DRAFT

SHEET PARISH COUNCIL

<u>CHAIRPERSON:</u> Chris Wilton <u>CLERK:</u> Jenny Hollington

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th November 2023 at Sheet Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

Present. Cllrs. Chris Wilton (in the Chair) Brian Bird Robin Forrest

Gail Martin James Plant

In Attendance: County Councillor, Russell Oppenheimer

District Councillor, Nick Drew Clerk, Jenny Hollington

There were 2 members of the public present for part of the meeting.

23/190 Apologies – Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Biddlecombe and Stevens.

- 23/191 <u>Declarations of Interests</u> Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest on any item on the agenda none declared.
- 23/192 Minutes The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October were approved and signed.
- 23/193 Matters Arising from the Minutes None
- 23/194 Public Comment -
 - A member of the Village Association (SCVT) offered help from members with analysis of responses to the Parish Priority Statement survey SCVT were very involved in the consultation around the original Parish Plan so have had previous experience.
 - An update from the Parish Council for the next edition of Sheet News would be appreciated by the Editor the Clerk will follow up.
- 23/195 <u>Vacancy for a Parish Councillor</u> EHDC has confirmed that no election is required following the resignation of Dave McKinney, and that Sheet Parish Council can co-opt a new Councillor. The vacancy will be advertised via the parish noticeboards and website with a deadline for expressions of interest of Friday, 5th December to enable co-option at the December PC meeting on the 12th.
- 23/196 <u>County Councillor's Report</u> Cllr. Oppenheimer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and covered the following items:
 - Date and arrangements for the consultation event on Pulens Lane traffic calming scheme.
 - HCC Reaffirmation of support for veterans
 - Highways Update
 - New Government plans on smoking and vaping

In addition, a couple of road issues were highlighted - flooding at the end of Long Road (adjacent to Adhurst Allotments) and under the railway bridge on Farnham Road - these will be followed up with the local Engineer.

The full report is appended to the minutes and can be found via the website www.sheetparishcouncil.gov.uk

23/197 <u>District Councillors Report</u> – Cllr. Drew spoke on the following items:

Sheet Parish Council - Minutes of Meeting - 14.11.2023

- Planning Application Lanzante No decision has yet been reached Cllr. Drew is in consultation with Officers.
- Waste Collections in School Lane The service has been very sporadic, but the contractor has now invested in a second smaller vehicle and the service should now improve.
- Sheet Winter Warmer Café Cllr. Drew thanked all the volunteers involved he very much enjoyed his visit.
- Car Parking Charges These are set to increase the additional income will help to safeguard the long-term financial future of the Council.
- Remembrance Sunday Cllr. Drew was pleased to attend the Service at Sheet this year and very impressed with the number of people in attendance –including the Cubs, Beavers, Scouts, and Brownies who were all immaculate.
- Variation of Conditions at Farnborough Airport EHDC has sent a robust objection to the proposals.

23/198 Planning – Current applications were discussed:

A resident expressed concern in respect of the application for a Lawful Development Certificate for use of Studio Cottage as an independent dwelling at 23 Pulens Lane – he pointed out that the applicant has deliberately tried to conceal the property by installing a large hedge to make it difficult for residential activity to be seen, and planning laws have been deliberately ignored.

Neighbours of the property are urged to contact Enforcement at EHDC to register concerns if they notice any activity at the property because compliance can only get involved if information is provided.

| SDNP/23/0 4497/TPO | T1 Ash - located by the front entrance to the site. – branches growing over drive entrance. T2 Alder – located by the front entrance – lower branches covering streetlight. | Tanners Reach, Sheet GU32 2BQ. | No Objection |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDNP/23/0 4609/LDE | Lawful Development Certificate Existing – Use of building as an independent dwelling house | Studio Cottage, 23 Pulens Lane, GU31 4BZ | Objection in respect of concealment, and flouting of previous planning conditions |

23/199 Scribe Proposal – The Clerk outlined the offer received from Scribe to integrate the accounts, village hall bookings and allotments to a cloud-based application to facilitate a more efficient and secure management of the Parish Council's activities and streamline workload. The cost of the full package would be £1703 (Scribe Accounts £408.00, Village Hall bookings £276.00, Allotments £420.00 plus transfer of data by Scribe £350.00 and initial set up fee £249.00).

Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to take the offer in full to provide an efficient, future-proof, and secure solution for the Council's records.

23/200 Finance -

- (a) Budget 24- 25 Initial discussion included consideration of current village hall hire costs, allotment rent, Clerk's hours, and the Caretaking contract these items will be reviewed by the Finance Committee in the coming weeks and feedback provided for the December meeting. In respect of costs such as the grass cutting contract, bin contract, Village Hall energy contracts, etc., a 10% increase will be incorporated across the board to take inflation into account.
- (b) Bank Reconciliations The October bank reconciliation was not available this item will be carried over to the December meeting.

