SHOTESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Becmead Shotesham St Mary NR15 1UJ 01508550358. clerk.shotesham@outlook.com

**Minutes of the meeting held on 1st of February 2023 at the Trinity.**

1.Apologies for absence were received from S Dinsdale and CC A Thomas

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true record.

3. Financial matters …

 i). The Clerk confirmed that the 5% increase in the precept will be reflected in the 2023/24 payment from SNDC

 ii). The update of finances to late January was presented and accepted.

4. Planning Applications 2022/1343 Winrush. re details of layby were discussed without a formal comment.

5. Footpath report.

M Dyke and K Dyke shared the key features of the meeting held with the Footpath Coordinator. The key features were…………….

* Numerous signs missing/stolen…a plan will be prepared to replace all the signs.
* Footpath 21 remains closed to walkers. A group tried to walk it and failed. The clerk to seek direct action through CC A Thomas and Highways to open the path. The attempt to achieve this is now more than 10 years of discussion/formal action by the Parish Council and NCC Footpath Officer.

6. Parking Area at All Saints Church.

A proposal, submitted by church warden J Torbitt, to create a parking area outside the entrance to All Saints Church was considered by members of the parish council.

Members carefully considered the letter. . A number of concerns were expressed. They were.

* The site is a key feature of the village and a very important part of the Conservation Area.
* The creation of a tarmacadamed area, of about 80 square meters, would be a blight on this special area.
* There appears to be no data ..such as a regular survey of vehicles parked,.. to support the size/need for such a development.
* A major event/funeral has always been accommodated ..free of charge ..at the playing field.
* The main street allows for roadside parking ..the only difficulty has been caused by users clipping the pavement.
* At least 3+ other places are available at ‘triangle’ and the entrance to Joy’s Loke.
* The current area being used is a highway, no different to any of Shotesham’s roads, and thus the responsibility for upkeep of NCC/Highways.
* No explanation of where the ongoing responsibility for the upkeep of the proposed parking area was presented.

After significant discussion the question of supporting the creation of extra parking was put to the vote. *There were no votes in support of the project.*

7. There was no information available of the HMI’s review of appeals re: - developments at ‘Glenview’ and ‘Land south of Greenhill’

8. The Ford at the old mill.

The clerk reported that NCC has advised that no additional signs would be provided on the way from the A140 and Knights Lane.

The following points were made…

* As a result of another visit to this stretch of highways it was confirmed that there is no sign at the turn off from Knights Lane to the ford indicating there is a ford ahead…or at the turn off the A140.{ pictures available].
* At the turn at the end of Knights Lane there is a large sign, normally closed, which is opened when the ford is in flood. These’ Road Closed’ signs were slow to be opened causing additional concerns. When not open it is ‘blank’.
* There is a ‘ford’ sign immediately before the ford itself
* At the junction with the A140 the sign is similar to the one above ..blank, unless the sign is open to indicate the ford is closed. Slow opening of this sign is also a concern here Again, no indication of a ford ahead!

Meeting felt that an ‘on-site’ meeting was necessary. It was agreed to contact Gary Overland, and copy to NCC Alison Thomas, to arrange a meeting to help resolve the parish council’s concerns.

Next meeting ..April 5th .. to be held at The Trinity at 7.45pm