

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHEPTON MONTAGUE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SHEPTON MONTAGUE ON WEDNESDAY 9th
JANUARY 2019 AT 7.30pm**

(Draft minutes for approval at the next meeting)

Present: Richard Ellis (chair), Paul Williams, Richard Reed, Andrew Wiley, Margaret Hill (Clerk).

1. **Apologies for absence:** were received from Janet Robinson.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** were signed as a correct record.
4. **Matters Arising:**
 - **Planning Application 18/02269/AGN Application for new building for storage and processing of apples on land by Higher Shepton Road, Shepton Montague.** Application 'non-determined' as Planning considered it did not fall within Permitted Agricultural Development. The containers have not been removed from site. **Action:** Clerk to send note to Planning Enforcement.
 - **Drains from Welham along Cattle Hill:** Work on the drains commenced but was not completed.
5. **Planning application no. 18/03550/FUL The erection of an extension to approved stables building for a general purpose agricultural storage and the retention of a workers welfare hut. Land opposite Southdown Farm, East St, Shepton Montague.** Council considered the plans and resolved to return the following observations to Planning:-

Covering the container would seem to represent a logical solution to the improvement of the site.

With regard to the 'worker's welfare hut': Council can appreciate the need for this but are concerned about further buildings on the site. We would suggest that the welfare hut be incorporated within the new development and the one building that already has planning permission.
6. **Fingerpost project.** Andrew updated members on the status of the project. No orders have yet been placed with the foundry but a full set of new spigots have been made and presented to the Parish by Doug Barrowman. This has saved the Parish a considerable sum so thanks were expressed to Mr. Barrowman.

Forthcoming expenditure will include replacing 6 arms. In addition, some existing arms are made of pressed aluminium instead of cast iron and therefore will not last in the same way. Andrew reported that we are on track for a total expenditure of approx. £4,000, of which £1,000 can be recouped in the form of the SSDC grant. It was agreed that provision for ongoing maintenance should be made in the budget. Simply repainting two posts a year will cost £200-£300.
7. **FINANCE: Budget for 2019-20 and setting of Precept.** Council considered the necessary expenditure for the year 2019-20. It was agreed to include £250 for fingerpost maintenance as discussed under item 6. As District Council will not be supplying salt for use in the Parish after this year, a sum of

£150 was agreed to be included in the budget to provide some for the Parish grit bins. The total anticipated expenditure for 2019-20 is £3,645. It was decided to set the precept at £2,090, an increase of £155 on last year. It was noted however, that prior to this, the precept had been kept at the same level since 2016. (See appendix A Budget for 2019-20.)

Payments to Village Hall, C.A.B. Cheques were signed for Village Hall - £100 and C.A.B.- £20.

8. Correspondence:

- A list of vacancies to be filled at Emily Estates had been received and posted on the village website. Council welcomed these opportunities which will be filled as far as possible from local people. The clerk had received a comment that there did not seem to be a specific role for communicating with locals but members thought there was a P.R./community involvement person already in post. With the forthcoming opening of Emily Estates to the public in May, the clerk had received a suggestion that the Parish Council should make a formal request for a reduction in entrance price for local people. Members did not feel this was appropriate.
- Somerset wood: The clerk had previously distributed correspondence about this Somerset County Council project which will lie within the parishes of Cheddon Fitzpaine and West Monkton. Parishes are being requested to precept funds annually proportional to the fallen of their Parish, for maintenance of trees. Members felt that as this wood was 33 miles away and unlikely to be accessed by local people from here, it would not be appropriate to commit money to this project.

- 9. A.o.b:** It was noted that Les Veryard had moved out of the village and members wished to recognize all the hard work he has done for the village over the years, including time on the Parish Council.

10. Open discussion

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chairman _____ Date _____

APPENDIX A

SHEPTON MONTAGUE PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET				
	2018/19		2019/20	
<u>INCOME</u>				
Bal B/F	£ 2,988.94		£ 3,645.67	
Precept	£ 1,935.00		£ 2,090.00	
Govt grant	£ -		£ -	
Fingerpost restoration - Sponsorship	£ 500.00			
Fingerpost restoration - Sponsorship	£ 250.00			
Fingerpost restoration - Sponsorship			£ 500.00	
Fingerpost restoration - SSDC grant			?	
Total Income	£ 5,673.94		£ 5,735.67	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	2018/19		2019/20	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
SALC	£ 55.00	£ 50.47	£ 55.00	
Village Hall	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	
CAB	£ 20.00	£ 20.00	£ 20.00	
Clerk	£ 495.00	£ 495.00	£ 495.00	o/s
Insurance	£ 275.00	£ 257.60	£ 275.00	
Audit				
Churchyard maintenance/mowing	£ 750.00	£ 750.00	£ 800.00	
Slabs for grit bin		£ -		
Adoption of BT phone box		£ -		
Donation to Village Hall (acoustic improvements)		£ -		
Phone box restoration			£ 500.00	
Fingerpost restoration - expenses		£ 116.55	£ 1,000.00	
		£ 213.65		
Fingerpost restoration - ongoing maintenance			£ 250.00	
GDPR Training		£ 25.00		
Purchase of salt/grit bin		£ -	£ 150.00	
Total expenditure	£ 1,695.00	£ 2,028.27	£ 3,645.00	
Income minus expenditure		£ 3,645.67	£ 2,090.67	