

**Welcome All**

**Shiplake Parish Council Annual  
Parish Meeting 2016**

**Chairman: Tudor Taylor**

# **This Evening's Agenda**

## **3 Sections**

- 1. The Formal Annual Parish Meeting**
- 2. Short presentation from John Howell MP followed by open floor questions to John.**
- 3. General Open Forum – your chance to ask any question of any elected councillor.**

# Formal Section Agenda

- 1. Apologies for absence.**
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting held in May 2015**
- 3. Matters arising from those Minutes.**
- 4. Annual Report of Shiplake, Harpsden, Dunsden and Peppard Sick Poor Fund.**
- 5. Police Matters.**
- 7. Chairman's report**

# Annual Parish Meeting

- 1. Apologies for absence. (PC)**
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting held in May 2015**
- 3. Matters arising from those Minutes.**

# Shiplake, Harpsden, Dunsden and Peppard Sick Poor Fund

**Trust deed 1953**

**5 Trustees.**

**Distribution of Xmas hampers/flowers and chocolates to the sick and poor of these parishes.**

**Total Income £1344 received from:**

**- £4000 Treas. 4.25% 2036 - Income of £169**

**- £500 from Phillimore Family Trust and £675 in donations – inc PC.**

**There has been an increase in hampers from 19 to 21.**

**A big thank you to the Trustees.**

# Police Report

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**No formal report available**

# Chairman's Report

**Approximately 1350 electors**

**Apolitical/elected/9 Councillors (SODC/OCC)**

**Represents the interests of the “smaller villages” which make up Shiplake**

**Day to day activities managing assets and responding to planning applications and to lobby on issues impacting our community.**

# Finance Report

**Income £35070 Spend £27996**

**Carried forward £7074**

**Well within budget – although c.£5000 c/f to this year – 20mph consultation and implementation.**

**Better than expected owing to unspent contingency**

**Current end of year reserves £75913**

**Next year budgeted to overspend to include possible additional traffic calming and consultancy expenses for planning issues.**

# Finance Report

**Maintained our strong commitment to the school,  
local charities and clubs**

**Any local charities need help?**

**We will maintain strong reserves including a  
fighting fund for greenfield residential  
developments.**

**A small increase (pence) in council tax**

**We remain one of the cheapest Parishes!**

# Planning Report

**Defined as 2 smaller villages allowing developments of up to 0.2 hectare – infill only.**

**63 applications reviewed by Planning Committee (64 last year).**

**53 no strong views; 10 objections.**

**Of these 5 were approved by SODC;**

**1 (Lafarge was decided upon and approved by OCC)**

**1 was refused; 1 is undecided and 2 approved after revision in response to the parish council's representations.**

**And then there is Thames Farm!**

# Planning: Thames Farm

## History and Background.

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**The PC have submitted their response and they remain resolutely against this development.**

**To view our reasons go to our web-site or see them on the SODC Planning web-site.**

**But we believe the site is unnecessary, against due process and unsustainable.**

**Thanks for the support but there is still time to respond – 6<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Latest responses total c. 290 of which c.220 objections.**

# Planning

**Strong contribution into JHHNP debate directly and very pleased with the support it has received.**

**No news yet on Wyevale.**

**Sydney Harrison House – awaiting planning application.**

**Mineral extraction – Lafarge extension approved by OCC Planning**

**Agreed boundary changes with Harpsden and implemented by SODC**

**AONB – some way to go – update from John Howell MP?**

# Network Rail (NR) Henley Branch Line Update

**Hendy Review in late 2015 confirmed electrification of the Twyford-Henley BranchLine**

**With preferred construction options & financial case by June 2016.**

**Final project authorisation in autumn 2016.**

**Project starts mid- 2017 (estimated). Duration 6-12 months.**

**Masts not gantries will be used generally positioned 50 – 60 metres apart**

**Vegetation clearance first task (in 2017) 6.6 metres from the outer rail and 3.5 metres from equipment, g.masts, power units etc.**

**The line will be 'powered' from the main line, due to 'go live' by end of 2018, - no need for power units along the branch line.**

**Between Henley & Shiplake the line has been renewed with welded rail, which is quieter and requires less maintenance.**

**PC requested that the clutter of signage and equipment at the crossing be reviewed**

**PC request made for double barriers as part of electrification project.**



Proposed masts

# Network Rail continued

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Track lowering under bridges, masts/stanchions on the viaducts, increasing bridge parapets to 1.8 metres and piling for masts likely to be scheduled early in the project.

