

SHERE PARISH COUNCIL

*Serving the villages of Gomshall,
Holmbury St. Mary, Peaslake and Shere*

PARISH MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 8.30 p.m. (approximately) in Tanyard Hall, Gomshall on 13th August 2008.

Present: Mr. C. Carlisle (Chairman), Mr. R. Newman (Chairman of the Parish Council), Mr. R. Smith, Mr. M. Urban and the Clerk Mrs. L. Childs.

Election of Chairman: Mr. Carlisle was nominated by Mr Newman, seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously **ELECTED** as Chairman.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Brooke, Hutton and Taylor-Cotter.

Declarations of Interest – no declarations of interest were made.

The Minutes of the Parish Maintenance Committee meeting held on 13th November 2007 were **APPROVED AND SIGNED** as a correct record.

ADJOURNMENT TO ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO ASK QUESTIONS OR TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE REGARDING ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA – no members of the public were present at the meeting.

Finance Details as at 12th August 2008 were reported to the Committee. It was **AGREED** that £25 would be transferred from the Parish Maintenance account to the duck account to place this account in credit. Any further “duck” expenditure during the current year will be debited to the Parish Maintenance account.

Trees

The Clerk reported that some urgent work had been carried out recently to a tree in the Shere swimming pool field plus the removal of a branch of a willow tree in Lower Street.

The Oak tree, the Square, Shere – concern was expressed regarding the symptoms of crown dieback despite a cultural treatment (to mitigate the effects of compaction of the roots) having been carried out. It was **DECIDED** that arrangements would be made to prune out the dead wood. In addition the advice of Guildford Borough Council’s arboricultural officer will be sought with a view to planting the surrounding area with shrubs to avoid compaction due to people using this area to sit on etc. Mrs. Bray will also be consulted.

Felday Chapel

The Committee was informed that the new fencing had now been completed although the gate still required renovation. Mr. James Hutton had agreed to draw up a specification for the work required. It was, however, **AGREED** that renovation work will not commence until the legal transfer has been completed.

Some work to the gutters is required and it was thought likely that a local volunteer would be willing to carry this out.

Bus Shelters

Holmbury St. Mary

Pitland Street junction – renew timber frame – estimate of £120 **ACCEPTED**.

Opposite Church Lychgate – renew concrete at front – estimate of £60 **ACCEPTED**.

Peaslake – Lenten Close front and ridge require replacing – estimate of £390 **ACCEPTED**.

Peaslake Burrow Cross – front and both gable ends need replacing – estimate of £510 **ACCEPTED**.

Gomshall

Compasses Inn – remove moss – estimate of £30 **ACCEPTED**.

Compasses Inn, Gomshall – request for shelter

A very nice letter from a local teenager was considered. However, it was felt that the suggested location for a new shelter was unsuitable due to the narrow pavement. Further investigations will be carried out and the matter was therefore **DEFERRED** until the next meeting.

Schemes 2007/08

Resurfacing of Goose Green road in front of Cottage – responsibility of the owners of Downs View and Wylton - to be chased.

Tower Hill Rise, Gomshall – the Clerk reported that she had authorised the removal of the wire fence between the field and No. 1 Tower Hill Rise as this had become dangerous. The Committee **AGREED** that an order be placed with G. Rapley for palacade fencing at a cost of £410. The neighbour will also be informed.

Holmbury Village Hall – The Committee was reminded that the Council’s contractor had previously stated that any replacement materials would not remain in place due to the gradient of the car park. A second opinion had been sought from another contractor who had finally decided that this was not within their line of work. A further opinion is now awaited.

Schemes 2008/09

Burrows Cross, Gomshall – schedule of work required for tendering purposes. **DEFERRED** until the next meeting to enable the advice and permission of Surrey County Council to be sought.

Land inspections

The Clerk reported that she had just completed an inspection. She considered that the majority of the problems highlighted were minor and could be rectified by the Council’s weekly contractor as soon as possible apart from:

Seat on the Horsham Road near the Pitland Street junction – several uprights now missing. The Committee **DECIDED** that this matter would be considered by the **South East Ward** Councillors.

Chain link fence at Felday Field – will not tighten as has stretched. The Committee **ACCEPTED** an estimate of £295 for replacement fencing.

Goose Green laurel hedge requires cutting back - estimate of £45 **ACCEPTED**.

Weeds in the stream, Gomshall – two estimates had been received. It was decided to **ACCEPT** the cheaper estimate of £100 provided that public liability insurance could be obtained. The premium will then form part of the total cost if necessary.

Area of grass around Holmbury Well – new posts required – **South East Ward Councillors** to consider.

Street Furniture – grant aid for 2009/10 to be sought (see below).

Precept 2009/10

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the following amounts be sought from the Precept for 2009/10.

Grass cutting – £5,700.

Contracting costs – finance committee to decide.

Materials - £3,100.

Ducks - £150.

Trees - £1,500.

Felday Chapel - £500.

Street furniture/environmental improvements - £1,250 (matching grant aid available).

Schemes 2009/10 – grant aid

A request had been received from the local policeman for a hardstanding area at the entrance to Spinning Walk to be used by local children whilst waiting for the school bus. Although the Committee sympathised with this request it was felt that the creation of a hardstanding area would probably lead to the death of the oak tree. It was also felt that this problem should be submitted by the police to the County Council as they are the authority responsible for school transport.

Risk Assessments

The following were **REVIEWED** and **ACCEPTED** – Risk Assessments entitled “Outside Workers”, “Generic”, “Public Conveniences” and “Peaslake Field”.

Several amendments were suggested to the risk assessment for “Felday Chapel” and this was **ACCEPTED** subject to the inclusion of these amendments.

Date of next meeting: January 2009.