- (c) Actions Outstanding The paperwork to open an account with the Cambridge and Counties Bank and the subsequent transfer of deposit from the Cambridge Building Society remains to be fully completed.
- (d) Cheque Payments The following cheques were approved for payment and signed:

| Chq No. | Amount | Payee | Service |
|---------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 301589 | £37.47 | Business Stream | Wastewater - V. Hall |
| 301590 | £312.00 | DNE Services | V. Hall repairs - new threshold, electric fault |
| 301591 | £775.00 | E.R. Amesbury Ltd | Grass Cutting - Millennium Field |
| 301592 | £12.99 | D. McKinney | Refund - memory stick (parish docs) |
| 301593 | £746.00 | Michael Smith Ltd | Grass Cutting contract - October |
| 301494 | £189.00 | A.W. Clear | Refund - cost of plants & compost - V. Green |
| 301595 | £650.00 | Sheet Music | V. Hall - Venue Management |
| 301596 | £898.51 | Jenny Hollington | Clerk - November |
| 301597 | £11,950.00 | Hampshire County Council | Phase 2 CFI schemes – London/Farnham Rd |
| Total | £15,570.97 | | |

- 23/201. Gov e-mail addresses In Cllr. Stevens' absence, this item was deferred until the December meeting.
- 23/202 <u>PPS Responses</u> The Chairman had circulated a summary of outcomes from the PPS survey responses prior to the meeting and ran through the main points. These will be presented to the public at the Community Meeting on Saturday, 25th November.

23/203 Roads and Traffic

- (a) CFI Project London Road Crossing Cllr. Martin reported that she had met with Alistair McAdam from Hampshire Highways to discuss concerns about the line of sight at the crossing. There are several large shrubs which are obstructing the sight lines which need to be cut back the Lengthsman will be asked to address this issue as soon as possible. In addition, Cllr. Martin has asked Hampshire to clear the vegetation from the footbridge which is causing a narrowing of the pavement.
- (b) Speed on London Road Cllr. Martin wrote to Nick Adams-King, Lead Cabinet Member for Highways at HCC, about the concerns of speeding traffic unfortunately his response was not very helpful. A possible way forward with this is to petition HCC and this will be considered for the future.
- (c) Village Street/Farnham Road Junction The work is now complete apart from the re-seeding of the grass and the re-painting of the white lines at the junction these works have been factored into the HCC works list.
- (d) Future CFI Projects Alistair McAdam did not feel the crossing at the roundabout on the London Road/A272 was suitable for improvement as the correct signage, road surfacing, and line painting is already in place. In addition, the location is not appropriate for village gates. However, he will arrange for the hatching lines to be improved.
- (e) Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) The rotation schedule will be approved at the December meeting and the SIDs will be moved to new locations on Cllr. Stevens' return. Consideration will be given to purchasing the more expensive Lithium batteries which would last longer than the current batteries which only last a week.
- 23/204 <u>HCC Tree Planting Project</u> There have been various comments about the proposal to plant nearly 2000 trees and whips allotment tenants are concerned about possible shading of plots from any trees planted along the fence line, and the suggested use of water from the site (where water pressure is already very low). A couple of other residents have expressed concern about the loss of the long views across the Field and asked how the large number of trees and whips would be kept watered in dry spells. In Cllr. Biddlecombe's absence the Chairman undertook to contact him about these concerns.

23/205 Sheet Assets

The Village Green – B.T. have agreed that the phone box needs a new door fitted and a fresh coat of paint. Plans to adopt the phone box will be put on hold until this work has been carried out (promised for mid-2024).

Mill Lane -

- **Sewage** A letter has been sent to S. Water to chase resolution of the continued sewage overspill during periods of heavy rain and when the Ashford Stream is high.
- Land Registry of the Riverbank The Clerk has still to follow up on registered ownership.

The Old Billiard Room – The further bat surveys carried out in September have revealed the presence of a bat roost. The report has been sent to the Planning Officer at EHDC and a decision on the planning application is awaited.

Sheet Common – **BMX Track** – The Clerk has yet to obtain a quote for a legal agreement to be drawn up between the BMX User Group and the Council, to give the User Group more responsibility for the use of the track.

Millennium Field -

- FOSS Bonfire & Firework event 2023 The event went well despite the weather. The site will be checked in the coming weeks to ensure adequate clearance.
- Car Park Prevention of Illegal Occupation Cllr. Plant will circulate template details for consideration.
- Millennium Bench Cllr. Forrest is in contact with the resident to move things forward.

Sheet Recreation Ground -

- Gate A quote for installation of a new 5-bar field gate and oak post and gate fittings in the sum of £795 was approved.
- Community Access Defibrillator A request for a fully-funded or part-funded defibrillator has been submitted to DHSC and a response is awaited.

Sheet Allotments – The quote from Michael Smith in the sum of £160 to clear the open space and take out a couple of trees was approved.

23/206 Correspondence (circulated prior to the meeting)

- The Tree Festival being held at the Petersfield Community Garden on Saturday 25th November, 10am 3.30 pm was noted.
- Details of EHDC's review of polling stations were noted.
- Concerns about the condition of the pavement and street lighting were noted Cllr. Martin undertook to investigate these issues.
- The donation acknowledgement from Butser Homestart was noted.
- 23/207 <u>Forthcoming Meetings</u> Community Meeting to discuss the outcomes of the PPS survey Saturday, 25th November at Sheet Village Hall.
- 23/208 <u>Date of Next Meeting</u> The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12th December at 7.00 p.m. at Sheet Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.31 p.m.