

information from the meeting. Town and Parish Councils were urged to write to their Area Manager on a regular basis and ask for updates on any issues regarding any planning enforcement issues. GM has written a letter to Mr Tony Phillips regarding outstanding issues within the parish and is awaiting a reply. If no reply is received within two weeks, another letter will be sent. JM thanked GM for his attendance.

1313 Correspondence

1313.1 WC Grit Bins location within Parishes – Wiltshire County Highways is carrying out a grit bin review in Sherston. They provided a map and have asked the Parish Council to confirm if the grit bins shown are still needed and to comment on their condition. A request has been given to the Parish Council for a new grit bin at Forlorn near the bridge. Mr Grigson has written to the Parish Council regarding placing an additional grit bin on Tanners Hill near the Gant Steps or repositioning one of the existing grit bins on the hill. Mr Grigson wrote to the Parish Council in March 2009 with the same request but it was decided by the Parish Council not to proceed with this request due to the Hill being on the main gritting route. This matter will be looked at again by DH immediately who will then inform SW.

ACTION – DH to look into grit bin situation and inform SW of findings.

SW to reply to WC regarding grit bin review.

1313.2 Marion Raynor from Community First has informed the Parish Council that they can provide free support to a small number of parishes where there is a collaborative project in need of some help.

LATE CORRESPONDENCE

1313.3 – Methodist Church - SW has received a response from Reverend David Alderman regarding the Parish Council request to install a lamp on the wall of the Methodist church in Grove Road. Mr Alderman needs to put the request formally to the Methodist Church Council. Mr Alderman has also asked for any technical details on the proposed lamp. ACTION – SW to contact WC lighting technician.

1313.4 - WC Delegation of services questionnaire – WC have sent an e-mail regarding what services Sherston Parish Council currently provide and if there are any further services the Parish Council would like to undertake. A similar survey was carried out by WC a few years ago. SW to find original response.

ACTION – MR and SW to work on questionnaire.

1313.5 Rural Services Network – Local Food Study. A survey is being carried out to look at what communities are doing around local food. JM thinks the survey might be relevant to Tucks and will take information in to them. ACTION – SW to send information to JM.

1313.6 It was agreed by the Parish Council at last months meeting that SW would attend a 2 day course held in April and May. SW applied for a bursary which would cover 50% of the course and the application was successful.

1314 Finance

1314.1 The receipts, balances and accounts for payment were circulated - The accounts were approved for proposal by TW and seconded by GM.

1314.2 The budget – GCM has circulated copies of the draft budget for 2010/2011. At present GCM explained that money cannot be allocated to projects due to the Parish Council holding funds for the Old School project and the playground retention. GCM recommended that the Parish Council approve the budget as a working document and review it at a later date. The Parish Council all agreed to adopt an interim budget. JM thanked GCM for all his work on the budget.

1314.3 English Landscapes – the contract is due for renewal in April. SW has asked for a copy of the contract from English Landscapes.

1315 Environment, Parish Lands and General Services Committee.

1315.1 The Old School – JCM informed the Parish Council that there has been no significant progress since the last meeting although a lot of work is being undertaken by the Old School Committee and WC. Talks have taken place between WC and the committee to discuss the wall between the Old School and the village hall. JCM (although disappointed with the time it is taking) is very positive that the purchase will go ahead.

1316 Environment , Parish Lands and General Services Committee

MR circulated a report which covered - 1316 - 1317.

1316.1 Parking on the Recreation Ground Proposal – Councillors have had an opportunity to review the large amount of correspondence on this issue. *Decision sought as to whether or not to take the proposal*

further. In addition the offer from Sherston Software as to their car park off Cliff Road being made available to residents out of working hours needs to be responded to. Also the correspondence from residents points to a number of immediate issues re parking on pavements and on junctions. These were reported to the Police a number of months ago but may need doing so again. As agreed earlier in the meeting the council are happy for the correspondence regarding the Recreation Ground Proposal to be reviewed.

1316.2 Cliff Road and Silver Street Parking - Following last month's meeting a member of the Fire service at Malmesbury has been contacted re access issues. Sally Barnett the Area Highway Engineer has also been informed of the problem and requires further information including evidence if possible. It was suggested that a photograph or two are supplied to her - weekends and evenings seem to be the worst times.

