

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF SHERBOURNE HELD AT SHERBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 30 APR 12 AT 7.30PM

Present Mrs Antoinette Gordon (Chairman)
Cllr John Murphy (Chairman Joint Parish Council)
Cllr Alan Rhead (WDC)
Cllr Les Caborn (WCC)
Graham Stanley(WCC Highways)
Richard Elbourne (WCC Traffic)
Mrs Wendy Barlow
Twelve Sherbourne electors

Opening

- 1 The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.
- 2 She was particularly pleased to welcome the team of Graham Stanley and Richard Elbourne from the WCC for an open forum discussion on roads and speed limits in Sherbourne.

Roads and Speed Limits in Sherbourne

- 3 In introducing this item the Chairman explained that Cllr Caborn had obtained a budget allocation of £15k from WCC to deal with roads and traffic problems in Barford and Sherbourne. The aim of the discussion was to identify and prioritize the problems experienced by Sherbourne so that a share of the £15k budget could be claimed. She said that although schemes to remedy major problems (the A429 junction into Sherbourne for example) might be mentioned, their cost put them outside the scope of this exercise.
- 4 Mr Stanley began by saying that in preparation for this meeting he had commissioned a traffic survey in Sherbourne. Such surveys gather information on the types of vehicles passing the sensors, their speed and their time, and from these data statistics on average speed, maximum speed, vehicle densities and vehicle tides were calculated.
- 5 Unfortunately the results had not been produced in time for the meeting and so he was forced to rely upon a survey made in 2010 at a time shortly after the opening of the Barford Bypass. Whilst traffic patterns would not doubt have changed as drivers became more aware of the bypass, he was confident that the results of the 2010 survey were good enough to demonstrate his methodology.

- 6 Contrary to the expectations of some, the survey had yielded:

Road	Veh/hr	Average Speed (mph)	Maximum Speed (mph)
Vicarage Lane	7	15	
Watery Lane	12	26	44

- 7 Mr Elbourne remarked that these figures might explain why there had been no accidents in Sherbourne involving injury and, disagreeable as it might seem, only those locations with an accident history of death or injury or both were considered for improvement.
- 8 There followed ninety minutes of animated discussion during which Mr Elbourne dealt with the question of imposing a 20mph speed limit in Sherbourne. He explained that speed limits could only be imposed with the agreement of the police and police policy was to support a speed limit only if it were akin to the average speed of traffic. On any given road most drivers drive at a safe speed and this generated the average speed. Whether or not a speed limit near that average speed is in force, most drivers will continue to drive safely. To that extent the speed limit is self-policed. The task of enforcement is limited to those few who drive faster than the safe speed. If however a limit is set well below the average speed, many drivers who drive at the safe speed for the road would now be breaking the limit, markedly increasing the police task of detection and enforcement.

- 9 Mr Stanley drew the session to a close by listing the measures which the meeting had agreed:
- The imposition of a 7.5 tonne restricted access for HGVs (see Annex A).
 - The imposition of a 30mph speed limit (see Annex B).
- 10 He distributed a questionnaire for residents to complete to add other measures to the list above. This should be returned to him (in the envelope provided) by 15 May 12.
- 11 Once in possession of all the completed questionnaires he would calculate a price for each proposed measure and present a consolidated list to the Joint Parish Council to be considered at its meeting on 9 Jul 12.
- 12 The Chairman thanked Mr Stanley and Mr Elbourne for a stimulating discussion and let the meeting in a round of applause.

