

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF SHERBOURNE HELD AT SHERBOURNE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 26 APRIL 2010 AT 7.30PM

Present Mrs Antoinette Gordon (Chairman)  
Cllr John Murphy (Chairman Joint Parish Council)  
Mrs Maureen Tweedie (Church Warden, PCC Sherbourne)  
Five Sherbourne electors (see attached attendance list)

## Opening

- 1 The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting. She remarked that the turn-out was disappointing but perhaps understandable because of the number of public meetings held in Sherbourne in the recent past and it might be that attendance at this one reflected a level of meetings fatigue.

## Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting of Monday 23 April 2009

- 2 The minutes were confirmed as a true record.

## Matters Arising

- 3 Minute 3. Signs on Barford Bypass. The proliferation of signs on the Barford Bypass had been investigated with WDC. The road signs would remain but the affixed signs may be removed.
- 4 Minute 16. Sherbourne Brook.
  - 4.1 The low levels in the water course gave cause for concern. Mr Middlemiss of the Environment Agency (EA) had explained to the Chairman that three abstraction points to service the A46 realignment had been licensed (having been advertised in *The Times*) to take up to 236m<sup>3</sup>/day of water from February 2009'
  - 4.2 The Chairman undertook to return to the EA to seek assurance that the limit was not being exceeded.
  - 4.3 She had already received an assurance that the level of silting was not above the acceptable limits.
- 5 Minute 18. Mineral Core Strategy. This matter appeared to be in abeyance.

## Report by Mrs Antoinette Gordon (Chairman)

- 6 A46 Bypass.
  - 6.1 The Highways Agency had issued three order relating to the bus stops on the A46 and speed limits on the small roundabout and surrounding roads.
  - 6.2 Concern was expressed about the inadequate consultation process for these plans.
  - 6.3 The variation of speed limits on contiguous roads was illogical and could only lead to confusion for motorists. A fresh study was needed to blend these limits including those on the roads within the village.
  - 6.4 Many residents were enjoying the enforced tranquility on Vicarage Road and Watery Lane imposed by their closure onto the old A46.
  - 6.5 Others however wished for the roads to be opened so that the difficulty of leaving the village via the A429 could be avoided, notwithstanding the danger of the reintroduction of the "rat runs" through the village.
  - 6.6 The reconciliation of these opposing views could only be achieved if the opened roads could

be closed to non-village traffic. Ideas were mooted ranging from lockable bollards to restricted entry signs but none was seen as the definitive solution. Nor was there cause for optimism based on the current situation; even with large and prominent signs announcing no access to the A46 through the village motorists, creatures of habit or slaves to Satnavs or both, still tried to take that route and were forced to U-turn in the village to retrace their steps.

## 7 Planning.

### 7.1 WDC.

7.1.1 Historic Buildings in Sherbourne. The list had been compiled and submitted to WDC. Some people whose dwelling had been identified were reluctant to be included. Mr Mayes (WDC) had therefore been obliged to draw up stricter criteria for the its compilation and was restarting the process from scratch.

### 7.1.2 Planning Applications.

- Language School - added use as Conference/wedding centre.....W09/0201
- University of Warwick, River Avon boating site - new boat house/storage shed.....W09/1262
- Church Farm - change of use from staff accommodation to separate dwelling.....W09/1264
- 3 Church Road - replacement of lean-to with new side extension.....W09/1430
- Motorway Depot site - construction of roof over car wash area.....W10/0167

### 7.2 WCC:

- Minerals Strategy - Sherbourne site ('Church Farm, Barford'), responded to questionnaire; in abeyance
- Core Strategy responded to questionnaire; in abeyance.
- Suggested travellers' site on HA compound beside new A46. HA states it is obliged to return the site to green-field but vigilance is required to ensure that the WDC core strategy does not identify it as a potential site.
- Dangerous right turn off Wellesbourne Road into Sherbourne WCC is totally uncooperative over the need to create a right-turn set of road markings.

