingham Pa\lace were reminding the council of the Queen’s 70th anniversary next June, making her the oldest and longest serving monarch in the world. It was suggested there would be events UK wide to mark the achievement during the planned four days of public holiday on June 2, 3,4 and 5 and the council were asked to be part of them.

 A letter was received from Carter Jonas on behalf of The Crown advising of a rent increase for the village playing field, from its current £157.53 per annum imposed from 25th March 2018, to a new higher figure of £168.06 per annum with effect from March 2021.

**8] Environment**

The meeting was told of recent complaints concerning private bonfires.

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**9] Village Hall and Chairman’s report**

**CHAIRMAN’S MATTERS**

Since our last meeting there have been lots of changes to our day to day lives, fortunately, most of them have been for the better. We are all enjoying a little more freedom and it certainly feels better to meet face to face, hopefully this can continue into the future despite the growing number of cases of the Delta variant. We must all embrace the moves forward whilst still applying a good amount of caution to our actions.

I have a few points to raise but will keep them brief:

**Village Hall**

 I’m afraid there has been little progress regarding the repairs and painting work that need to be carried out, it seems tradesmen are so booked up that they don’t even want to quote for work at the moment.

I have received some more bookings so things are looking up in terms of finance.

A lady that hires the outside space for dog training has asked whether we can put some wire fencing along the hedge side that borders the road, she is concerned that where there are gaps in the hedge dogs could potentially get out onto the road causing a hazard. I would estimate the cost of this to be £30/£40 and would ask whether you agree to fund this either wholly or partly.

We have recently had the Fire Safety inspection carried out and apart from one extinguisher needing to be replaced, we passed muster on this as well as the Health and Safety Inspection carried out by the Crown last week.

Photocopier – the current one we have in the village hall has just about worn out so, as this is used by the village residents and the Parish Council, I propose we source either a new or second hand one and ask for a contribution from the Millennium Fund.

**Hedgerows/Pavements**

As we all know the hedgerows and grass verges are growing at apace, thus I have received several complaints from residents regarding hedges/shrubs etc., that are blocking footpaths and making walking around the village quite dangerous. I have already spoken to one resident and asked them to cut back their trees and shrubs which were obscuring the bus stop, which they have agreed to do and intend to put a further request in next weeks newsletter to the village in general. I will follow this up with a more personal approach if necessary. I have also put a request into Rushcliffe to have some of the verges cut to help the situation.

**Playing Field**

At the last meeting I mentioned purchasing some new picnic benches, the ones we agreed upon were very reasonably priced, we can get two for approximately £500 but, unfortunately, the company want to charge nearly £100 for delivery via courier, your thoughts on this would be welcome.

Finally, I would like to mention the team of volunteers that have been transforming the Churchyard. They have been led by David Hancock who has planned the new areas around the Church including wildflower borders and insect friendly habitats. I’m also pleased to report that the Church has been able to open on a Wednesday afternoon for walkers and visitors to go inside and in due course they will be serving refreshments. John Fisher and Eileen Smith are to be thanked for this as they give up their time to man the doors. --- Bev Bingham Chairman

**11] Finance**

 **Accounts To Pay** were approved as circulated

The clerk reported on the need for the chairman to become a new bank signature as there is one himself as a present signature, all others have since left. The chairman said she would sign the forms and return to the clerk this week.

The meeting gave approval for the new chairman, Coun. Bev Bingham to be signatory to all financial accounts held by the council.

**12] Next Meeting Date** was confirmed as September 01, 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.05pm.