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting of 11 Apr 11

- 13 The minutes were confirmed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Report by Mrs Antoinette Gordon

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<p><u>1. Parish Council:</u> At the Parish Council election 5.5.2011 Antoinette Gordon and Rachael Newsome were returned as Sherbourne Parish Councillors and Kay Payne was co-opted as the third Sherbourne Parish Councillor at the JPC meeting on 10.10.2011. Cllrs Gordon and Newsome serve on the JPC Planning Committee.</p> <p><u>2. WDC Planning applications:</u> W11/0121 9 Moat Green - raise roofline to build bedroom with en-suite, over garage; granted. W11/0274 The Studio, Barford Rd - cert. of lawfulness for use of garage as dwelling (retro); deferred. W11/0347 1 Rectory Cottages - new side extension and new garage in front garden; granted. W11/0386 Green Barn on A46 - change of use to vehicle repair etc, (retro); outstanding. W/11/0602 9 Moat Green - cert. of lawfulness for single storey rear extension; granted. W/11/0968 2 Sherbourne Court - erection of garden decking (retro); granted with conditions. W/11/1205 Old Barn Cottage, Longbridge - change agric lean-to to secure storage room - o/s. W/12/0351 3 Rectory Cottages - building of front extension - under consideration.</p> <p><u>3. Village roads and footpaths:</u> Three salt/grit bins have been installed alongside our roads, sited at - Old Stratford Road/A46; Fulbrook Lane/Barford Road; Church Road near to the Church. Overgrown vegetation has been cut back along Vicarage Lane and at Fulbrook Lane/Watery Lane junction. Some patching repair of potholes recently carried out in Vicarage Lane. Speeding traffic along all the village roads continues to create dangerous conditions for walkers, riders and local drivers, particularly the 'rat running' through Watery Lane. HGV drivers increasingly ignore the weight restriction signs, notably after turning off the A46. WCC feasibility study is in progress concerning these problems; full consultation meeting 30.4.2012. WCC Rights of Way Officer (South) is checking condition, signing and public access to the footpaths.</p> <p><u>4. Buses:</u> Bus shelter - interior swept out, blocked gutters cleaned out, bushes along access path trimmed back. Despite repeated requests to WDC/WCC for removal, a very large amount of litter remains in the ditch. The new A46 bus stops are increasingly used; however all bus services are being reviewed by WCC; Routes 16 & 18 are running satisfactorily, occasionally 18 runs late but this is due to traffic</p>

volume and is affected by the current road works in Warwick.
 Since the 4 bus stops in Sherbourne have been made compulsory stops there have only been two instances recently of the bus not stopping, or leaving early.
 Stage Coach are currently introducing new DDA compliant buses to both routes in line with central government legislation. The problem being that disabled persons cannot access them at all stops along the route as WCC have not installed the infrastructure. "Castel" kerbs or equivalent should be installed.
 The stops on the A 429 in Sherbourne are a prime example.
 The stops on the A 46 comply as they were installed by the DfT. Not all disabled people are able to access buses in Sherbourne after 6-30pm week days or on Sunday due to the local authority cuts.
 e.g. Route 16 does not run in the evenings & Route 18 is not accessible by Visually impaired due to the absence of a safe means of crossing the A 429 Barford Rd.

5. Village maintenance:

Street lights - following last year's major overhaul, there have been no outages reported. To ensure good lighting and avoid damage to the lamp heads, each lamp must be kept free from any overgrowing foliage; this is the responsibility of the owner of the neighbouring trees.

20.3.2012 Vicarage Lane street lamp knocked over by agricultural vehicle, re-installed by WDC.

Thanks to the continual collection of discarded beer cans, bottles and general litter and the clipping back of overgrown foliage by local residents, the majority of this Conservation village is kept in a tidy condition, which is very much appreciated by residents and visitors. Similarly the roadside verges are slowly being improved with local tidying up and some planting.

Sincere thanks to all who regularly contribute to these activities.

6. General points:

13.2.2012. Grants from JPC: Sherbourne Village Hall = £1,043; Churchyard maintenance = £418.

Mobile Library: 3-weekly stop in Barford - Church Street, by Beehive Nursery, Friday 9.30-10.00 am.

Warwick Library relocated into Shire Hall; open Mon-Friday 8.0 - 5.30 and Saturday 9.0 - 4 pm.

Unfortunately loose, uncontrolled dogs continue to cause problems in the area.

PC Ellie Jones, happily, remains as our local police contact on: 01926-410111, Ext. 4397.

