

**Minutes of the Shotley Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 4 May 2006 at 7.30pm
Main Hall, Shotley Village Hall.**

Present: Councillors R Wrinch (Chair), N Bugg., A Long, M Matthews, J Peters, C Sullivan, RFO D Gouveia and Clerk L Rowlands

In attendance: County Councillor D Wood, District Councillors P Clarke and W Sadler and many representatives from local organisations

Meeting commenced 7.30pm

The Chair welcomed participants to the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Councillors B Hooper (holiday), G Steel (other engagement) and M Connell (family illness)
2. **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12 May 2005:** Despite an extensive search there appeared to be no written record.
3. **Report by the Chairman**

The past year had been a busy one for the Parish Council with changes to personnel, several major landmarks and ongoing concerns.

- I took over from John Mullan when he left last October.
- Anna Long became Vice Chair
- Jeremy Peters has since been co-opted.
- Wendy Corness stood down from the Council
- Michael Connell filled our vacancy last month.
- We have both a new Parish Clerk, Linda Rowlands, who joined us in March and a new RFO, Dina Gouveia who joined us in February, and lastly
- I would like to thank Carol Williamson who as Temporary Clerk and RFO helped us through a difficult period while we sorted ourselves out

The HMS Ganges - site has been the main discussion point this year and is still ongoing – more about that later.

The Parish Plan – this was probably the most important thing for the future of the village which was presented to the Council in December and adopted in January. There is a report from the Parish Plan Implementation Board further on in the agenda. I would like to thank Graham Steel and everyone else who has worked exceedingly hard to produce this plan which I think is a very significant landmark for the Parish.

Shotley Gate - seems to have borne the brunt of the action this year

- Ganges as already mentioned
- The Government minded to give the go-head for Bathside Bay
- Improvements to King Edward VII Drive and ongoing planning applications for further road improvements followed by the possible building of 70 houses at the Marina Development.
- A second play area for children was installed – a pity that it was vandalised before completion and fire damage since, but it is now all okay.
- The tennis court area has been tidied up and fences repaired – further improvements to follow.
- A group of residents did a litter clear up in the Shotley Gate area and we have now appointed a litter warden (our RFO wearing her other hat)

Bus Shelter - An accident and subsequent demolition of the bus shelter on the Street caused significant problems but has now been resolved with a very smart shelter in operation.

Street lighting - Most of the problems with street lighting have been sorted out.

Footpaths – This is still an ongoing item with the wheels at Babergh grinding slowly towards the completion of the Parish Footpath Rationalisation.

Community Policeman - John Campbell moved on in February but we have a new officer in PC Chris Garrod who will give a report later.

Grants - Every year we have numerous requests from local and national organisations for monetary support. We have decided that most applications received will be dealt with in June. Although we would prefer locally based organisations to apply in June, they will also be dealt with at other times as convenient.

4. Report by RFO

- 4.1 The Parish Council has just received the first instalment of the Precept and our reserves are quite healthy.
- 4.2 V.A.T. has recently been successfully claimed for the period from 2001 to 2005.
- 4.3 The Assets Register currently stands at £12,000.00 but will be updated to include new purchases such as the playgrounds, new bins, bus shelter and new computer for the Parish Clerk.
- 4.4 The payment of allotments is also up to date and new invoices will soon be issued for the next period.
- 4.5 The Parish Plan Grant Application was successful and all funds have now been received.
- 4.6 The Parish Council is now registered as an employer with the Inland Revenue and we will be registered on-line also, as this entitles us to the payment of a bonus.
- 4.7 It is proposed that a Yearly Budget be instigated in order to assist the Council in managing its finances.
- 4.8 We are now registered with Barclays online banking and can access all our accounts as and when necessary.

5. Report by Community Policeman

I am pleased to be able to attend your meeting tonight on behalf of the Suffolk Constabulary.