## 8 Meetings/Conferences

8.1 Revised A46 layout - liaison meetings - Brian Taylor of Morrisons:

- Wed 20 May 09 + tour
- Mon 24 Aug 09 - Mr Vidler + residents re night-time workings noise + tour
- Wed 16 Sept 09 + tour
- Mon 7 Dec 09 - with residents re Watery Lane problems

8.2 14 July 09 - W. Midlands Spatial Strategy Plan - Core Strategy meeting at University of Warwick

8.3 29 Oct 09 - WCC Community Forum, Shire Hall - travellers' site on agenda

8.4 5 Nov 09 - Meeting of three neighbouring PCs re travellers' site

8.4 WDC Standards Committee Meetings; next 14 May 10 re new WDC Planning Protocol

8.5 Regular JPC and Planning Committee Meetings

## 9 Village maintenance.

9.1 Footway lighting - WDC arrangement working well.

9.2 Litter - WDC made one visit and thanks to all who regularly litter-pick.

9.3 Hedge trimming - WCC and thanks to all who regularly trim back.

9.5 Bulb planting - need to gradually add more - thanks to all who are doing this

10 Information

10.1 Grants from Joint Parish Council:

- Village Hall £944
- Churchyard Maintenance £375

10.2 Mobile Library stops: Barford (Beehive Nursery, Mill Lane, Sandy Way), Hampton Lucy, Charlecote, Wellesbourne.

10.3 Police Information stops: Barford and Wasperton and at our Village Fete.

10.4 Regular complaints of rat-running; loose dogs; gas guns; events' loudspeakers into early hours.

**Police Matters**

11 No police representative was available to attend the meeting.

**Report by Village Hall Committee**

12 The report by Mrs Peta Wilkinson is at Annex A.

**Report by Mrs Maureen Tweedie (Church Warden PCC Sherbourne)**

13 The PCC has decided that the most important item of capital spending is to provide a toilet and washing facility which will permit greater use of the church for both religious and nonreligious - including community -use.

14 This will require considerable fund raising by the church both by local initiatives and by accessing all possible sources of grants. The PCC recognises that this will take all the energies of the church community and will be grateful for all the help the village community is able to offer.

15 Unlike other organisations Church of England buildings are not subject to the local authority planning, but are subject to a complex legal system called Faculty. which replaces planning regulations. Before any alterations are made to a church building, a Faculty must be obtained from the Diocese - in our case - Coventry.

16 Application for Faculty is through a committee called the DAC [Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Repair of Churches] which is a Statutory body. The DAC not only grants a Faculty but gives advice on appropriate design in the light of listed status All Saint's Church is a Grade 2\* listed building. This process is now in place and we have appointed a new architect.

17 We have had a very useful on-site meeting with the DAC which gave helpful and constructive advice about design and placement having regard to the listed status etc.

18 We are exploring sources of funding.

**Bus Stops**

19 Mr Vaughan Rees had been invited by the Chairman to report on bus stops on the A46.

20 His presentation evidenced a considerable amount of detailed work, an effort which was crowned with the announcement that the bus stops on the A46 would be ready by June and that they would be made compulsory for Stagecoach busses.

21 Further, in the interim, he had extracted the commitment from WCC that those people in Sherbourne who could not access the bus stops because of the construction works on the A46 could use a Fareways taxi for journeys to Warwick or Stratford at no cost, and that if Fareways could not provide one then any other taxi line could be used and WCC would refund the fare.

22 The Chairman thanked him for his most productive efforts.

### **Report by Cllr John Murphy (Chairman Joint Parish Council)**

23 Cllr Murphy's report is at Annex B.

### **Independent Parish Council for Sherbourne**

24 The Chairman reported that the electoral roll for Sherbourne stood at 158, still above the 150 which current legislation required for the formation of an independent parish council.

25 Although the decision to grant independence was no longer made at government level but by the WDC, a possible change in legislation would devolve that decision to the village. If this happened then WDC's declaration that it was not minded to support the change would have no bearing on the outcome.

26 In response to a question from the floor, the Chairman stated that before being invited to decide, the electors of Sherbourne would be made aware of the advantages (and disadvantages) of independence.

27 First however was the necessity to establish whether the village could afford to go it alone and what the precept would have to be to finance an independent parish council. That financial model was a sine qua non.

28 It was agreed that with so few in attendance, this meeting was not really able to consider fully this important matter and that a separate meeting should be convened at which a more representative sample of the village population would assemble. The Chairman reminded the meeting that the requirement was 50% of the electorate, not 50% of those attending any meeting, to vote for change.