Written Report - Village Hall Committee

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Dear Friends

I am delighted to say that yet again we have achieved a lot as a community and a committee. This year our focus has been on utilising the village hall as an asset to support the community. We have, with the help of the committee members and friends manage to continue to transform the hall and achieve a welcoming and stylish environment, which will be a benefit all residents and surrounding neighbours. With the help and enthusiasm of the committee members and the tireless efforts of our committee members, we have achieved the following:

1. What we did last year : we put on the following events:
 - Evening Suppers
 - Lunch time meals
 - Special event teas and meals
 - Themed events
2. What we are doing this year
 - 2.1 Community Development Plans
 We are wanting to develop a programme of events to raise money to continue the developments into the kitchen area so that we have a village hall that is truly lovely and functional. We are grateful for the support given by the Joint Parish Council and hope they agree that we have invested the money wisely.
 - 2.2 We are keen to involve more members of the community to share our excellent facility and invite you to join us in planning events that will be supportive of local

community needs as well as providing a social and supportive space for people to get the information advice and guidance needs that will assist them.

2.3 We have written a number of grant applications in the year to try to generate funds to support the development of the Village Hall as a community facility to support local residents. We have been unsuccessful on a number of occasions, but continue our campaign to apply for as much appropriate funding as possible.

2.4 We are Developing a comprehensive programme of events

Village Event	Date and Time
Knowle Male Voice Choir	21/4/12
Summer Supper/event	August TBC
Musical Evening	October/November 2012

This is in addition to our highly successful Italian Evening, Summer Events and Christmas Warmer.

We are keen to hear from you if you would like to join us on some Theatre trips to Stratford or Birmingham, there are lots of events on and we can arrange transport there and back please sign up if this would be of interest to you.

3. Community Development

We are keen to establish a programme of support in the village hall that allows people to gain advice and guidance and to attend social and informative and developmental events. We are so grateful for the help our local Councillors and the JPC in supporting this programme of events which is aimed at supporting our increasingly elderly population to gain more independence and control in their lives. We urge all those who feel they may be able to be volunteers and support us to make contact.

4. Village Hall lettings

We have, through Nicky's efforts, managed to secure many more lettings this year with the Village Hall being utilised for a range of local and more widespread activities. This includes Local Authority presentations, JPC meetings, local community celebrations, local exhibitors and others. We have increased letting income albeit on a small scale which is very positive in a time of recession.

5. Repairs to the Village Hall

We are determined to continue our good work and progress to the kitchen and then on to the toilets and entrance hall. We will need your support as well as our efforts to obtain grants and support from the JPC. Please help us in any way you can

In summary, a very good year, in which we have achieved a lot. We have the potential to achieve so much more to invigorate a sense of community and are grateful for the support of the Church in this regard. Again, thanks to all involved particularly our committee members and to you for your help and support.

Many thanks and best wishes

Peta

Written Report - Parochial Church Council

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ALL SAINTS CHURCH , SHERBOURNE

2011-12

2011 was a very special year in the history of the church when the 200th celebration of the birth of Sir George Gilbert Scott (architect of the church) was honoured by many visitors who came to view his magnificent church.

The building and its decorative features were highlighted in illustrated lectures given at Oxford University and Coventry Cathedral.

Bell-ringers visited the tower from Derbyshire, Devon and the Isle of Wight.

English Heritage financed the stabilising of the 15th century churchyard cross for the future.

A mains water pipe has been laid from the village bringing water to the church-yard for the first time.

Eleven weddings were held at the church during the summer and we were again blessed with a packed church for the annual candle lit carol service at Christmas.

2012-13

This year sees the celebration of 350 years of the publication of the Book of Common Prayer.

Also the 200th celebration of the birth of Augustus Pugin (designed the Ryland family tomb).

During the year the church will host visits from the Warwickshire and Coventry Historic Churches Trust and the Victorian Society.

There are 14 weddings scheduled for the summer.

