

**Shotley Open Spaces  
Draft Minutes 21st September 2017  
Bristol Arms 19.30**

**Apologies:** All members present

**Attendees:** GR, JL, TLR, PS, DC, AP, IS, IP, RC, MP, GP, SR. CDB.

1. **Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed
2. **Walkers are Welcome:** As a direct result of our meeting when we hosted a WaW focus group for the villages of Snape, Clare and Eye15 Shotley residents, SOS and Walking Group members, visited “Eye Plodders” last weekend. We had a meal together and accompanied them, and their Mayor, on a fascinating walk around Eye. Both our group and theirs thoroughly enjoyed the interaction. Clare will be inviting us a similar event in the near future.
3. **Tourism Action Group:** Gary and Geraint attended the TAG as usual last week. It was held in the Brantham Bull and preceded by the Cycling sub committee. We took the electric bikes and reported back on their use to date. Anglian Water are taking management of the bike hire company at Alton Water back in house. They have already taken the cafe there back from the previous owners. It seems they intend that staff from the cafe will take bookings for bike hire in the future. Christian, the ferry owner, has abandoned his plans to run a bike hire business in tandem with the ferry.

The Arthur Ransom Theme is an ongoing success and it has been proposed that next year will be themed around World War One. A new walking trail is envisaged. The U boat surrender could also be incorporated in this venture. The help of the Ganges Museum is being sought by Gary, with Derek Davis. Dave Andrews, Derek Gent, and Roger Cushing are to be involved.

4. **Parish Council:** Parish Council minutes of 27 June 2017 and 20 July 2017 had been circulated prior to this meeting and read by all committee members. Unfortunately Barrie couldn't be at this meeting but had spoken to Gary an hour before. Gary had made him aware of this item on our agenda but none of the other PC representatives to SOS were able to deputise. Neither set of minutes were a true representation of the facts. There were incorrect assumptions made in both. At no time did anyone from SOS make any of the comments to which offence had been taken. Barrie was asked to reiterate each of these comments and when he did they were written as direct quotes.

There have been great strides in relations between the PC and SOS. The "misunderstandings" regarding the sudden changes in the contract with Sodexo cleared immediately they were removed. The PC has agreed to pay our Public Liability Insurance. We can thus do work on their behalf.

We are minded to accede to the suggestion Barrie made today. It would be desirable for both parties to meet face to face with only Councillors and Committee members present.

It was also reported that a provisional date has been set for nominations re. the vacant post on the PC, between the 5th and 13th November.

5. **Ongoing Maintenance:** A Payback Team has been organised for Sunday 24th. Nettle clearance within the Heritage Park and re-filling the steps below the Quarterdeck are priorities, along with cutting on the coastal path. Volunteers to join them would be welcome. We are responding to a request on social media to do emergency clearances near the school lay by on Tuesday 10.00.
6. **Gun Deck Working Group:** Ian Saunders has people lined up to produce Drawing and Plans. He may have more news by Christmas.
7. **Marketing and Promotions:** It was agreed to hold the price of the new calendars to £7 despite increased costs. Everyone agreed the proofs of this years offering looked even better than last years. They will be available for sale before the end of this month. All other entries submitted for inclusion in the calendar have now been downloaded to our web site. Gary proposed a formal vote of thanks to Marian. All agreed.

Calendars will be sold for us by Village Stores, Rose, Bristol and Corner

Garage. All committee members are requested to take at least 10 for resale. Marian and Geraint will retain stock at home for sale too.

**8. Treasurers Report:** Balance at 17th August 2017 £9,026.50.

Gary displayed the full cash flow figures for this month. He reported that our Public liability Insurance with Zurich had cost £288.40 and been funded by SPC. Our thanks were recorded.

**9. A.O.B:**

**1. Walks for next Suffolk Walking Festival (12 May to 3 June)**

Ian P - Farms and Rivers; Jane - Two Rivers; Geraint - Shotley Point Stroll; Gary - Arthur Ransome Walk

**2. Stour and Orwell Forum (Suffolk Coastal Path) Friday 13 Oct.**

Levington Marina 09.45 - 12.00 . Geraint, Gary, Ian P, Jane.

**3. Second Health Walk last Saturday, very successful. We now have to register each walker for SCC. (Pro Forma Documents being supplied).**

**4. Sea Shanty Festival 14 Oct. Gary is running a trip (Including Thai Meal) with SPYC. £27 per head. Contact him for further details.**

**5. Proposed meeting with SCC Public Health Team re. "Shotley Social Prescribing Project". Also Sally Watson invited to a future SOS meeting.**

**6. Ian P: Bill Jenman email re. "undergrounding" and Ofgem Funding.**

**7. Casper reported damaged Marsh Lane fire hydrant. Advised to inform Barrie.**

**10. Next meeting Thursday 19 October 13.30 Bristol Arms**