1316.3 Recreation Ground – Playforce are to visit re a quote for maintenance. The outstanding amount due to Playdale can now be actioned to finalise that issue. A quote is still awaited for the new railings on Court Street. A copy of the expired lease for the Scout Hut has been sought from the Council's Solicitors as well as a quote for preparing a new lease.

1316.4 Sportsfield- The meeting of the new subcommittee took place on Wednesday 3rd February 2010 and notes of the meeting will shortly be made available. Quotes for improvements to the pavilion have been received but will need some further work. They include the updating of the outside WC for use by the Tennis Club. Some comments on the proposed extension to the skateboard park have been made by the skateboarders. These have been forwarded to Fawns who drew the plans up and their response and quote is awaited. The skateboarders have also commented on the youth shelter options and these will be taken forward in discussions with Georgina Doyle whose late husband's memorial fund wishes to make a contribution towards the cost. The Clerk to Moreton –in – Marsh Town Council has kindly supplied some useful information on their recently installed shelter which has proved a great success. Some expert opinion is being obtained as regards the conifers around the Tennis Courts and a padlock and chain have been purchased for the gate from the water tower track to stop cars using that entrance to gain access. Ideas for long term development of the facility continue and in particular initial contact is being made with providers of all weather pitches.

1316.5 BT Phone Kiosks – Council's decision not to take up BT's offer of adopting the Pinkney and Willesley kiosks has been forwarded to both BT and Wiltshire Council. The opportunity was taken to reiterate council's view that the service should remain at both sites. BT has now acknowledged that the kiosks and /or their telephony cannot be removed without the consent of Wiltshire Council.

1316.6 Grove Wood – The improved weather has seen further work by the volunteers and good progress has been made. Work will continue until the end of March every Sunday from 10 am to 1pm. Volunteer numbers have been good – 13 on the last occasion. Further coppicing work will be undertaken, Snowdrops planted on Saturday 27th February and hedging plants during March. From an insurance viewpoint it is necessary to have risk assessments – which are in hand - and for the work to be directed by Council. This is best done with the Grove Wood group becoming a formal subcommittee but with all finances being controlled by full council. An H&S assessment of the wood will also be required every three years as regards dangerous trees etc. It would be prudent to undertake the first of these this spring. MR proposed to the Council that Grove Wood Group become a formal subcommittee of the Parish Council. The Parish Council all agreed with this proposal.

1316.7 Community Payback Scheme – The team has worked well this month and it is expected that the fencing will be completed shortly. A portaloo has been hired to save time in toilet trips to the pavilion on the Sportsfield. Thanks are due to TM for providing a post knocker and to DH for allowing materials to be delivered to his farm, placing of the portaloo on his field as well as instructing the team on the correct spacing of barbed wire on the new fence posts. Initial assessments of further projects in the parish – RoW maintenance and village hall redecoration – are still awaited, but it is hoped that these can be underway by May.

1316.8 Footpaths – Our Rights of Way Officer Stephen Leonard attended the last meeting of the subcommittee to discuss the setting up of a local RoW working party. He confirmed that Wiltshire Council can supply tools and guidance to the working party as well as 3rd party insurance. As with Grove Wood risk assessments will be needed but he can help with those. Nigel Freeth has kindly agreed to coordinate the working party and for tools and materials to be stored at his farm.

Stephen Leonard has been very busy maintaining the RoW which forms the basis for the new walks booklet. His work has greatly reduced the number of problem paths and with the intended efforts of the working party

as regards way marking, path clearance and stile repairs there will only be around a dozen difficulties with such matters as electric and barbed wire fencing to be resolved. It is intended to liaise directly with the landowners concerned on these matters. Ploughing and over cropping issues which arise will be dealt with similarly. Landowners will be offered assistance with additional way marking where walkers are straying off route and other problems which may occur such as signage re loose dogs. Work on the new walks booklet is progressing well and neighbouring parishes contacted where their RoW are included. Publication in April/May is looking likely. All landowners with RoW in the booklet will be informed prior to publication.

1316.9 The Cliff – Stretchline were contacted as regards the problems which led them to lock the two gates to the Cliff from Brook Hill (which are not RoW) with a view to helping to resolve the same. MR received an e mail from Mr Richard Tubbs informing the Parish Council that there have been no problems of blocked gates and driveways at Stretchline.

1316.10 Allotments -New lease - Wiltshire Council has agreed the compromise over bonfires i.e. allowed under conditions. The plot holders have been informed and given notice of the new condition to their agreements. Plot rents – all plot holders have been given notice of the new rents agreed at the January meeting. New allotments – no response as yet to the article in this month's Cliffhanger for available land.

