

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 AT 8.00PM**

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Present: Mr L Piper – Chair, Mr K Flood, Mr D Hazell, Mr R Squires, Mr T Tuck,  
Cllr Kevin Messenger, Cllr H Hobhouse, 3 members of the public  
Locum Clerk – Mrs Anne Tuck

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**2024**

**SPC104 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr A Quick, Mr D Westwood Clerk Mrs Lisa Davis

**SPC105 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**SPC106 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES**

It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup>  
January 2024, which was signed by the chairman.

**SPC107 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

No report had been received to date.

**SPC108 SOMERSET COUNCILLOR**

HH Reported that The Government are not allowing Somerset to increase their  
budget by 10% but will hopefully allow capitalisation (selling off of assets).

There is a petition to sign against Dimmer HRC closing which currently has  
900+ signatures but needs more. HH has had 60 emails against the closure,  
please email him, he won't reply but will use the email.

KM thanked TT for the useful information given to him. The state of the roads  
and damage caused by Hopkins Lorries was also discussed.

**SPC109 HIGHWAYS**

TT asked if we could chase Highways ref the lighting at Hazegrove round a  
bout, 11 lights are out and its very confusing in the dark during the road closures  
and contraflows.

**SPC110 PLANNING DECISIONS**

a) 23/02960/FUL Land adjoining The Orchard, Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford.  
Erection of a new garage and storage building **Application permitted with  
conditions**

b) 23/02959/S73A Land adjoining The Orchard, Cherry Pie Lane,  
Sparkford. S73A Application to vary Condition 02 (Approved Plans) for Plot  
A dwelling only relating to planning consent 20/02743/FUL; Erection of 2  
dwellings (as approved under Planning Permission No. 19/00414/FUL dated  
18 July 2019) with revised boundary arrangements **Application permitted  
with conditions**

c) 23/02956/FUL Brooklands Barn, Brains Lane, Sparkford. Dual use of  
outbuilding for incidental residential use and for hosting supper clubs; and  
siting of portable kitchen – retrospective **Application permitted with  
conditions**

**SPC111 PLANNING APPLICATIONS - None**

**SPC112 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS**

a) McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services – chase Sarah for update on electric  
supply for defibrillator

- b) Local Community Network (LCN) – 22<sup>nd</sup> February at Charlton Musgrove Village Hall
- c) Transfer of land for new village hall – Battens suggest £1,000 + VAT to sort section 106 agreement, TT proposed, DH seconded – all agreed.
- d) Sparkford Stone – The invoice for renewal has been sent to the Insurance Company.
- e) Website – update following meeting with Flaydemouse Cllr Quick to update next month.
- f) Sparkford Copse – concerns as a member of the public has fallen and broken a wrist in the woods, Justin Crawford has arranged for a tree surgeon to come and look at the trees in the wood this week. The fallen wood had been cleared in December. Clerk to be asked to write to Justin Crawford on how the management of the copse trust is being handled. The Council would like to see the terms and conditions of the trust in a full report at the next meeting. LD
- g) Parish Hall car park – update following Parish Hall Committee meeting re: agreement for use of car park Mr & Mrs Horrell cannot insure the car park for their customers so will not be using the car park. Their planning permission is for 11 cars to be parked on site.
- h) River Cam flooding – Cllr Hobhouse talked about the meeting, 4 radars have already been fitted and another 4 are to be fitted – hopefully FOC. It is hoped one of these can be put on the Sparkford Bridge but there is a pipe under the bridge.
- i) New development sites – Phone call from Jake at Lovells, Residents of Cherry Blossom Way want the heras fencing around the new hall site removed. No Parish Council want it to stay. Lovells are not going to remove the bund Councillors want the bund removed as per the meeting with Lovells in April 2023 and again in September 2023, Cllr Piper said when the bund is removed the Council is prepared to erect a post and rail fence at that time, when both the fence and gates supplied by Lovells has been done then the heras fencing can be removed not until. The Council would like a gate installed but need a double gate 3.5m each gate – total width 7 m, to the Councils specification. The electricity pillar for the vehicle charging points in the car park by the village hall land has still not been moved, this was also agreed at the April 2023 meeting with Lovells. Clerk to advise Lovells. LD

**SPC113 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) Payment of £427.35 to Mrs L Davis (Parsh Clerk salary) Approved
- b) To discuss renewal of contract for defibrillator this was approved proposed T Tuck, seconded K Flood agreed by all.

**SPC114 CORRESPONDENCE** No reply from LVA (Rob Tizzard) ref the field behind Ainstey Drive, if they reply in time this will be on the agenda in March.

**SPC115 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.23pm

## **PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Neighbourhood Watch** – we are looking to re-instate the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. If you would like to get involved then please contact the Parish Clerk.

**Speedwatch** – we are looking for volunteers to get involved with Speedwatch in the Parish. If you are interested then please contact the Parish Clerk.

**Warm Hubs** – Do you have a few hours to spare each week or month? Would you like to help people who may be struggling with the cost of living crisis? Do you like to meet new people? If you answer yes to all these questions then please contact the Parish Clerk to learn more about how you could help with a Village Café/Warm Hub?

**Community Newsletter** – do you have experience in producing newsletters? We are looking for someone to create a regular newsletter for Sparkford. If you are interested then please contact the Parish Clerk to find out more.

**Community events** – are you holding an event in Sparkford? Please send the details to the Parish Clerk so that it can be promoted on the parish website and Community Facebook page

**Dog Fouling** It was brought up by a member of the public and seconded by Cllr Flood that dog fouling on the pavements is bad – this needs to be monitored for further action.