Minutes of Sheepy Parish Council Meeting
Sheepy Memorial Hall –Tuesday 4th December 2018

Attended by: Ian Papworth - Chair, Clive Stretton, Rob Ward, David Clarke, Jane Nichols, Brian May, Andrea Johnson, Amelia Bridgwater, Jason Stephenson – Minute Clerk, Mick Toogood & Jessica Gurley (both awaiting confirmation of Co opt) 3 Parishioners, Ivan Ould & Kevin Morrell

135/18 To receive apologies and approval of absences - None

136/18 Declarations of interest and request for dispensations – none

137/18 Parishioners Open Forum – Parishioner reported that the culvert on Tinsel Lane by the A444 was overgrown and there had also been fly tipping on Tinsel lane – **Action** Ivan will deal with these as he knows of the issue of overgrown culverts at this location and at Upton and Shenton

A parishioner reported their dismay that during a recent burglary in Witherley that even though the resident could provide CCTV of the intruder the police would not attend. A discussion on the lack of resource within the police organisation concluded with the following:

Parishioners to lobby their local MP about the lack of funds and resources facing the police authorities.

A meeting has been called with Witherley Parish Council and the local Police Commissioner, residents to attend and voice their concern.

138/18 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th Nov 2018 - The minutes were approved as a true and correct record.

139/18 Clerk's report

a) Councillor Vacancies – The forms have been sent out to Mick Toogood and Jessica Gurley, once completed these will be sent to HBBC and the Co opt of the two new councillors can begin.
There still remains a vacancy in Sibson
Action Clerk to liaise with relevant parties to ensure all paperwork is in place.

b) Councillor emails – All councillor emails have now been set up **Resolved**.

c) Streetlight at Cross hands – The Works scheduled could not take place as the electricity connection has been capped, this is probably to make way for scaffolding that is required to enable repairs to the affected building. **Action** Clerk to try and find out who has capped of the supply so the installation can continue

d) Fitness Equipment Playing fields – Three quotes have been received from relevant suppliers, and visits had been made to at least one installation site for each one. At each site residents were spoken to and every one stated what a positive effect the installation had been for the community– **Action** A subcommittee to be formed to discuss the quotes and relevant companies to agree a preferred bidder, Clerk and Chairman to arrange.

e) Website – Fully up and running now being updated by clerk **Action** – Clerk to arrange for a contract to be put in place between supplier and Parish Council

140/18 Reports:

a) **County Councillor report** this had been circulated

Councillor asked for feedback on the proposed speed reduction along Wellsborough road into Market Bosworth, the council agreed whilst the speed restrictions could go further it is a step in the right direction.
Councillor warned that the Leicestershire Highway Maintenance budget will be cut by up to 70% by 2020.

b) **Borough Councillor Report** – This has been circulated

David Clarke raised concern about the proposed development at the A444/A42 and asked why this is going ahead when there are empty units at Magna Park. The councillor stated these are private units and the council is not obliged to look at other units that may be empty when a planning application is received, especially when they are in another Borough. The councillor agreed to check the exact planning process.
The councillor also made the council aware that the local MP's have objected to a proposed development near Sapcote, which if it went ahead would be the biggest container yard in the UK.

c) **Police & Crime figures** – No figures received
Clerk read out key point's from the Leicestershire Police newsletter which will be uploaded onto the Parish website.
Neighbourhood Watch – The Neighbourhood watch is keen to work closely with the Parish Council to see what initiatives we can implement together. **Action** Clerk and Chairman to work closely with Clara (NHW) to bring back to council any initiatives they feel relevant.

141/18 Neighbourhood plan

1. Progress against Plan
Independent Examination Independent Examiner appointed by HBBC after contract issues resolved
Opening comments received from the Independent Examiner; multiple minor points to respond to. Response being issued this week Examination completion is still targeted for hopefully, late 2018.
Timetable finalisation to referendum and thus project completion.
The HBBC Full council meeting on 17th November approved the recommendation by the Planning Policy team and the Executive, to modify the HBBC constitution to facilitate a prompt and timely referendum for Sheepy Parish, subject to the Independent Examination being concluded successfully.
This change will also benefit parishes in the Borough following behind
Thanks to Nicola Smith (Interim Head of Planning) and Councillors Miriam Surtees and Kevin Morell in supporting us progress this change to a satisfactory solution.
Referendum
With the successful completion of these 2 points above, plans are being made by HBBC for a Sheepy Referendum early in the new year; this being dependant on a successful Examination being concluded!

