



SHABBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Shabbington Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th October 2022

Attendees

Cllrs Richard Smith (Chairman), Linda Neil (Vice Chairman), Miriam Boswell, Alan Powell, Maria Millan. Helen Spurgeon (Parish Clerk), Cllr Greg Smith (Bucks Council), 8 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

None.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

Cllr Powell declared an interest in Shabbington Nature Network.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th July 2022.

The minutes were approved and agreed as a true record.

4. Public participation

A discussion took place around badger culling. A resident explained that badgers are under threat of extinction. A new badger culling licence was applied for locally in 2022, just before the cut-off date, which will last for 4 years. The resident explained that the link between badgers and bovine TB is not scientifically proven and that vaccination is a more humane way to tackle the disease. The Wildlife Trust nationally is calling for an immediate halt to badger culls. Shabbington Nature Network (SNN) call for badger culling licences to be revoked at least until research definitively proves a link between badgers and bovine TB. Cllr Greg Smith has asked Bucks Council what powers they have to revoke licences and is awaiting a response. Bucks Council could perhaps ban badger culling on their land but would have no say on private land. The local cull zone is very near to the Millennium Field. The point was made that not all farmers are in favour of badger culling. There is a petition with over 600 signatures on it, how many of these are Shabbington residents can be determined. The parish council needs to ask Bucks Council for clarification on the matter and determine the majority opinion in the village. A letter from a Shabbington resident expressing disappointment that badger culling licences have been issued locally was read out.

5. Matters arising from previous Minutes

- **Leaning tree by Limes Way. Action:** Cllr Powell to organise an appointment with Woodland Consultancy at a cost of £120 to assess the tree and provide a report.
- **Grass cutting Millennium Field.** Cllr Powell spoke with the contractor to reduce the frequency of cuts during hot, dry weather.
- **Spikes on swing frames to deter pigeons.** The Vice Chairman spoke to Playdale who recommend spikes are not installed for health and safety reasons. The play equipment will need to be cleaned periodically to remove pigeon droppings.

6. Wooden kissing gate to Millennium Field

A temporary repair has been done. The posts are rotten and need replacing. **Action:** Chairman to organise repair. There is £250 in the budget for repairs and maintenance to land.

7. Badger cull



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Councillors agreed to post the SNN badger cull information poster on the noticeboard, along with a notice asking that anyone who wants to post details of sites supporting the policy of culling badgers to contact a councillor as we welcome information from all concerned.

8. Allotments

There are 2 x half plots available. **Action:** Cllr Powell to include this in the next newsletter. Thames Water have given permission for a hosepipe to be used to fill the water butts. It is to be noted that there is no public footpath through the allotments as this is private land. Allotment rents are due to be collected.

9. Public rights of way across farm land

There have been reports of cows with calves chasing walkers. Having looked at the rules and regulations, the Vice Chairman explained that walkers need to decide if it is safe to use a right of way across farm land. It was suggested that a carefully worded note could go in the newsletter and a NFU poster on the Millennium Field noticeboard.

10. To discuss the potential for a designated bathing site on the River Thame at or near the Old Fisherman

This will require a lot of work on water quality. There would be a legal requirement on the council to display if there was any pollution in the river. This would effectively hold Thames Water to account. It would be a long and difficult process with a lot of water testing and surveying of users. The River Thame Conservation Trust will need some funding. The Community Board would like to support the idea and may be able to allocate a micro grant of up to £1000 if the PC submits an application. SNN members have been trained to test water quality.

11. Neighbourhood Policing report

None.

12. Finance

- The payment runs for August, September and October were approved as circulated.
- Accounts to end September 2022, as circulated, were agreed. The bank balance stands at £11,648.

SHABBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN August 2022			
Payee	Chq. No/BACS	Detail	
Mrs H Spurgeon	BACS	Net salary Parish Clerk 24 hours net pay £328.80, office £50, phone wifi software £20	£ 398.80
RTM Landscapes	BACS	Grass cutting July	£ 327.60
RTM Landscapes	BACS	Grass cutting June	£ 327.60
M R Cross	BACS	inv 111 grass cut play area July	£ 192.00
PKF Littlejohn	BACS	External audit	£ 240.00
DD payments			
Sage	DD	Payroll software	£ 8.40
		Total payments	£ 1,494.40
Receipts			
HMRC	BGC	VAT repayment	£ 1,808.36



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SHABBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN September 2022			
Payee	Chq. No/BACS	Detail	
Mrs H Spurgeon	BACS	Net salary Parish Clerk 24 hours net pay £328.80, office £50, phone wifi software £20	£ 398.80
RTM Landscapes	BACS	Grass cutting August	£ 327.60
DD payments			
Sage	DD	Payroll software	£ 8.40
Total payments			£ 734.80
Receipts			
E.on	CHQ	Account credit	£ 24.74

SHABBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN October 2022			
Payee	Chq. No/BACS	Detail	
M R Cross	BACS	Inv 121 grass cut play area September	£ 192.00
Mrs H Spurgeon	BACS	Net salary Parish Clerk 24 hours net pay £328.80, office £50, phone wifi software £20	£ 398.80
Oxford Diocese	BACS	Allotment rent 2022/23	£ 120.00
Gallagher	BACS	Insurance Policy renewal June 2022 2nd instalment	£ 496.56
DD payments			
123-Reg	DD	Web domain renewal annual	£ 14.39
123-Reg	DD	Email account annual renewal	£ 43.06
Sage	DD	Payroll software	£ 8.40
Total payments			£ 1,273.21
Receipts			
Bucks Council	BGC	Second instalment precept	-£ 10,000.00

13. Planning

- **22/02901/APP 1 Home Close Edge, Crendon Road, Shabbington HP18 9HD**
NO OBJECTIONS submitted to Bucks Council.
- **22/03414/APP 12 Dukes Close, Shabbington HP18 9HW**
Householder application for demolition of existing single storey side/rear extension and erection of two storey part single storey rear extension.
Comment date: 4th November
Action: Councillors to circulate their comments via email.

14. Street lighting & street repairs

There is a street light out outside numbers 11/12 Dukes Close. This has been reported to the contractor who will schedule the repair shortly.

15. Millennium Field & Pond Garden

- The missing cap on the play equipment has now been fitted.
- The Vice Chairman agreed to remove the broken tree in the Millennium Field car park.
- **Action:** Cllr Powell and Vice Chairman to agree a date for pruning the Pond Garden.



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- The Chairman has set up a 'GoFundMe' page to raise £3000 to replace the football posts at the Millennium Field. So far £885 has been raised. The Bucks Free Press are planning to write an article to help raise awareness of the campaign.
- It has been suggested that a group of volunteers could paint the container on the Millennium Field. **Action:** Clerk to ask the permission of Paul Stevens.
- Two lime trees on Crendon Road verge have been cut down seemingly without permission. They were pollarded earlier this year at a cost to the PC, only to then be removed without notification or authority of the PC. **Action:** Cllr Powell to write to the residents believed to be responsible to ascertain why the trees have been felled. The Bucks Council tree preservation officer may need to be involved.

16. Meetings

A litter pick took place yesterday.

17. Items for information

- The hedge on Crendon Road opposite Home Close needs cutting back. **Action:** Clerk to write to landowner.
- The hedge on Mill Road leading to the pub needs cutting back again. **Action:** Cllr Boswell to speak to landowner.
- Some hedge cuttings have been left between Old Bryers Close entrance and Footpath No.7 entrance. **Action:** Clerk to write to resident witnessed as responsible and request waste cuttings are collected and removed.
- Overhanging trees and encroaching shrubs/bushes are restricting the width/height along Marsh Road. The Chairman has drafted a letter to send to 4 addresses on Marsh Road. **Action:** Chairman to send letter and addresses to Clerk so that the letters can be sent recorded delivery.
- It is looking hopeful that the PC can obtain 2 funded MVAS from the Community Board.
- Community Speedwatch is in progress but still requires more volunteers.
- There is a proposal for a footpath between Shabbington and the A418. Cllr Powell has written to Cllr Pressel, an OCC cabinet member with a specific brief on public transport /cycling and sustainability, to support this proposal.

18. Date of next meeting

Monday 14th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hut.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.