The PCC has approved Phase 2 of the water development project (construction of a kitchenette and waste disposal system).

For and on behalf of Sherbourne Parish Church Council

David Hill

Church Warden

Written Report - Joint Parish Council

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Annual Report of Chairman of Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton Joint Parish Council

2011-2012 has again been a busy year – 9 routine JPC meetings, numerous Planning meetings, numerous Working Party or subcommittee meetings and the three Annual Parish Meetings. But no Special Meetings this year!

2011 was election year for local parish councils. Only Wasperton managed to fill all its places straight away. Barford promptly found three co-opted members and Sherbourne soon followed with its third councillor. Whilst this is unusual for us it is not unusual nationally and it does seem to be getting harder to persuade people to commit to local government service despite the fact that our sector is getting more and more opportunity to control our destiny; or perhaps it is a consequence?

Difficult financial times continue and all levels of government strive to achieve best value and minimize service reductions. Once again we have kept the parish element of the Council Tax at the same level whilst still maintaining safe reserves. The WDC and WCC have also kept their requirement level although the Police Authority have required a modest increase to maintain service levels. Our good reserves do enable us to ride out the financial storm to some considerable degree but we are currently looking at various projects which may make significant demands on those reserves if alternative funding cannot be found.

During the year the JPC funded the provision of a **Public Access Defibrillator** for emergency use – located at the rear of Barford Village Shop – for use only after making the appropriate 999 emergency contact, when the pass number will be given out.

Over the last several years our parishes, all of which have very significant Conservation Areas, have seen our street lighting improved. Sherbourne was fully replaced a few years ago, Wasperton is now complete and Barford is mostly done; there being a few remaining inappropriate and ageing lamps which will need attention. Limited funding at WDC means that in the short term these will not be dealt with unless we can find the funds to complement the £10,000 that WDC can scrape together between their lighting and conservation departments. We have been successful in securing a Community Forum grant for £3000 and but still have to find the balance elsewhere.

Given the change in attitude of insurers to self-help in adverse weather we have provided **grit**

bins at strategic locations throughout the parishes to mitigate for what we see as inadequate gritting by the WCC. To be fair we have provided the capital cost of the bins and WCC will ensure that they are kept adequately supplied for cold weather. Furthermore we have recently secured agreement to provide gritting arrangements for the Wasperton lane flats.

Following the installation of three new pieces of equipment under the “Big on Play” scheme last year we have established a working party to thoroughly review all of the play area provision in the Barford and will soon be looking for residents’ input in how things might be improved and augmented, and also what you do and/or do not want us to change.

The boundary between the Barford Playing Fields and the cemetery has been renewed during the last year along with careful trimming of the trees in that area. The boundary is now dog-proof and provides a pleasant open aspect drawing the two areas together. There is ongoing debate about whether to reinstate the old holly hedge in that area – what do you think?

Inconsiderate, and often illegal, parking around the Bremridge Close and Wasperton Lane junctions has finally been resolved by the installation of yellow lines. These have been generally welcomed but the problem has been partly replaced by nearby residents parking on the east side of Wellesbourne Road near the Bremridge Close junction. This has a significant traffic calming effect but can make passage difficult at times and we, along with the Police and WCC, will monitor the situation.

All three village halls have this year been supported by JPC grants with £1043 to each and the JPC also gave grant support of £418 towards maintenance of each of the three churchyards.

Following the change in government, the major planning issue has been the slow gestation of the New Local Plan. Earlier in the year we learnt of the intended housing numbers for our district – 550 homes per year – and we currently await the draft version of the Preferred Options (now due May 2012), which will indicate proposed locations for those numbers. We are assured that the rural areas will not have significant numbers imposed upon them so we wait in interest.

Affordable Housing – We have continued to work to with the Rural Housing Enabler and have identified the Wasperton Lane site as the preferred option for a stand-alone site. Unfortunately there is currently no funding available and we are advised that we must rely on a market homes scheme, sufficiently large to provide our needs through the WDC requirement for larger sites to provide 40% Affordable Homes. Currently there are two such schemes on the horizon.

Development proposals on **land around Barford House** have advanced considerably over the year and is currently the subject of an active Planning Application for 58 homes. The proposal addresses many of the issues identified in the 2011 BRA survey along with other issues raised relating to the site. The JPC voted to object to the scheme on the grounds that it was contrary to all current local policies and failed to meet our perceived local housing needs. The site of the now closed Sherbourne Nurseries is also being considered for development and in February there was presentation by Taylor Wimpey who gave brief outlines of their involvement so far, indicating a wish to work with the community.

Coincident with the above applications the JPC has been working to develop a Housing Needs Survey to assess the requirement for both Market and Affordable homes in the three parishes. Given the Localism agenda this will significantly assist us considerably in both facilitating appropriate development and discouraging inappropriate development in the future

Riverside land left over from the Barford Bypass construction has been taken over by the JPC and progress is well underway to establish a community orchard, a wild flower meadow and a riverside walk and seats. This has been partly funded by the LEADER scheme, supplemented by considerable amounts of self help labour. This will be one of the few public access points in our riverside parishes.

We have also taken the opportunity to rationalize the boundary between Barford and Wasperton parishes. To date all of the commercial buildings and parts of some of the houses on the old Oldhams site have fallen in to Wasperton parish despite their postal addresses and

residents' rights being in Barford. To regularize matters the boundary has been moved to the east side of Wellesbourne Road until it meets the A429 Barford Bypass and then directly to the river, which is also the District boundary, and continuing to divide the riverside land the JPC now holds.

Locality Community Forums have continued to develop but there is still a long way to go before they achieve the potential which was been promised. Meanwhile we have been lucky enough to secure Forum funding for several projects this year including the installation of play equipment, the jubilee beacon and the contribution towards upgrading street lighting ahead of schedule.

We are of course now in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year and the JPC has where possible led and coordinated celebration planning. Wasperton will have a community picnic and a Royal Oak planted; Barford will inaugurate the Riverside walk, plant a Royal/jubilee oak on the site, erect a flagpole on the village green where there will be a grand picnic followed by a torchlight procession to and from a beacon on Watchbury Hill. Sherbourne had not finalized plans at the time of writing...

All councillors have attended many meetings and generally have served their electors extremely well, working as a strong team with James Johnson our excellent Clerk/RFO. This year we managed to exchange several long serving councilors for a considerable intake of new and younger blood. With no disrespect to those who have moved on I am confident that this change will be an excellent investment for the future. Many thanks to all for their input. Some have done much more than the expected minimum and these are particularly deserving of our community's gratitude.

JVM
15/03/2012

Councillor attendance records:

2011-12	Meetings	Present	%
Cllr Mrs W BARLOW	9	9	100%
Cllr R CLAY	9	8	89%
Cllr Mrs J L LONGFIELD	9	5	56%
Cllr S J McVEIGH	9	9	100%
Cllr P A P MORRIS	8	6	75%
Cllr D MORROW	9	9	100%
Cllr J V MURPHY	9	9	100%
Cllr A RHEAD	9	7	78%
Cllr R A SHOTTON-OZA	9	7	78%
Cllr Mrs A GORDON	9	9	100%
Cllr Mrs NEWSOME	9	8	89%
Cllr Mrs P K PAYNE	5	5	100%
Cllr M J METCALFE	9	8	89%
Cllr N F J THURLEY	9	9	100%
Cllr J T WRIGHT	9	9	100%
Cllr J M HAWKESFORD	7	5	71%

Written Report - Warwick District Council

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Report by Cllr Mrs C Sawdon (WDC)

Alan Rhead and I were re-elected as your District Councillors in May 2011, it is an honour and a privilege to fulfil this role on your behalf.

Here is a brief outline on some of the activities we have been involved with over the last 12 months:

Council Tax - We have frozen the Council tax at the same level for a second year due to good management by the council.

