



## **SHENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Serving Little Aston, Shenstone, Stonnall, Shenstone Wood End, Lynn,  
Parish Council Office 25C Main Street Shenstone WS14 0LZ**

**Tel: 01543 481 947 e-mail: [admin@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk](mailto:admin@shenstone-staffs.gov.uk) web: [www.shenstone-staffs.gov.uk](http://www.shenstone-staffs.gov.uk)**

### **DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING OF SHENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 5.15pm**

14. Members Present: Cllr David Thompson (Chair), Cllr Rita Hancocks, Cllr Lynda Jones, Cllr Val Neal, Cllr Neil Perry, Shirley O'Mara (Clerk & RFO).
15. Apologies received from Cllrs Mick Cox & David Salter.
16. Record declarations of interest.  
None stated.
17. Public Participation.  
No members of the public were present.
18. Receive & confirm minutes of the last meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017.  
There were no formal minutes presented due to recent vacancy of Clerk post.  
Cllr David Thompson made the following contribution:
  - (1) Objection to Shire Oak Quarry extended opening. SPC attended the SCC Planning Committee in support of residents.
  - (2) Objection to LDC regarding building additional housing and supported resident's objections.
  - (3) Travellers site in Stonnall has not been approved.
19. Shenstone Lawn Cemetery current contract performance.  
RH- it is felt strongly that the existing Contractor has lost focus on the job & is failing to meet objectives.  
There have been complaints from the public & it has become difficult to monitor when the Contractor is working at the Cemetery or what has been achieved when he has been. The status quo cannot be maintained.  
  
LDC completed request to handle weed killing.  
  
Action: Refer to Full Council.
20. Shenstone Lawn Cemetery- expressions of interest in maintenance.  
DT- Despite advertising in the "The Mercury", the library, notice boards & website for voluntary maintenance support we have had only two volunteers. Whilst this will be useful, because of the size of the area & the requirement for specialist equipment, the suggestion was to go back out to tender with revised specifications, inviting LDC, Ashcroft Gardening Services, Great Outdoors and Tonks Brothers Tree Services, who have expressed an interest.  
NP- Suggested a Community "Clear up your Cemetery" maintenance day: perhaps twice yearly the Parish Council & village Groups, i.e. Scouts, & volunteers join together to upkeep & tidy the grounds.  
  
Action: Refer to Full Council.
21. Shenstone lower Lawn Cemetery- update on Eastridge Croft.  
DT- letters have been sent to the five households of Eastridge Croft in response to their request to share our valuation report and ask for more time to consider their options. We confirmed that we were happy to extend the date until 10<sup>th</sup> and that whilst we are unable to divulge the detail of our report we would encourage them to get valuations of their own. We also stated that selling individual plots of land to those that are interested beyond number 13 is not an option we are currently considering. This is because we need either full sale income from all plots or the full amount of useable burial land from all plots.  
Residents have responded with a request for a meeting with Cllrs Hancock, Thompson & Cox which has been arranged for Friday Sept 8<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm Parish Council Office.  
  
Action: Refer to Full Council

22. Progress on land ownership & valuations of possible new cemetery sites.

DT- gave a brief outline of other possible sites which LDC have indicated would be available for development in both Shenstone and Stonnall. More investigation required.

23. Objection of Parish Council to LDC proposed site for more houses in Shenstone.

DT- Objection on the grounds that the number of new build houses in the Neighbourhood Plan was agreed and that this proposal is an unacceptable increase. It is felt that LDC should look more closely at vacancies in Lynn Lane.

An Inspector is to be identified.

LJ- expressed concern that there has been no action on developing housing since the Neighbourhood Plan was approved & perhaps it is an indication that planners have a reluctance to build affordable housing at all.

DT- it is imperative that we stay in touch with all planning proposals.

24. Planning applications.

Bioprocess Plant at Wall- DT has submitted an objection as there is no business plan to justify 27/7 opening hours.

It is accepted that the plant needs to open every day but no measurable evidence that 24 hours opening is necessary.

All other planning proposals approved as per attachment.

25. Station Parking.

NP- letters were sent out in the summer to residents of Admiral Parker Drive, Station Cottages & New Road with regard to The problem of overspill parking from Shenstone station. There has been a 50% response rate with the consensus being that some action needs to be taken as the problems are significant. In order to achieve a collaborative community response & solution, Cllr Perry will be arranging a meeting with residents to discuss options. This will be after further consultation With Highways, P.C.S.O. Andrea Horsnall & others in order to present the advantages & dis-advantages of any options. NP expressed concern that any action could cause displacement so is mindful that other roads may need to be included.

DT- We also need to clarify the plans for Shenstone Station with the change of franchise to West Midlands Trains Ltd from October. NP- perhaps the use of the land on the industrial estate could be used in the short term?

The importance of not losing the station was reiterated.

Parking in Main Street is also an issue. NP- investigating 30 min time restrictions.

26. Date, time & location of next meeting: **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 5.30pm, Parish Council Office.**

27. A.O.B.

Parish Council Newsletter.

LJ- stated that she does not wish to continue with the responsibility of the Parish Newsletter having volunteered to do one issue but completing four. Requested Full Council discuss what form they want the magazine to take, frequency and the importance of Councillors contributing articles whilst mindful of the production deadlines which exist. The proposal is for the Parish Clerk to assume responsibility from a single Councillor who, following receipt of copy, manages the printed output production and coordinates distribution.

The committee thanked Cllr Jones for her efforts & the quality of the newsletters produced.