As of Tuesday 18th April I started as the Community Parish Officer for Capel South, which incorporates the ten parishes on the peninsular, including Shotley. As some of you may be aware, I have worked in a response role in this area over the last two years. During this time I got to know some of you and I am keen to get to know many more of you. I have been an officer in the Suffolk Constabulary for ten years, I spent the first 6 years in Ipswich and the last 4 years based Hadleigh sector. Until now, I have been in a response role and I am now looking forward to being more community oriented and the new challenges that this will involve, especially with the introduction of neighbourhood policing and Community Support Officers in this area.

Between 31st March 2005 and 1st April 2006 there were 110 crimes recorded in the Shotley area. I have broken these down to 26 criminal damages, 51 theft/burglary related offences, 8 assaults and the remaining 25 are miscellaneous crimes. Of the total crimes, 30 have been detected or no crimed and 1 is currently pending. Over recent months, there appears to have been an increase in people leaving their vehicles or property insecure. Many of the 51 theft related offences relate to vehicles or premises that had been left insecure and could well have been prevented if people had been more security minded. Although Suffolk is reported to be one of the safest counties in England and Wales to live in, I cannot stress the need to be security minded at all times, even if you are leaving your vehicle, house etc for just a few minutes. It is however, pleasing to see that there has been a reduction of 6 recorded crimes in Shotley, compared to the previous year.

I am aware of some concerns regarding the speed of vehicles through the village and the potential increase in traffic due to the development of the Ganges site. I will endeavour to monitor and try and to find solutions towards this as part of my role. I aim to achieve this through the use increased police presence in your village and the use of the speed enforcement equipment and liaison with other agencies. The Roads Policing Unit has also, and will continue to carry out regular speed checks on the main road into Shotley. There were also concerns regarding damage and alleged drug use in the Play area off Kitchener Way. Although there is only one reported crime relating to this location over the last year, this is something I will continue to monitor.

I was recently asked about the possibility of patrolling the area on a bicycle. This is something I have put forward to Chief Inspector Stokes and is currently being considered.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for inviting me to this meeting and look forward to working with you all closely in the future. Unfortunately I am not able to stay for the full duration of the meeting, but will be happy to answer any questions or concerns that you may have before I leave.

PC1220 Chris Garrod Community Parish Officer – Capel South.

The Police Station, Bentley Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk, IP9 2JN

6. **Report by Suffolk County Councillor** – Please see attachment 1.
7. **Report by Babergh District Councillor** – Please see attachment 2.
8. **HMS Ganges Development: Inquiry Ends – The Wait begins**

The Inquiry into the planning application for 325 homes on the H.M.S. Ganges site held its final session at the Village Hall on 9 March. It will be the end of July before the Inspector completes his report and may be many months after that until the Secretary of State makes the final decision.

Suffolk County Council's case against the development was based on there being no necessity to build the houses as there are sufficient opportunities to meet local and regional targets at better locations elsewhere. They were also concerned that with only very few job, leisure and shopping opportunities being proposed the development would in effect be a dormitory village. They wish to see no more than 200 houses on the site and facilities that would reduce the need for people to travel out of the area.

Babergh District Council supported the application on the grounds of it being better than a retirement community and not as bad as the 500 houses originally proposed. They believed that the compensation package was the best that they could achieve and that they saw no good reason why they should actively market the site or work with the local community and other potential developers to find a better solution.

Shotley Parish Council worked closely with the other Parishes on the Peninsula in presenting their case. They believed that any development should first of all meet the needs of the existing community for example by providing for homes for vulnerable elderly people. Secondly they believed that the development would put too great a strain on existing services such as health and education and that the proposed compensation was far from sufficient to ameliorate the impact and amounted to development on the cheap. The parishes also argued that the impact on the B1456 would take the road over capacity leading to the potential for an increase in accidents, deterioration in safety for cyclists and pedestrians and damage to homes, livelihoods and the environment.