1316.11 Defibrillator Scheme – SW has been in touch with the schemes co-ordinator to arrange a meeting.

1316.12 Highways – SW has asked the Parish Steward to cut back the shrubs by the Island steps on Tanners Hill. SW previously has reported it however the Parish Stewards scheme has recently been suspended due to the Stewards repairing potholes in the county. SW looking into luminous paint for the Gant steps however was informed at the meeting that the steps need repairing. SW to talk to Highways. MR has reminded Sally Barnett again re Willesley signpost.

1316.13 High Street Tree – The tree by the Post Office and its wooden fence were again hit by a vehicle, so the Highway Engineer was contacted to find a solution to this ongoing problem. The matter is not one which Highways consider a priority but the parish Council could provide its own solution and at its expense subject to Highway's approval. CL told the Parish Council that Bob Broadway is happy to repair the surround around the tree and can get designs drawn up. JM thanked Mr Broadway for this offer however due to a lack of money, large stones would be the best solution. MR to talk to Colin Lewis at Knockdown Stone.

1316.14 Grove Road light – This item was discussed under correspondence.

1316.15 Speed limits on the B4040 – Council's views have been sent to Wiltshire Council following the January meeting. Gritting – Following January's report Peter Campaigne, Chairman of Norton & Foxley Parish Meeting, is getting in touch with neighbouring parishes as to joint approach to Highways on this subject and other outstanding issues with a view to setting up a local meeting. A joint approach is a good idea as it seems a number of local parishes have long outstanding highway items which need resolving. It was however understood that Wiltshire Council was to shortly undertake a thorough review of gritting and it was therefore agreed to await that review and its results before proceeding further with the suggested local meeting.

1316.16 Emergency planning – Enquiries are needed to be made of our insurers as to liability issues if we were to set up a volunteer scheme to deal with ice and snow on pavements in the village

1316.17 Bus shelter, Easton Town – A letter and map has been sent to WC as requested and SW is awaiting a response. CL has received quotes from the bus shelter company. The pavement must measure 16 inches more than the roof of the shelter to avoid high sided vehicles. MR and CL to measure the pavement.

1316.18 Community Speedwatch – Whilst some results of the recent metro monitoring are to hand more results are still awaited. Certainly the results for Pinkney and Easton Town have the Police's support for the scheme. A total of 6 volunteers are needed. We currently have 5 so one more is required. Training is likely to be shared with Luckington who are also considering a scheme there.

1316.19 Community Plan – Copies of the new plan are now available and have been circulated amongst councillors.

1316.20 Planters – Sherston 1016 have agreed to take on planters at either end of the village by the brown tourist signs. Prices for suitable containers are to be sought.

1316.21 Neighbourhood Watch – The new signage is in place.

1316.22 Community Bus Trips – The trip due for Saturday 13th February has been postponed to Saturday 6th March as Eric Thacker is unavailable to drive the bus due to unforeseen circumstances.

1316.23 Parish Charities – Confirmation from the Charity Commission has been received as to the deregistration of the Recreation Ground charity. All parish charities are now deregistered.

1316.24 The Churchyard – The PCC are conducting a survey of the Churchyard to ascertain the burial spaces remaining with a view to meeting with Council once the result is to hand

1316.2 5Area Board meeting- Wednesday 3rd March at 7pm Crudwell Village Hall.

1317 Any Other Business Arising at the discretion of the Chairman -

1317.1 DH has informed the Parish Council that Sandpits lane towards Church Road is very slippery with leaves. ACTION - SW to inform the Parish Steward.

1317.2 CL has been asked to enquire if the notice board is going to be looked at and also if the bus shelter will be painted? SW will contact Andy Tremellin about the notice board, and Mr Noel Banks is to paint the shelter.

1317.3 TW asked for the Parish Councils permission to use the recreation ground as parking for Boules Day and that the High Street is closed for the 2010 event. The Parish Council all agreed to this request.

1317.4 Items for Cliffhanger.
All previously discussed in meeting.

1318 Time and Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on the 11th March at 7.30pm in the village hall.

1319 Public Question Time

Mike Barnes a resident of Willesley wanted to thank the Parish Council for the greatly improved communication between Willesley and Sherston and thanked MR and SW.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

The minutes were taken by Sarah Wood
Clerk to Sherston Parish Council