**SHACKLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting held 2 March 2010 in the Village Hall**

**Present** – Bridget Carter- Manning (Chairman), Fran Nowlan (Vice Chairman), Diana Kirkillo-Stacewicz, Fred Bourne, Jon Scott, David Preston (Clerk), Sgt. Adams and PCSO Veronica Smith (Surrey Police), and 20 members of the public.

**51/09 Apologies for Absence -**  none

**52/09 Minutes of the meeting held 2 November 2009** – Approved and signed by the Chairman.

**53/09 Matters arising** – none.

**54/09 Declarations of Members’ Interests** – The Chairman declared an interest as being involved with the Village Hall management in connection with item 9 on the agenda (Donations).

**55/09 Mushroom Farm Development – Implications for the Council** – The Chairman welcomed David Brocklebank, M.D. of Wates Developments and invited him to set out his views on the future of the Cyder House Field, the playground and the undeveloped open space planned within the new development. Mr. Brocklebank indicated that Wates were keen to preserve all three areas as village amenities and to protect them from future potential development. He felt that the safeguards the company had in mind, coupled with planning restrictions, were sufficient to achieve this, but understood that local residents were keen to have the maximum level of assurance, and to this end Wates would be prepared to consider any reasonable proposition put forward, including the transfer of the freeholds to a local body. He suggested, however, that it should be borne in mind that land ownership brought responsibilities and costs as well as benefits.

The Clerk advised that full consideration be given by the Council to the potential costs and problems which could arise if the Council were to assume ownership of the land in question. From the floor mention was made of the difficulties which had arisen for the PCC in respect of their ownership of the Jubilee Field.

After much discussion a show of hands suggested that some ¾ of those present felt that local ownership of the Cyder House Field and the playground was desirable. Rather fewer felt strongly about the open space within the development.

It was agreed that further consideration was needed, and Christopher Bell, who has kindly offered to assist the Council informally, undertook to produce a paper setting out the likely benefits and pitfalls of the Council’s possible acquisition of the various parcels of land. The Council would then meet for further discussion of the issues. Mr Brocklebank would like to know the Council’s views by the middle of the year.

**56/09 Borough and County Coucil Issues** – held over owing to time pressures.

**57/09 Community Safety – Report from Surrey Police** – PCSO Smith reported that there had only been one crime reported since the last meeting – a theft from a motor vehicle in Aldro School car park. There had been a couple of suspicious incidents reported, but investigation had suggested there was no criminal intent.

The Police were keen to find an additional venue for their regular local ‘clinic’, possibly one that would be available in the evenings, and any suggestions would be welcomed.

Sgt. Adams spoke about the disruption caused by the recent large media presence at Hurtmore House. The Police were maintaining a regular presence now and hoped to avoid any further problems.

**58/09 Highways and Byways** – The Chairman expressed the Council’s continuing frustration at the lack of response by Surrey CC to issues raised. Considerable criticism was expressed about the dreadful state of the local roads and the failure of the Surrey Contractors to carry out repairs properly, if at all. It was agreed that where trees were overhanging the highway from private land and were cut by Surrey Highways the cost should be charged to the landowner, and not fall on the taxpayer. The Chairman would write officially to Surrey expressing the Council’s disappointment with the service provided by the Highways Department and its Contractors.

**59/09 Finance** – The payments made, amounting to £985.56, were noted, and the items for payment, totalling £737.62, were agreed.

It was decided to make donations of £200 each to the Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall (the Chairman taking no part in the latter discussion) and £100 to Community First Responders, who provide an emergency defibrillator service in Shackleford and adjacent villages .

Following a long history of difficulties with Lloyds TSB and their failure to carry out simple instructions, the Clerk was authorised to make alternative banking arrangements.

**60/09 Planning Issues –** The applications and decisions listed on the sheet which had been circulated were noted.

**61/09 Annual Risk Assessment and Internal Audit Review** – Approved as circulated.

**62/09 Date of next Meeting –** Wed. 5 May (including Annual Assembly)