Haylink's case for the development was that it was preferable to the existing planning permission for 404 retirement homes, that the compensation package was adequate and that the objections were either immaterial or came from NIMBY's. They said that if permission was not granted they would build the retirement homes and that if it was granted they would resubmit the application to build 500 homes.

The above is only a very brief summary of many days of evidence and thousand of pages of documents. There is much more information on the web site. Thanks to everyone who helped and to those who spoke at the enquiry.

Graham Steel

9. **Presentation from the Parish Plan Implementation Board** – Please see attachment 3.
10. **Reports from local organisations:-**

Holbrook High School – Please see attachment 4

Gardening Club

The club meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the Large Committee Room of the Village hall. During the winter months we try to arrange a variety of interesting speakers and during the summer months we also visit various nurseries in the local area.

In the past year we have also visited Somerleyton Hall and had a boat trip on Oulton Broad. We also usually arrange an Annual Holiday, this year we are going to Normandy and are visiting Monet's Gardens and the Palace of Versailles.

New members are always made most welcome.

Shotley Walking Club

The Shotley Walking Club started in February 1994 with just ten members. However we are still going strong. The record attendance on a walk was 35 people and two dogs. We have lost some members and also gained some. We don't have a membership charge, it's just free to walk with us, the second Sunday in every month. We have members walk with us from Chelmondiston, Stutton, Ipswich, Washbrook, Tuddenham and Felixstowe. We celebrated twelve years since the Walking Club was formed down Erwarton Green. Our next walk will be May 14th with lunch at Stutton Kings Heads at 12.30pm, we will then walk around Holbrook and Stutton starting from the Community Hall at 2pm.

If anybody is interested in joining us, call me on 787504 or just turn up on the day. We keep to the Country Code, take only photographs and leave only footprints.

Jill Nunn

Kidzone

Shotley Kidzone's new buildings project has been a huge success and since opening on 1st November 2004, Kidzone has continued to grow from strength to strength.

105 children (a 12% increase in numbers) are benefiting from this greatly enhanced facility which has also enabled additional parents to return to the workforce.

Kidzone now employs 6 members of childcare staff (an increase of 3) and 3 ancillary staff. The facility is open each day for up to 11 hours – 120% increase in usage time. Following our recent, excellent Ofsted report, we continue to work hard to maintain our high standard of care and facilities for the children. Two members of staff have almost finished the first year of a Foundation Degree in Early Years and the children are benefiting from this increased knowledge.

Financially, Kidzone is in a reasonable state but still relies on regular fundraising to be able to meet the running costs. At this time, we have got no requests for assistance with funding; we have had a lot of assistance in the past which is much appreciated. Together with careful management of funds and fundraising by the committee and staff, we can support ourselves financially until the end of July.

Our aim for the term commencing 4th September 2006 is to maintain and increase the numbers of children attending Kidzone. To make the breakfast club more affordable, we have introduced two new rates. 15 families are on the register for Kids' Club, our (mother and toddler group) and these children usually progress to Kidzone, so for the foreseeable future, our numbers should, hopefully, remain at roughly the same level. We will see a substantial increase if the new development goes ahead.

We have a very good committee, but one which lacks members. Our other aim for the next year is to try to increase membership and support. We welcome anyone onto the committee who is willing to assist in any way.

Finally, we would like to thank the Parish Council, the villagers, the church, Jane from the Fish and Chip shop and the Shotley Rose Pub for their continued support. We appreciate all the financial assistance and support that is given to Kidzone.

Caroline Radley - SHOTLEY KIDZONE, Main Road, Shotley, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 1NR
Registered Charity Number: 293543

The Royal British Legion – Please see attachment 5

WI – Please see attachment 6

MyShotley.com – Please see attachment

Shotley School Parents and Friends Association

The PFA meet approximately 6 times a year to discuss the upcoming fundraising events. We currently have 16 members and are always interested in welcoming new people to the committee.

Throughout the year the PFA arrange events for the children and everyone involved with the school. These events are principally about raising money for school projects, but also about having fun and contributing to the social life of the school.