Local Plan consultation – There is a lot more to the local plan than housing. This is your opportunity to comment on locations, infrastructure and open spaces. It is a chance for the public to help mould your District. What do you want? Where do you want it? Jobs, schools, public transport, hospitals, town facilities and rural community sustainability. Alan and I are working to bring the officers to meet in our ward to hear your views on initial ideas. I would urge people to attend and contribute to this plan which will mould our area for the next 20 years.

Travellers - This is also part of the local Plan design. WDC must find locations if Travellers are going to be dissuaded from settling anywhere. Before this can happen the Public need to understand that such sites have to go somewhere.

Procurement - WDC want to encourage more local businesses to provide vital services. WDC are actively involved in reducing the overall cost of procured services as one of the most important methods of savings.

Localism - We want to work ever closer with the JPC to ensure that the Localism Act has real meaning for the local community.

Queen's Jubilee - WDC is actively considering how to help local communities in their plans for this great occasion.

Rural Initiative Grant - Barford, Wasperton and Sherbourne need to continue to consider what requirements they may have that this WDC grant can help finance.

Housing Needs Survey - Congratulate the JPC in undertaking this most comprehensive survey not only of affordable but market homes. It is this kind of work at local level that can make Localism work.

Recycling - WDC continues to have one of the highest rates in the country and the public need to be congratulated on their efforts. Is there any further recycling you would like to see? Please let me know.

Neighbourhood Watch. -It is vital that we re-invigorate Neighbourhood Watch across the joint parishes. Hatton Park, Hatton, Norton Lindsey and Hampton on the Hill and Magna now have thriving groups and Paul Coleman our PCSO is very keen to help set schemes up across the ward. In all we have around 1500 households signed up across our area. It allows us all to keep in touch with what is going on and where within our neighbourhoods. I am keen to help where ever I can.

Written Report - Warwickshire County Council

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It has been an interesting and eventful year on the County Council. The County Councils latest strapline is "Going for growth" We believe that notwithstanding the Budgetary restraints and the overall national policy, Warwickshire County Council should endeavour to contribute to the recovery by encouraging employment and businesses especially amongst the under 25's, reducing Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) and improving education standards as far as the governments academy programme involves us and make Warwickshire a safe and healthy place to live.

This will be achieved by moving resources to areas that will encourage these aims and work in Partnership with both our neighbours, Districts and Boroughs. We will engage the Residents through meaningful community forums and where applicable Parish councils. We are fully engaged with the LEP with Coventry and will soon be signing a memorandum of understanding encouraging cooperation and combined working between the two authorities. We expect to match and thus take advantage of a government grant to improve the broadband in rural areas. The fire service has formed a strategic alliance with Northamptonshire thus making more resources available and saving on back office costs. The police force too is proposing to work more closely with West Mercia police. This is being influenced by the impending elections for a police commissioner, this November, and the programme to replace the police committee with Police panels.

Adult services are now becoming more of a commissioning agency paying the private sector rather than WCC to run homes and care services. Personal payment plans are being introduced for all residents who want them. This will show a saving of over £2million a year. Public Health will be transferring from the NHS to the local authority and they have already moved to Barrack Street above the library. Together with the other major reorganizations to the Health service whereby GP's become fund holders and PCT's and SHA's are abolished and a new "Health and wellbeing Board" is being established to oversee all Health matters in Warwickshire. Added to this there will be a new body called Health Watch which will work in conjunction with Scrutiny to challenge health administration and individual complaints. All this of course is subject to the Health reform act passing successfully through Parliament.

Schools, too are going through a major transformation. The introduction of academies is proving more popular than envisaged and over 60% of Warwickshire schools have opted for academy status. The rest are expected to follow. Primary Schools too are being encouraged to form federations of clusters with a view to achieving academy status. All this leads to the downsizing of the Local authorities' role in education and hence staff.