29 It was thought that the opening of the refurbished village hall might be a suitable venue for this other meeting.

30 It was agreed to keep this matter on the agenda.

### **Appointment of Representative to Sherbourne Village Hall Committee**

31 Mrs Peta Wilkinson was appointed.

### **Appointment of Chairman for 2010-11**

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

### **Closure**

33 There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9:15pm.

---

## Village Hall Annual Report 09—10

Year Ended February 2010

---

### *Sherbourne Village Hall Management Committee*

---

#### A FEW WORDS FROM OUR CHAIRMAN PETA WILKINSON

---

*Dear Friends,*

*I can't believe it is this time of year again already!*

*Most of this year the Committee has been busy getting quotes for work that we wanted to get done in our Village Hall to cheer up the place and make it more welcoming to all our residents. But before we spend a lot of money on the inside of the building, we want to ensure that the roof is sound and that we will be able to stay here ... long term!*

*The Landlord, unfortunately only did some roof repair rather than replacing the entire roof, and he also did a much needed, albeit, superficial facelift on the outside of the building.*

*We changed our locking system and on the main Hall we have now installed a button type, combination lock. All our Committee Members now have the combination and just need to remember it!*

*Unfortunately, when we had the Electrician in the building giving us a quotation for some new lighting, etc. , we found water running down the walls... onto live electrical outlets! That made us put the brakes on the redecoration—sharpish ! We obviously need to make certain the roof is sound before we spend too much money decorating the Hall... So we are getting a quote to repair the roof where it's leaking and decided that this summer we will all pitch in and give the main Hall a good ole lick o' paint!*

*Get ready for another brilliant Live & Local event this year, the church continuing to provide an excellent venue... we hope to come up with an interesting Coach Outing that we can arouse interest in... and we may even see a few more Village Suppers! But whatever we do, even if it is in small numbers... Let's enjoy our Village life together.*

*Peta*

---

---

## Village Hall Annual Report 09—10

### Current Committee Members :

Peta Wilkinson, Chairman (R-JPC)  
Gail Frost, Secretary, Treasurer,  
and Booking Secretary (R-PCC & Landlord)  
Nicky Edwards (E) Rachel Newsome (E)  
John Wilkinson (E) Vera Male (E) & Mike (C)  
Jacqui (C) & Paolo Lubrano (C)

E = Elected Members (up to 4)  
R = Representative Members (3)  
C = Co-opted Members (up to 4)



---

### Minutes of Last Year's Annual General Meeting—15 June 2009

Members present: Peta, Gail, Nicky, Jill and John

Three members gave notice of their resignation this year: Sarah Hue-Williams, David Long and Jill Hoggins. These members were thanked for their help on the Committee. Special thanks was given to Jill Hoggins who was a long serving member. The rest of the Committee were willing to continue and elected en bloc.

The Chairman presented her report on the year. Ideas to get more people involved will be welcomed by the Chairman. Ideas for events that could be undertaken included fundraising events, coffee mornings, table top sales and afternoon teas.

The Chairman, a member representing Sherbourne on the Joint Parish Council, told the meeting that Sherbourne may be able to become a distinct parish council, apart from Barford and Wasperton. In order to do this, a village must have 150 residents on the electoral register and have at least 50% of those on the electoral register supporting the idea. The issue could then be raised with Warwick District Council.

The year's accounts were presented to the meeting. The Treasurer pointed out that the peppercorn rent was so small that the Committee decided this year to pay the rent in full, through to the end of the current lease, 2020.

The Hall income was particularly good this year as an Art Group rented the hall on Wednesday evenings during school term time and the Village Hall Committee had been asked to muster up village residents to help the Church put on a Victorian Fete at Sherbourne Manor... a successful fete resulted in £2,000 being given to the Village Hall for its assistance.

We are particularly fortunate to have the support of the Warwick Live and Local team which puts together each year an impressive menu of professional entertainment that is subsidized by the local council and The Arts Council, England. In October (08) we enjoyed an evening's performance by the highly regarded Coull String Quartet.

The Chairman's report, last year's Minutes and annual Accounts were accepted by the Meeting.



