

Minutes of meeting

4th September 2023

Present	Apologies
Kevin Fisher	Cathy Thompson
Andrew Snowden	Keith Williams
Claire Walker	Liz Elstone
Jeffery & Ritva Bamforth	Brian Parker
Suresh Gattapur	
Guest: Rose Llewellyn	
Guest: Junab Ali (20:25)	

Meeting held at Lower Shaw Farm @ 20:00

The Chair welcomed all present.

1. Previous Minutes

The Minutes were accepted as a fair record of the meeting.
Proposed by Jeffery Bamforth, seconded by Ritva Bamforth.

2. Litter Picking

Next litter pick this Saturday @ 10:30.

3. Shaw Village Centre

Suresh updated the attendees to the action plan for the Village Centre. The tower clock will be repaired, and the wooden supports pillars will be repaired too. The circular bench will need heavy lifting gear to manoeuvre into place. The uneven paving still needs attention from SBC as it is still a trip hazard.

Rose talked us through the WSPC plan for the landscaping of the grounds. Rose and Steve Anns Operations Manager have discussed the empty raised flower beds that could be planted up in October. The SRA could have some input with the planting if they wanted, but plants would need to be low maintenance. Also discussed were hedges and brambles belonging to the Village Inn that need cutting back as they were overhanging the public walkway.

Kevin and Andrew were keen to meet up with Steve to discuss planting options and possibly placement of more colourful planters adjacent to the clocktower.

4. Skoda and Nissan verge parking

There would still appear to be new cars parked on the grass verges bordering Mead Way, the garages have been spoken to already but maybe this needs reporting again.

5. Shaw Forest / River Ray Parkway / Thames Water

Although cycle route 45 remains open at present it is expected to close very soon and remain closed for 12 months or more. Thames Water are laying the new sewer in phases, but the entire River Parkway route is closed for the duration. Large blue notice boards have been placed at several locations close to the Thamesdown Drive end of the parkway. These are blank at present but are likely to detail the suggested diversion, which for bikes appears to be 1.8 miles, but no pedestrian route is suggested on the TW website.

6. Mead Way traffic light junction

Junab reported that the tarmacking at the gym end had been poorly laid and would need to be resurfaced. Also, that SBC would be looking at the traffic light junction timing in the Autumn in an attempt, to make the junction safer.

7. 20mph speed limits

On the SBC website details regarding the progress of this consultation appears to have been stuck at stage 2 for many months. Both Junab and Suresh have sent emails to the department requesting further clarification, with no reply received yet.

8. Grass cutting and meadows

Jeffery and Ritva reported that brambles were still a problem, encroaching on public footpaths. They also suggested that a litter bin situated close to the playground along Shaw Ridge, could be moved as at present it is off the path in a very muddy area.

Finally, Jeffery reported that when the grass along Shaw Ridge is cut by the sit-on mowers it is presently left on the paths presenting a risk to pedestrians of slipping over on the wet grass.

A discussion was had by those present regarding the unsightly growth of weeds and grass that is at present on the edges of most roads locally, clogging up the gutters. In times past the road sweepers would have cleared these away in a timely fashion.

9. Finances and Sponsors

At present the SRA membership payments of £5 each a year plus 6 sponsors to cover our website and room hire charges.

Several of these sponsorships are up for renewal before the end of the year.

10. Land North of Purton Road

No news at present.

AOB

- Suresh let us know that a project was running from 16th to 30th September to clean up the waterways of West Swindon.
- Peatmoor Lagoon - No cause had yet been established to explain the massive number of fish deaths at the lagoon.
- New blue recycling bags and food recycling boxes are being distributed to homes throughout the Borough. A roll-out date is yet to be announced.

Meeting closed 20:58

Next meeting: Monday 2nd October 2023