Piling anticipated to be shallower than main line and, hopefully, less intrusive.

Construction vehicles to be 'kept' in local storage areas - to be identified.

Track renewal between Shiplake and Twyford, at least to Wargrave, will be considered as part of the project prior to approval.

Electrical wiring will take place in later stages of project, followed by trials prior to completion.

Potential for Cycle Path next to the track will be responded to (Yes or No in principle) by mid-2017 .

# The Villages' Website - Shiplakevillages.com

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**A major strategic goal of the PC**

**To bind the community - how to keep in touch with local businesses, social clubs and events.**

**Key Pages are: Community, Local Area, Council Matters, Local Businesses, Forum & Kid's Corner**

**451 Registered Users (March 2016) plus internet searches**

**Recent '7 day' usage had over 1250 page views with Home page, Planning, Forum, Community Choir & Bell Ringers (Queen's Birthday!) most viewed**

**Registered Users receive immediate email 'Notifications' on initiatives and events as they happen and electronic distribution of issues of the Shiplake Newsletter.**

**Instant surveys can be conducted.**

# The Villages' Website - Shiplakevillages.com

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Recent 'online' survey: 80% use the site weekly or when notifications received.

- New Home page, Forum and Notifications features are most popular pages
- New 'Live Links' to OCC/SODC/Rail/Weather/Flooding websites increasingly accessed
- Twitter and Facebook less popular but an important feature

Value of Forum underlined by 1,726 views to date on BROADBAND installation in Shiplake!

Target 600+ registered users – anyone not registered give email address to David P at end of meeting!

# Work Completed

Continued updating of web-site. Virtual village. Huge effort to improve communication. Upgraded Newsletter. Improved forum.

Defibrillators in place and training provided.

Superfast broadband

20 mph implemented and working group established to look at further traffic calming measures

Flood Plan in place and volunteers identified.

Assets – bus shelters and playgrounds regularly monitored - great support from Gregg's team at the College.

Badgers Walk playground reviewed and upgraded – new signage agreed

Road Maintenance – constant battle against lack of OCC funds

TPOs – continue to protect the rural nature of our community

# Strategic Issues

- We have given our input to SODC core strategy and favour the current protection of smaller villages.
- We want better representation from whatever unitary authority emerges from the disparate and expensive consultation process.
- Our area has largely been ignored – electrification, 3<sup>rd</sup> bridge, cycle paths
- very little regard appears to be paid to the south of the county.
- We strongly support Localism – local communities working within defined frameworks and given full political support.
- We believe Thames Farm is a test case for this!
- Building a virtual village – using technology to get news out fast and creating a vibrant and dynamic community.
- The third bridge – early days in terms of consultation but we remained concerned about traffic integration.
- Review an extension of AONB – greener environment and cycle path!

# Help

**Register on the web-site to get the alerts**

**Use the forum, submit articles and photos**

**Support the Village party 12<sup>th</sup> June – it really will be a good day out.**

**Look around for anyone/charity that needs support.**

**Support the Memorial Hall and local businesses**

**If you haven't, get your Thames Farm comments to SODC by 6<sup>th</sup> May**

# Finally.....

**I would like to congratulate Roger Head  
on receiving the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire  
Award for his dedication to our community.**

**A big thank you to my fellow Parish Councillors**

**And in particular to our Clerk Roger Hudson**

**And to all of those of you that have volunteered  
their time over the last year**

# Questions