Signed: Date:

2. Budget
No further expenditure to report.

3. Communications
All information for the SPNP website is up to date and available.

4. Steering Group
Next meeting scheduled as needed to respond promptly to the Independent Examiners requests as they are received

142/18 Non Planning issues identified in the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Non-planning issues
The process of preparing the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan has highlighted non-planning issues or the need for community projects. Most of these matters were raised in response to the 2016 Questionnaire and are being considered by Sheepy Parish Council. They do not form part of the statutory Neighbourhood Plan, so are not subject to the independent examination nor referendum.

Street lighting
General support for switching off lights late at night. However, there is some concern about increase in crime but others counter this. **Action** – None, no general concern had been raised to the Parish Council

Flood maintenance
There is a need to undertake regular drainage cleansing and respond to any reports of blockages. **Action –** This issue is ongoing and regular communication exists between the Parish Council and the EA, this has resulted in the recent clearance of overhanging foliage near to Ratcliffe Bridge

Sport, recreation and open spaces
Providing more leisure and sport facilities.
Other than from young persons, there was a low response generally in relation to the requirement for improvements to be made to each of the sports facilities listed; namely additional sports fields, sports hall, changing rooms, bowls, tennis courts, an outdoor gym, senior citizens/youth facilities, improved play equipment and more parking.
There is a need (specified by young people) for better facilities for play- indicated by a 52.4% response for leisure and sports; with the following facilities being listed: tennis courts, a basketball court/net, a skateboard park, cycle track, an outdoor gym with a fitness instructor, a rugby/smaller football pitch and a netball court.
Additional designated wildlife areas/habitats. **Action –** This is an ongoing issue and the Parish Council has been proactive in trying to secure funds from the PCIF to establish an outdoor gym on the existing playing fields.

Trees
Where trees need to be felled they should be re-placed with sufficient numbers and of type to be carbon neutral.
Comments about the number of large/inappropriate trees in St Botolph's Church Yard.
Action – The Parish Council will support any ongoing tree issues and have elected a councillor to oversee tree issues within the Parish.

Public rights of way

Accessible footpaths for people with disabilities.

There were additional responses in relation to specific paths. There were also some suggestions as to improvements; namely increased sign posting, keep public rights of way clear, extend the walks in the Glade, provide picnic benches in the shade in the Glade and first grass cut earlier to prevent obstruction at junctions of roads and more wildflowers in the Glade. **Action –** This issue will be monitored and dealt with as and when required. The Parish Council have already made alterations to the gates in the glade area to make sure it is adequate for mobility scooters.

Transport

There is widespread recognition that a good bus service is important, particularly for the elderly, but some parts of the Parish are not served by the current bus service.

Current bus routes and timetables are not perceived as user friendly and the service is perceived as unreliable. Several parishioners commented that the buses are not inclusive for those with disabilities.

The most popular destinations for a wider bus service include Nuneaton, Market Bosworth, Tamworth (including Ventura Park), Hinckley and Ashby.

Traffic (particularly HGVs), road safety, speeding and un-neighbourly parking were all major concerns to adult parishioners. However, there is very little support for measures to control the speed of traffic and promote calming where those measures are seen as out of character with the rural nature of the Parish (for example chicanes and speed humps).

Parking hotspots were identified at Sheepy Magna Memorial Hall, Sheepy Cemetery, Mill Lane Sheepy Parva (particularly at the beginning and end of the school day), St Botolph Church, Sibson Church and Sibson Village Hall.

Most young people walk to sports and activities within the villages where they live (but are transported by car to activities outside their village).

A fifth (Young Persons Questionnaire) have no problems getting around but the remainder experience difficulties with speeding traffic, lack of cycle paths and pavements and crossing the road.

The young peoples' comments were supported by the adults desire for more cycle routes. People say they would cycle more if cycle lanes were available. **Action –** The parish Council are to break down these issues into smaller sections so they can then be more easily dealt with when appropriate.

Services and facilities

A few comments that there could be more events and that they need updating but not clear at which hall. Also, there were 15 responses that the "Village Halls" / Sports pavilions and playing fields could be used more frequently for a variety of uses but require upgrading. There were 4 comments that the Church (which one?) could be used for more community activity if heating upgraded and pews removed and as to the requirement for improvements to the maintenance of the church grounds.

