

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHELDWICH BADLESMERE AND LEAVELAND PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 4th JANUARY 2010 IN SHELDWICH VILLAGE HALL.

In attendance. Cllrs Laurance, Harbour, White, Scutt, Roberts and Stevens. Apologies had been received from Cllrs Pain and Sharrock due to illness and Cllr Nimmo was absent. Borough Cllr Prescott sent his apologies.

Minutes of the November meeting were approved and signed. The Chairman noted that the Vice Chairman had been tasked with a heavy workload particularly in connection with Parish projects and grants. Details of all potential projects would be discussed in detail under Finance.

Finance.

a) Cllr Harbour reported that discussions with the agent had taken place and approval had been given for 2 benches to be placed on Badlesmere Lees. He had been able to obtain quotations for both metal and wooden structures. He would be completing the grant application form. It was resolved that the Parish Council would apply for a grant of £1000 and install the furniture on the Lees for the benefit of all.

Cllr Harbour reported that he was arranging a meeting with the Parish Clerk of Chartham who had an historical map of the parish to discuss the installation in Sheldwich village hall of a similar historical laminated map, approximately 2 meters square detailing all the surrounding fields and footpaths and their names. £2000 from the Parish grant scheme had been approved at the November meeting.

The Chairman reported that of those survey forms returned by villagers 50% were in favour of some play equipment being installed and Cllr Roberts reiterated his comments from previous meetings, that many residents had approached him requesting some provision of play facilities. The Parish Council resolved to investigate the matter further. Cllr Roberts suggested that maybe the Cricket Club would welcome the opportunity to be a stakeholder or partner as this would be a suitable facility for the families of those playing and watching cricket. Cllr Harbour was already holding discussions on suitable land that would need some ground work and the Parish Council resolved that £670 be set aside from the Parish Grant Scheme for some preliminary ground work.

b) Parish Precept. The amount set for 2009/10 was £6150 but allowances needed to be made for increase in insurance and audit commission fees as well as general administration costs for the year 2010/11 and it was resolved that the precept be raised to £6700. The Parish Council were cognisant that the provision of play equipment for the community would involve extra insurance and safety costs and this would need to be factored into the accounts in future years.

Other Matters of Importance.

Cllr Scutt asked for an update on the enforcement on Orchard Place development and the Clerk will contact SBC and Cllr Prescott.

Cllr Roberts agreed to take on the portfolio of Highways and Transport,

Cllr White would take on Community and Social and the Chairman would take on Elections and Policy matters. Cllr Scutt was concerned at the lack of content in the salt bins and the Clerk will forward to her the latest communication from Kent Highways concerning salt refills. Cllr Roberts raised the delay in refuse collection, in some instances a months delay. This has resulted in a serious health hazard. The Clerk will contact Cllr Bowles and Bobbin, Borough Cllrs for Sheldwich to ask for their assistance in ascertaining the reason for the delay. Cllr Harbour reported that he had complained to the street wardens about fly tipping along the A251 and this was dealt with the following day.

There being no other business it was confirmed that the next meeting will be on **Monday 1st February at Sheldwich Village Hall at 8p.m. Meeting closed at 9.10pm**