Thank You  
**Live & Local**  
Warwick Team



---

**Live & Local** is a network of volunteers across the East and West Midlands who choose and promote professional performances for their local community venue.

At the heart of **Live & Local** is the opportunity to bring people together to enjoy high quality, affordable, memorable and uplifting live entertainment and to have a fantastic night out.



**Sherbourne Village Hall**  
**Annual Accounts**  
**Year Ended 28 February 2010**

	2009/2010	2008/2009
<b>Receipts</b>	£	£
Grant - Joint Parish Council *	1,368.00	0.00
Hall Lettings	499.00	370.00
Grant - Warwick County Council, Member Grant Fund	300.00	0.00
Events (net profit)	54.90	2,115.55
Bank Interest	0.86	0.00
Donations Received	0.00	40.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>2,222.76</b>	<b>2,525.55</b>
		2008/2009
<b>Payments</b>		£
Electricity EON	687.00	206.00
Building Maintenance	351.90	121.07
Insurance	234.22	208.69
Water & Sewerage Severn Trent	126.38	156.63
Warwick District Council		
Entertainment License	70.00	70.00
Cost of Entertainment (prior year)	0.00	493.50
Rent **	0.00	20.00
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>1,469.50</b>	<b>1,275.89</b>
		2008/2009
<b>Bank Account Reconciliation:</b>		£
Opening bank balance 28 Feb	5,032.34	3,782.68
plus Receipts	2,222.76	2,525.55
less Payments	-1,469.50	-1,275.89
less unpresented cheques (previous year)	0.00	0.00
Closing balance 28 Feb	5,785.60	5,032.34
plus unpresented cheques (current year)	0.00	0.00
Closing bank balance at year end	5,785.60	5,032.34
<b>Year's Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>753.26</b>	<b>1,249.66</b>

prepared by Gail Frost  
Hon Treasurer

## JOINT PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2009-10

2009-2010 has again been a busy year – 9 routine JPC meetings, numerous Planning meetings, 3 Special JPC Meetings, numerous Working Party or subcommittee meetings, the three Annual Parish Meetings and two Special Barford Parish Meetings.

**A46 Sherbourne Bypass** – This has continued to move on at a great pace since last year and is now largely functional. Work is progressing well on the old main roundabout and traffic mostly flows well despite the works, but there have still been some serious jams, not always related to the roadworks themselves. All indications are that the project is on time and should be completed later this year with only minor works remaining off-line.

We were pleased to see the completion of the **Barford Village Design Statement** (VDS) this year and it was adopted in full by the JPC and subject to very minor amendment by WDC. It will henceforth be used as a support document for determining applications but perhaps more importantly as guidance for potential developers and householders at the earlier stage of planning design.

During the year we assisted the Glebe Hotel with funding investigation work concerning their landmark Cedar of Lebanon tree which is not looking too well. The investigation confirmed its state of health and the specialists advised detailed work around the roots to combat the compaction problems caused by parked cars. Despite acceptance of the findings and an initial agreement to undertake the required works nothing seems to have happened so far and we will need to chase this matter up if this tree is to have any significant chance of survival.

**Dog Fouling** – This remains a constant problem and although much less than in years past is still causing concern. There are strict rules and severe fines for offenders and the Dog wardens promise zero-tolerance when folk are caught. Dog mess bins are currently available in Barford but will be removed at some stage following some waste classification clarifications – dog owners are now encouraged to put their pets' waste in the standard waste or litter bins.

Speed through and past our villages remains a major issue and we have recently again been conducting Speed Checks. These are only permitted in the 30mph areas and will be supplemented later this year by use of the mobile speed monitoring signs which have been funded by the Warwick West Community Forum. Nationally there is some evidence that the message is slowly getting through and that attitudes to speed are slowly improving, all reinforced by greater detection rates with cameras and the wider use of Speed Awareness courses for those caught. When accidents do happen the speed at the time really does make a difference, especially to children and pedestrians.

Inconsiderate, and often illegal, parking continues to be an important issue at various locations. There are tentative plans to restrict parking near the Wasperton Lane/Wellesbourne Road junction and we continue to pressure the Police to take stronger action near the entrance to Bremridge Close where parked vehicles compromise safety and cause obstruction.



