

This is a brief summary of the key points from the meeting of the **Shotley Parish Council**, held on **17 December 2009**. More details will be in the minutes next month.

**PC Austin** advised that he would be holding an **SNT surgery** at the village hall on the following dates: Feb 24, May 24, Aug 18 and Nov 22 starting at 6.30pm until 8pm – and urged parishioners to come along to discuss any concerns they may have. The **November crime report** had been circulated detailing six crimes: three of criminal damage, two of theft and one of burglary.

The Council welcomed **newly co-opted councillor** Gillian Anderson to the meeting.

The **Stour Footpath Group** provided a detailed report to the meeting.

Highlights included: a meeting had been held with Estuaries Officer for Rivers Stour and Orwell to discuss how she can be of help to the Group; contact made with BDC (Planning Manager) regarding outline planning permission; discussions ongoing with SCC (Rural Development Manager) regarding part funding from Corporate Regenerative Fund; application received for grant from the Lottery 'Community Spaces'; the Artist's impression of the picnic area had been received; and a site visit was arranged for various agencies for 25 February 2010.

**HMS Ganges - Reserved Matters** (404 Retirement Homes) – SPC had requested sight of the full opinion of Babergh's QC, regarding whether this application was out of time. Babergh's solicitor refused our request, citing legal privilege. It was agreed that SPC should appeal to the Director of Corporate Services prior to the next Development Committee meeting in January when this application was expected to be heard again.

**Removal and repair of the Mast** – Babergh Planning advised that there had been no objections at all to this application. If Babergh approved the application, they will seek further advice from English Heritage. The application will then need to be rubber stamped by the Secretary of State hopefully by the end of January 2010. The Royal Commission may want to record the mast in situ before and after it is taken down. Work should start sometime in 2010. Repairs are to take place in Lowestoft. Further planning permission will be needed before it is re-erected.

There was no objection to the **Felling of a Pine Tree at 16 Tudor Close** as it was noted that the tree was in a bad state.

**The following applications had been approved by Babergh:** Vine Cottage – Erection of single-storey side extension (permitted development); 1 and 2 Charity Farm Cottages - Application for listed building consent and erection of single-storey side extension. Erection of detached triple cartlodge. Various internal alterations to doors and windows; Lethe House - Erection of part side and part rear conservatory; and Torrance House - Erection of detached garage (existing garage and workshop to be demolished).

**Waterside, Estuary Road** - The Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State had dismissed the appeal against Babergh's refusal for planning permission.

**Linda Rowlands - Shotley Parish Clerk**

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