The pubs and restaurants are important (and the pubs need to be improved and protected against closure).

There is clear dissatisfaction with mobile and broadband services in the Parish. The questionnaire responses were however inconclusive as to how the services could be improved with only 28 responders being in favour of a community-type solution, dependant on outcome and costs.

There is a clear desire for a shop of some sort in the Parish.

There were 24 responses indicating dissatisfaction with the water supply- the responses ranged from statements that the water pressure needed to be improved and the pipes needed to be upgraded. **Action** – Some of these issues have been addressed with the renovation of the church

in Sheepy, which can now be used for future functions. The pub has new owners and it has now become a freehold and is once again a thriving heart of the community. Faster Broadband had now been extended throughout the whole of the village.
At the Parish Council AGM all relevant committees and associations attend and give a report on their past year and upcoming events, giving the parish a greater sense of coming together and collaboration.

143/18 Litter and Footpaths

Litter picking had been fairly quiet the last month, they are looking to increase the picking once the festivities are over with.

Ivan raised concern about a footpath between 9 and 10 Highfield Road in Sheepy Magna and asked if we could check the current status/condition. **Action** Clerk to check with Leicestershire County Council.

144/18 Speed Awareness/Vehicle Activated Sign

a) Highway Barrel Planters – Council agreed to install 2 planters at a location where the VAS had highlighted speeding was an issue, this would be at the entrance to Sheepy from Twycross Road **Action -** Clerk and Chairman to agree exact location and send relevant documents off to LCC.
b) 30mph (in 100metres) **Action –** Clerk to check with LCC and how these signs are procured.
c) Speed Awareness Toolkit - This was circulated in the meeting.
Action – Councillors to look through document and suggest ideas which the council could implement.
d) VAS – Rob reported the sign was broken and needed to be sent to the manufacturers
Action – Mick will try and supply box to send it back in or alternatively Rob to arrange with Clerk to have it collected.

145/18 Ground Maintenance Update

a) Noticeboards (Sibson & Upton) **Action –** Chairman and Brian to meet up to discuss requirements for new noticeboard at Sibson.

146/18 LCC Highway matters

Sheepy Road Orton on the hill from 12/11 up to 8 weeks
Proposed reduction in speed on Wellsborough Road (discussed in 140/18)

147/18 Policies and Procedures

a) GDPR – Andrea Johnson provided a draft Privacy Policy to a previous meeting. **Action –** Clerk and Andrea to arrange meeting to finalise policy.

148/18 Planning applications & updates

	Reference	Application Details and Location	Dated
a)	18/01110/FUL	8.6 metre dropped kerb and hardstanding to the front of the property 3 the White Houses Twycross Road Sibson	18/11/18

Signed: Date:

149/18 General correspondence (emailed to Councillors)

a) Rural Conference – Everyone who attended agreed it was an informative and well-presented conference.
b) Parish Forum – Brain agreed to offer Sibson as a venue either in June or September
c) New Year meeting dates – All dates circulated and will be put on notice boards and website
d) Elections – Elections are planned for May 2020, costs will depend on whether any parishioners call for an actual election.
e) Clearance at Ratcliffe Bridge – The EA have agreed to use their maintenance to clear obstruction with overgrown foliage across the river.
f) Remembrance Sunday – All feedback was positive and that all the services were well attended and delivered excellently.

150/18 Finance

a) Income, expenditure and signing of cheques

Date	Method	Payee	Details	Total	VAT
23/11/2018	SO	Eon		33.17	1.58
31/10/18	101778	Eon	Quarterly Bill	93.03	
01/11/18	101779	Haines Watts	Payroll	22.50	3.75
27/11/18	101776	MBG	Ground Maintenance	349.94	58.32
October	101774	Clerk	Wages	667.55	

b) 2019/20 Budget
The proposed budget had been circulated to everyone. Awaiting the Precept and tax Base details from HBBC. **Action** Once received Clerk to arrange meeting in New Year to agree Budget and setting of Precept.

151/18 Health and safety updates

a) Risk assessment – Litter pickers Risk assessment complete just needs converting into standard format – **Action** Ian Papworth to complete and pass to clerk

152/18 Matters to note/add to a future agenda

None

Meeting closed at 9:15 pm

Date of next meeting: 5th February at Sheepy Memorial Hall (7:30pm)

Signed: Date: