

SHEET ASSOCIATION AND COMMUNITY TRUST AGM **11th June 2015**

Attendance: 22 including 6 committee members.

1. MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 30th MAY 2014

Andy Platt ran through the minutes from the previous AGM which were held to be a fair account.

Proposed: Lucy Pringle

Seconded: John Trewby

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The working committee has met 3 times to coordinate our efforts during the year. The Parish Plan/ Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group completed the analysis of the questionnaire and made summaries of the results, which were displayed in the Village Hall over a 3 Day period (14-16 March 2014) together with the complete data. Some 60 villagers attended and some additional comments were gathered. The summaries were briefed to EHDC and SDNPA on 24 June 2014, for their information and input.

Work then started on the evolution of the plan into a Neighbourhood Plan, which was the originally intended use of the data collected from the questionnaire. The Parish Council applied to SDNPA to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, under the Localism Act, which would be effectively a planning document for Sheet's 20 year allocation of housing. The neighbourhood area was agreed by SDNPA on 16 Jan 2015 and a NP Steering Group was formed. The Terms of Reference were approved by SDNPA.

The NP Steering Group consisted of:

Clr Ron Dark

Clr Will Glancy

Clr Gail Martin

Ric Flatt

Scott Gibbon

Lesley Hall

Bruce Hart

Simon Lawrence

Andrew Platt (chair)

Suezi Siggers

In Attendance:

EHDC Lucy Soal

SDNPA Chris Patterson

The first task was to hold an open meeting to explain the purpose of the NP, to attract volunteers for working groups and to determine the scope of the Plan; it had been suggested that it could be limited to allocating land and determining a fair share of the SDNPA allocation of houses. The meeting, on 16 Jan 2015, was well attended, and whilst SDNPA energetically sold the concept of a local plan, there was little outright enthusiasm. The SHLAAs were about to be published, but the likely number of 20 or so houses over the next 20 years, was lower than feared. The open meeting was not enthusiastic about taking on the considerable task of our own NP. There were a number of questions: Our Housing

Needs, from the questionnaire, was not considered to be the best evidence and a costly independent and wider ranging analysis was required. Would we be capable of constructing a professional planning document, which would satisfy two independent inspectors and achieve more than 50% positive votes at the parish referendum? Was it too risky? Was it even feasible, given the time and volunteer effort? Would we be likely to come up with a different solution to the SDNPA professional planners? Was it right to ignore the outcome of the School Lane level crossing issue? Could we still designate Green Spaces without a NP?. If those who attended the open meeting were to be representative of our voters at the referendum, we might not have sufficient votes to carry our NP; this would have wasted our time, money and effort and we would be left outside the full National Park protection offered by their Local Plan. Both plans would still be subject to additional 'windfall' houses, while they were in preparation. We were grateful that 3 more helpers came forward, but we had insufficient to form the relevant sub-groups and an impossible work load would fall on the same core of volunteers.

The Steering Group debated the issue and were divided on whether or not to proceed. The Parish Council therefore decided not to go ahead with such a risky project. As a result the NP was not pursued further and any developers' applications will be treated in line with the existing stringent protection policies adopted by The SDNPA. We will continue to provide input to the Local Plan, through the PC, as it develops and we are now well acquainted with the many National, District and SDNPA planning policies, which will be a useful legacy for the Parish Council.

We have a small number of people who are playing their part as parish councillors, Association members and Trustees, in some cases all 3. With a Parish of over 700, we must be able to find enough people to spread the load more equitably. We need to spread the word amongst our friends and colleagues that our involvement is actually very satisfying. We are all part-time and unpaid, but we achieve very worthwhile results, which have made major improvements to the way our special community is run. Not all of our work requires special skills or experience, we have important tasks for anyone of any age who is prepared to give something back to the parish in which they live, to make it a better place.

Community Trust Matters

There have been several meetings of your 5 trustees for the Sheet Community Trust and two more lectures, which attracted 20-30 people and which produced some new members for the Trust. We hope to arrange for more speakers to come and give us informative and interesting lectures, but we need suggestions from YOU. These lectures are for fund-raising, registration of new Trust members and to further the Trust's commitment towards education. To remind you, all members of Sheet Parish are eligible to be members of the Trust, their initial subscriptions have been covered by the SVA funds which created the Trust; all that needs to be done to become a member, is to register and there are benefits both for the community and the individual by doing so.

The post of Membership Secretary has been filled by Sue MacBean, who is making progress through the backlog of potential Trust donors. We are very grateful for her support.

Action points: Suggestions for lectures

Promote membership of the trust to residents

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Please see attached
Proposed: Richard Friedman
Seconded: Lucy Pringle

4. SHEET NEWS EDITOR'S REPORT

Cllr Vaughan Clarke explained that the Sheet News has been in existence for 22 years and that after initially volunteering to edit it for a short time he is still doing it! Not only that but many of his deliverers have also been doing this since the beginning. He therefore asked if anyone would be able to deliver to the following areas:

- Clare Gardens
- Tilmore
- Monks Orchard
- Crundles
- Ramshill

5. WEB SITE AND COMMUNICATIONS

The new website went live a couple of weeks ago with the intention of increasing its reach. The new site will be added to over the coming weeks with more information and will be updated regularly. Thanks were given to Lesley Hall for all her hard work on the website. There was a question raised about how the two websites (Village Association and Parish Council) would now link to each other, it was concluded that this should be discussed by the Parish Council.