Events that took place in 2005 were:

- Valentines Disco
- Many sessions of Bums & Tums (aerobics)
- Jumble Sale
- Midsummer Disco
- Summer Fayre
- Back to School Disco
- Halloween Disco
- Christmas Bazaar

We also do stalls at other village events where we sell books, sweets and do games. Some of the money raised at these events has supported:

- A new carpet in the school library
- Transport to sports tournaments
- Money for each class to spend on extra resources
- New spotlights for the Christmas productions

In the near future we would like to buy the school an outdoor shelter.

Calendar of events for the first half of 2006

- Valentines Disco 9th February 2006
- St. Georges Disco 21st April 2006
- Jumble Sale 20th May 2006
- Summer Fayre 9th July 2006

If you would like further information about the PFA then please see the school secretary (or telephone 787255 or email ad.shotley.p@talk21.com) and leave a message for the PFA and we will get back to you. PFA events can also be found on the MYSHOTLEY.COM web site.

Viking Forest Project

We would like to give thanks to all of you for supporting us in the last 12 months – it has been a very successful year. We had an excellent Images of Shotley Exhibition and are looking forward already to planning next years! A rolling events programme of woodland management is planned for the Golden Wood, involving cutting and raking to allow the wildflowers to prosper, which we hope the whole community will join in with – look out for the posters. Other welcome visitors to the Wood have been the skylark, yellow hammers and many more too numerous to mention here.

Ian Peters

Drama Group

We have had a good year with two productions and providing the entertainment for the Over 70's dinner. We also presented the British Legion with a £500 donation raised from our production of 'When The Lights

Go On Again'. Our production of Puss-in-Boots in February was not as financially successful as previous pantomimes as the costs of lighting hire had doubled. We have welcomed new members but also said goodbye to some longstanding ones. We are planning a production of My Fair Lady in October. Our lighting operator is happy to help other village organisations should their events need lighting expertise.

David Armes

Shotley & Erwarnton Good Neighbours

This voluntary scheme was started in April 2005 with the support of Suffolk Acre. A group of local volunteers agreed to offer free services from a list of tasks to be provided to the residents of Shotley and Erwarnton.

The scheme was supported by Suffolk Acre, and Gavin Hodge, the Good Neighbours co-ordinator, has given invaluable help and advice. Criminal record checks have been carried out, and a steering committee was formed.

Since our inauguration, we have carried out a total of 114 tasks, ranging from helping our oldest known resident, Mrs Elsie Brett, to attend the over 60's outings, lifts to Ipswich hospital, fixing locks, cutting and tidying gardens, walking dogs, collecting prescriptions, etc.

Our Committee of 8 members meets monthly and plans how to maintain support and interest. We have received donations from Councillor David Woods, Shotley Parish Council and individuals, as well as monies raised at local fund raising events.

A different member of the committee agrees each month to man the mobile phone, 7 days a week from 0900 to 1800 hrs, public holidays excluded. Each request for help is recorded and a volunteer found to carry out the task.

In order to advertise our service, we attend most local events, have printed hand out cards listing briefly what we offer, and fridge magnets with the telephone number.

If you know of anyone in our villages who could benefit from our support and help, please ask them to ring 07799 873881.

Tony Roberts, Chairman

Shotley Over 60's Club

We have had a most enjoyable year with six successful outings and a Christmas meal at the Compasses, Holbrook.

At the moment there are 25 members, although not all attend at the same time. We have one disabled member.

The Club is very grateful to the Parish Council for their financial help which enables us to go on outings. Our thanks to Norman Bugg for his continued help giving lifts to members.

Eileen Bugg

Book Exchange

We have been in operation for the last year or so on a fortnightly basis, originally to fill the gap between visits of the mobile library. However, we are now going to be opening every week on Mondays from 9.30 to 10.30am as this will more convenient and avoid confusion over dates.

For those of you who have not yet used the Book Exchange, the procedure is quite informal – borrow as you wish for as long as you want! It is not necessary to exchange books, but any surplus books you have would be welcome.