Warwickshire being placed as it is in the centre of England is vital for the long term transport strategy of any government. The main motorway and A road links are the responsibility of the highway agency but the remainder of the roads are the responsibility of the County Council. WCC grit over 46% of the A & B roads (higher than any other shire County) and have recently entered a maintenance contract with Balfour Beatty. The present budgetary restraints have led to a reduction in money available for road maintenance although this group's commitment to £2million a year for additional road improvements has helped to alleviate this.

The latest infrastructure proposals are for a high speed railway through the county which will desecrate homes, farms, factories and the countryside but not stop anywhere in Warwickshire. Despite minor changes to the route it is generally thought that this is not good for Warwickshire. At a cost of £32 billion this line does not represent value for money and the business case, even over 60 years is flawed. Why upgrading of existing lines have not been considered is hard to understand. Warwickshire has joined Buckinghamshire in a group of mainly conservative councils called 51m and are committed to opposing these proposals. Three of our Districts are also in this group although all have voted to oppose the scheme. A Judicial challenge of the decision is being considered, indications are that this will not initially cost us anymore. The adverse effect on the infrastructure is also being costed and assessed but until detailed plans for the route and construction programme have been decided there is little point in challenging these. All costs associated with the project will be charged to HS2. The county Council are meeting with HS2 to discuss further consultation over mitigation prior to the hybrid bill being introduced. Both an environmental impact assessment and a proven business case are also awaited.

Finally, this year's budget. The county's element of the Council tax (about 80% of the total) will not be increased this year. We shall be accepting the government's offer of a grant which is equivalent to 2.5% rise. 1% is equivalent to £2million. This may affect next year's budget as this is not a year on year grant. Existing programmes of closures announced in last year's budget will continue as the county strive to make £60million savings over 3 years. It is of note that we have not closed one Library and the willingness of communities to take on their own library with our technical support is a credit to all and demonstrates the Prime Minister's vision of The Big Society in action. The future format of community forums and area grants should be decided by Easter.

Taking all this into consideration the Conservative controlled County council continue to serve you well and give you value for money as our programme of going for growth takes shape.

20 **Housing Needs Survey**

- 20.1 The Chairman explained that the JPC had resolved to conduct a housing needs survey for affordable and market housing in the area (hitherto only the need for affordable housing had been investigated) and that Mrs Wendy Barlow had devised a questionnaire specific to each of the three villages; she then went on to give a resumé of the special nature of Sherbourne and invited those present to take a copy of the Sherbourne questionnaire (available at the meeting) and return it to any of the three JPC members representing Sherbourne or to Barford Village Shop by 15 May 12.
- 20.2 Cllr John Murphy cautioned against too narrow an interpretation of the purpose and value of the survey. It had not been conceived as a reaction to any planning applications and, although some might regard certain questions as intrusive, the survey was completely anonymous. It was not intended to elicit a response only from those who needed accommodation in Sherbourne but rather to establish all housing needs and identify how they could be satisfied in Sherbourne or elsewhere. To that end, to know how many did not have housing needs was equally important. The necessity to amass this information was driven by the passing of the Localism Bill, the aim of which was to devolve responsibility for managing local affairs down to

parish level and there would be a requirement for parishes to have Neighbourhood Plans. Without reliable information no purposeful planning was possible.

- 20.3 Cllr Alan Rhead picked up on this point. The survey was not in response to any planning application but arose from the need to gather information. The Localism Bill and its concomitant new Warwick District Local Plan and parish Neighbourhood plans offered an unparalleled opportunity for electors to have a say in how their villages should be run in future. He urged all those present to get involved in the process to the maximum possible extent. In any such regime housing would be of major importance and he reinforced the need for the Housing Needs Survey to be as comprehensive as possible. He said he had been asked by three Sherbourne residents with housing needs why their views had not been canvassed. He hoped they would now be given that opportunity.
- 20.4 Mrs Wendy Barlow informed the meeting that questionnaires had been distributed to every household in Barford and Wasperton and the response had been very satisfactory. She hoped that a similar outcome could be achieved for Sherbourne and, to facilitate this, proposed that the date for submission of the completed questionnaires be extended from 15 May 12 to 31 May 12.

Neighbourhood Watch

- 21 The Chairman unsuccessfully sought a volunteer to resurrect Neighbourhood Watch in Sherbourne.

Footpaths

- 22 The Chairman reported on a reconnaissance she made with the footpaths officer and found:
- Some signs needed to be relocated
 - Steps should be installed on some steep gradients
 - One blocked footpath should have a pedestrian gate
 - Where horses were threatening a diary of the events should be kept and passed to the footpaths officer who would alert the owners.

Appointment of Parish Meeting Representative to Sherbourne Village Hall Committee

- 23 Mrs Kay Payne was appointed.

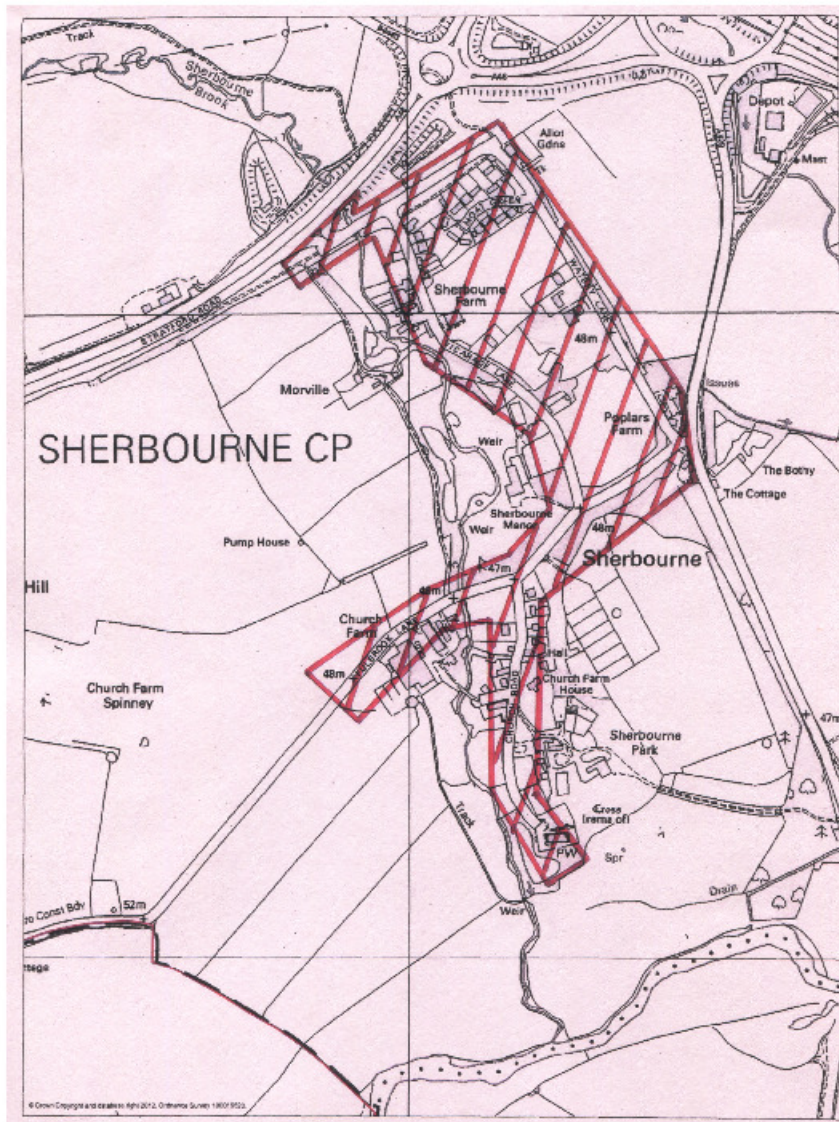
Appointment of Chairman for 2012-13

- 24 Mrs Antoinette Gordon was proposed and seconded, and in the absence of other nominations, elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

Closure

- 25 There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9:32pm.

7.5 TONNE RESTRICTED ACCESS



30 MPH SPEED LIMIT