Action Point: Reimbursement of monies paid out for the new domain.

6. SHEET FILM CLUB

Jayne Flatt sent her apologies. Cllr Will Glancy updated the committee on the film club's progress. The film club has been very successful and now has 21 patrons and 22 members. Attendance at film nights varies between 40 and 60 people. There is a very efficient online ticketing service which works well and members can now renew their membership through this. The link can be found via Sheet Film Club's Facebook page or go to <https://webcollect.org.uk/sheetfilms>

The second Sheet Film Festival was very successful and enjoyed by lots of people. This year saw the introduction of more prizes (donated by the Film Club) including separate categories for Children's films. It is hoped that more children will enter films next year (this was discussed later in the meeting, see 8. IDEAS FOR INVOLVING MORE YOUNG PEOPLE)

7. ROAD SAFETY

Scott Gibbons presented on Road Safety in the village, stressing that this was not a discussion about the level crossing. The committee wished to revisit some of the earlier proposals that Hampshire Highways had come up with, including extending the 30mph speed limit between the Midhurst turn and the motorway link roundabout; reducing the width of the entrance to Village Street and widening the pavement by the Church. All of the proposals were very well received. A member of the public highlighted some of the problems recently encountered at the church, including a hearse not being able to park during a funeral due to parking on the opposite side of the road. Cllr Vaughan Clarke confirmed the long awaited news that a pavement would be built on Kingsfernsden Road, starting at the end of June. Cllr Gail Martin also confirmed that signs would soon be put up in Village Street in an attempt to stop lorry drivers following their Sat Nav and getting stuck or causing damage to houses. Members of the public commented that these would be helpful on School Lane which has also seen an increase in oversized vehicles.

A member of the public asked if flashing road signs could be installed as seen in other parts of the county. Cllr Vaughan Clarke believed that Neil Hitch was the person to approach with a view to borrowing these signs.

Action Point: Contact Neil Hitch concerning flashing road signs

8. IDEAS FOR INVOLVING MORE YOUNG PEOPLE

9. SHEET SCHOOL AND THE CHURCH

The Association is keen to find ways to involve young people in the village. Suezi Siggers reported that a running club that used to be supported by the school is looking for a new base. The running club would legally require access to running water and toilets and there is a lot of interest in its re-establishment. Members of the committee suggested that this could possibly run from the Village Hall.

Action Point: Suezi Siggers to liaise with Nick Baker and committee/PC

A member of the public asked about the duck race that used to be run jointly between the school, Association and the Church. The race used to appeal to all members of the community and was an effective fundraiser. There was a very positive discussion about re-establishing the race.

Action Point: Suezi Siggers to ask Friends of Sheet School and members of the church if they would support a future duck race.

Despite the success of the 2015 Sheet Film Festival there was a lack of entries from children. This is thought to be down to lack of understanding and therefore support from parents. A number of people have suggested that next year we plan a number of Film workshops for children (and parents) to help with the process. A suggestion was made that the Church's Youth worker, David Lovelace, may help with this and also that it would be good to tie this in with the school.

The committee also stated that they had a marquee, staging, generator and film equipment that would benefit the community and they are eager to join assets with the other institutions within the village.

10. FUTURE EVENTS

A member of the committee recalled an Art Exhibition that was held next to the Village Hall during one of the village fetes and wondered if another could be arranged. Suezi Siggers informed the committee that the Sheet School and Community Art Exhibition was due to be held at the school in July and that this is a biennial event. All residents are welcome to contribute by contacting the school. Lucy Pringle suggested that maybe Will Glancy or Jayne Flatt could help to arrange a village exhibition.

11. ELECTION OF THE SHEET ASSOCIATION WORKING COMMITTEE FOR 2015/2016

It was proposed that the committee continues as it stands, with the addition of Lesley Hall as a new member focusing on the village website. We are also very fortunate that the Rev Richard Saunders has agreed to join the committee as an ex officio member, as his predecessor did. This will greatly assist our joint community activities.

The new committee was approved as the following:

Chairman:	Andrew Platt (Trustee)
Treasurer:	John Trewby (Trustee)
Secretary:	Suezi Siggers

Members:

Social Events:	Cllr Brian Bird, Jayne Flatt
Editor Sheet News:	Cllr Vaughan Clarke (Trustee)
Road Safety:	Scott Gibbons (Trustee)
Planning:	Simon Lawrence
Press Liaison:	Lucy Pringle
Website	Cllr Will Glancy, Lesley Hall, Owen Johnathon (Trustee)
SVA Community Trust	Sue MacBean
Ex officio member	Rev Richard Saunders

Proposed: Richard Friedman
Seconded: Caroline Friedman

12. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY TRUST

There were 3 Trustees who elected to set up the Trust in 2012. Andrew Platt, John Trewby and Vaughan Clarke. Two additional Trustees, Owen Jonathon and Scott Gibbons were elected in 2013.

Every year 2 of the longest serving Trustees are required to retire from office. They can offer themselves for re-election, in competition with any newly proposed members of the Trust. This year Scot Gibbons and Vaughan Clarke stepped down and offered themselves for re-election, which was approved.

Proposed: Lucy Pringle

Seconded: Suezi Siggers

12. AOB

There was no other business and the meeting was concluded.