**All three village halls** have this year been supported by JPC grants - £944 to each – members again recognising more active management and fund raising taking place in the smaller villages, to make their halls more viable.

The JPC also gave grant support towards maintenance of each of the three churchyards.

**Minerals Core Strategy – Revised Spatial Options** – We are still waiting to see which if any of the local sites emerge as the WCC Strategic Sites as the decision has slipped backwards from last autumn with no current indication of time frame, especially in the light of the upcoming General Election and possible or probable change of government.

Similarly we are also awaiting the next stage in development of **WDC's Core Strategy** which will determine where future housing and commercial development should be located. Despite the results of earlier stages of the consultation WDC have so far elected to locate most of the growth in large blocks, ignoring much brownfield potential, and much of their proposals will impact on the areas south of Warwick and Leamington and hence on our parishes. A few extra sites have emerged during the consultation and these are currently under consideration.

Ongoing review of **Regional Spatial Strategy** has directed WCC and WDC to allocate land for accommodation of “**travellers and gypsies**”. There was some alarm when an application was submitted for a private site in Stratford DC area but adjacent to Sherbourne, and much relief when that was withdrawn promptly, only to be replaced in August by further alarm that the J15 works depot site may have been earmarked for a future permanent site. This is not confirmed but we will need to keep a watch on developments of this policy.

**Affordable Housing** – We continue to search for a suitable site to provide housing to meet our clearly identified affordable housing need. We have drawn up a shortlist of possible sites and the Rural Housing Enabler is currently negotiating with landowners to establish interest.

We have been attempting to assist WDC in drawing up a generic s.106 agreement, for use when Affordable Housing is built in villages, with the aim of ensuring that such houses are prioritised for use of people with genuine local connections. Sadly we are struggling to achieve some of the conditions we consider important and this means that we will have to be very cautious in future if we are to avoid some of the problems which occurred with allocation of the Oldhams site houses.

**Conservation Area status** is generally viewed as a good thing; helping to preserve our historic and picturesque environments – but not always. In C.A.s the old mercury streetlights which fail must be replaced with whole, new and expensive CA style lamp standards with sodium lights, and even before the worst of the current recession the budget for this is just too small, so ones which fail may be out for some time. Add to this the fact that the previous inspections of street lighting have been withdrawn and we now rely on local informants to get any streetlights mended in our area.

The threat of development on **land around Barford House** has been topical again this year with further exhibitions staged by Sharba Homes. There have been Special

Parish Meetings to consider this and Barford Residents' Association has been asked to oversee a truly independent survey to gauge local opinion as it was generally felt that the Sharba results could not be relied upon. Meanwhile the JPC must refrain from comment pending an actual Planning Application and/or a reliable measure of opinion.

**Allotments** – Barford JPC allotments continue in good use and we have managed to release and subdivide a few more plots which means that we are currently satisfying local demand, even though that is much greater than in years gone by.

Despite a messy start, WCC's **Travel Token** scheme has now settled down and the tokens are available, to residents of all three parishes, to the value of £25, on proof of age or disability.

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. 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.

**Councillor attendance records:**

Name	Since May 2007 to date			2009-2010 year		
	Meetings	Present	%	Meeting s	Present	%
Cllr Mrs P W Barlow	33	25	76%	12	10	83%
Cllr M P Byerley	33	19	58%	12	5	42%
Cllr R Clay	33	26	79%	12	10	83%
Cllr Mrs D S Cobb	33	22	67%	12	7	58%
Cllr Mrs M A Hayward	33	27	82%	12	9	75%
Cllr D C Morrow	14	14	100%	12	12	100%
Cllr R G Mulgrue	33	31	94%	12	12	100%
Cllr J V Murphy	33	30	91%	12	11	92%
Cllr A B Rhead	33	21	64%	12	9	75%
Cllr W Worrall	33	31	94%	12	10	83%
Cllr Mrs A Gordon	33	33	100%	12	12	100%
Cllr Mrs P L Johnston	32	15	47%	12	4	33%
Cllr Mrs P W Wilkinson	33	27	82%	12	9	75%
Cllr Dr M J Metcalfe	33	27	82%	12	10	83%
Cllr N F J Thurley	33	32	97%	12	12	100%
Cllr J T Wright	33	30	91%	12	10	83%