Derek Long

St Mary's Church Shotley

Although attendances for Sunday morning services have declined a little, the numbers attending special services such as Christmas, Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest and Remembrance Sunday continues to be encouraging with a nearly full church.

The church repairs are ongoing thanks to the Heritage 700 committee and its marvellous supporters. The churchyard is in first class condition thanks mainly to Mr Jay. We still welcome visitors from all around the world to whom the war graves are of particular interest.

Our ministry team enables us to enjoy regular services and the choir and organists give good musical support.

Norman Bugg

Bowls Club

We are only two games into the 2006 season but the 2005 season was a successful year with two of our teams gaining promotion - Samford on Monday and Ipswich on Tuesday are now playing in higher leagues

Our annual fete held with the Football Club is our major source of income.

We have a number of visitors to our home games - more would be welcome as would new members from the village whether experienced or not.

Norman Bugg

Village Hall Management Committee

At our last meeting Alf Arkley retired from the chairman's role having served for a number of years and we thank him for his hard work and wish him well. The hall continues to be well used by both regular and occasional hirers with 2005 being a particularly busy year.

We installed two additional radiators in the main hall at the beginning of the year and these have been much appreciated. In the future we are investigating the possibility of installing a hearing aid loop, a bottle bank and refurbishing the kitchen.

Norman Bugg

Shotley and Erwarton Jubilee Community Council

The Community Council has a smaller role in village life now having undertaken some major works in its earlier years. This building and the Kingsland play area were supported in big way by SEJCC.

We run a coach to the Suffolk Show and Thursford and with the help of Daphne and Les Stebbings we organise the only flower and vegetable show in the east of the peninsula. We also usually organise a Children's Christmas party and a social event around new year.

Norman Bugg

St Mary's Shotley - Heritage 700

Just over six years ago we formed the Heritage 700 to help organise fundraising events as the church was in a terrible state, both inside and out. The small committee explored many avenues including lots of grant applications. The Parish Council were one of the first to help us get started and the village has been very generous. Sadly a lot of money came from people who have died and left us legacies. Phase 1 is completed - the outside of the church and we are now half way through Phase 2 - the inside. So far we have raised over £100,000 which was hard work for us as our committee are between 50 and 81 years old. The number visitors to view the repairs is quite remarkable. Phase 2 should be completed in time for our Flower Festival - the first weekend in July.

Eileen, Hon Secretary

Whist Drive

We meet fortnightly on a Thursday afternoon and at present have between 16 and 18 players. Everyone has an enjoyable time with some coming from as far away as Kesgrave and Somersham. We are a self-supporting club.

Eileen Bugg

Shotley Noticeboard

During the past year the Noticeboard has seen some changes. Firstly, we are now linked to the Shotley website – MyShotley.com so as every issue now appears on the internet, we are available worldwide! Secondly, as we have started to publish a wider variety of articles, some from off the Peninsula, which we hope are of interest to our readers, we have gained more advertisers and have doubled from six to eight pages.

The recently published Parish Plan highlighted the need for a business directory for Shotley and we hope to publish and distribute this in late summer/early autumn. This will list every organisation and business in Shotley along with other useful information such as surgery opening hours – we hope it will find a place by everybody's phone.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our network of distributors who deliver to 1,100 households in Shotley, six times a year for just a thank you – SO THANK YOU!

Mel Matthews

Shotley Community Primary School - Please see attachment 7

Andrew Barfoot Trust

This is the oldest organisation in the village dating back to the 1500's when Mr Barfoot died. Mrs Barfoot, on her death willed the "rents were to go to the poor in Shotley". The amount collected each year from rent for allotments and the Shotley Rangers, although small, is given at Christmas to six widows.

Les Stebbings

The Chairman expressed his thanks to all for attending and participating in a most interesting evening. Especial thanks to the WI for providing refreshments.

Meeting ended 9.45pm