

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 2 JULY 2018 AT 8.00 PM
IN SPARKFORD PARISH HALL**

Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr R Bell, Mr S Flood, Mr D Northcott
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. M Lewis, PC Stefan Edwards, PCSO John Winfield, Mr M Tidman – Wessex Water, 4 members of the public

After a short opportunity for members of the public to address the Council, the Chairman opened the meeting at 8.02 pm.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr T Tuck and Mrs A Roylance

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S (4 JUNE 2018) MINUTES

The minutes of the 4 June 2018 meeting were agreed.

4 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

PCSO Winfield visited the Haynes Breakfast event the previous weekend. Some groups have been banned from attending and visitors are being kept away from the fences. The Police will continue to work with Haynes to ensure that traffic speeds are not excessive.

Concerns were raised about drug use at the Copse and also at Barrow Road. Any sightings or information relating to this should be reported to the Police.

5 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Lewis advised that the SSDC Transformation programme is continuing. Three Planning Officers have left recently when resource within the Planning team was already short. The one remaining Conservation Officer is also due to leave soon. It is going to take a considerable amount of time to get back to normal ways of working. New arrangements for contacting Planning have been implemented in an attempt to deal with work backlogs. If SSDC reach 10% of appeals then the Planning Inspectorate will take control of the Planning service.

Cllr Lewis confirmed that he is in contact with the Cricket Club regarding the S106 funding available from the Old Coal Yard development.

6 HIGHWAYS

SCC have issued a works order for the inspection of the hedges that need to be cut back

7 PLANNING DECISIONS

a) **18/01407/FUL** Erection of a single storey rear extension. Orchard Corner, Green Close, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**

b) **17/04916/OUT** The erection of 4 No. dwellings and construction of vehicular access thereto (Outline). Land Adjacent Fletcher Moss, Sparkford Hill Lane, Sparkford.

Application permitted with conditions Cllr. Lewis advised that he tried to encourage the applicant to use an alternative access but the land is in other ownership so not feasible.

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None

9. MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

a) **Wessex Water quarterly update** Mr Tidman advised that the Engineering team are currently looking at options to take flows away from Ainstey Drive, a decision is expected in January 2019 with works being completed between 2019 – 2021. Mr Tidman confirmed that the existing systems cannot cope with additional properties. The scheme is progressing and testing is continuing to check viability. Surface water is a separate issue but no surface water is allowed into mains sewers.

Wessex Water has been in contact with the agents regarding planning application 18/00810/OUT. Storage on site for this development is not suitable for attenuation. The developers agreed to look at surface water flow and also propose to divert the surface water from Bennetts Close to the new system. SCC would need to approve and discharge conditions relating to the proposed development. It was agreed to request that SSDC include a condition on any planning approval to ensure that no development is commenced until Wessex Water improvement works have been completed; Mr Tidman also agreed to follow this up with their Planning Liaison team.

b) **Traffic speeds in the village** Haynes have requested support towards a speed reduction from the village to Dairy House Court. It was agreed to support this request but not to offer any financial contribution at this stage. It was suggested that Wolfester Terrace end of the village also be considered for a speed limit reduction.

c) **Parish Plan/NDP update** Mr Littlewood raised concerns about further future development in the village and suggested that he may know of some willing volunteers to assist with the production of an NDP. It was agreed that LP and Mr Littlewood would arrange to meet with Rosemary Heath-Coleman to discuss the work involved and gain some knowledge following her involvement in the Queen Camel NDP.

d) **Small Improvement Scheme works** There was no further update on this. It was suggested by Cllr. Lewis to try and resolve the remaining outstanding issues through the proposed traffic calming measures in connection with the A303 dualling

e) **A303 dualling proposals - update following Highways England meeting** LP advised that the roadworks and design previously seen is still being proposed. A request has been made for traffic calming during and after works to be considered a part of a condition. There are issues with Hazelgrove Parkland. The old A303 stretch will remain so the proposed works should not affect Ridge Copse. Mr Littlewood advised that it is essential that pedestrian and maintenance access is retained for Ridge Copse.

Cllr. Lewis suggested that there may be a real threat of travellers if a cul-de-sac area is to be retained on the old A303 to retain access to the garage and Diner. It was agreed to raise these concerns with Highways England.

Mr Griffiths advised that he has been in contact with Highways England and David

Warburton. He has been informed that the submission is due at the end of July. He has concerns about noise and has requested details relating to the bunding and road surface. Mr Griffiths offered to get involved in discussions with Highways England as a parishioner and it was agreed that he would attempt to arrange a meeting between David Warburton and Sparkford and Queen Camel Parish Council's.

It was agreed to send a request to SSDC for support with the introduction of traffic calming measures during and following commencement of the A303 works.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Payment of £299 to BHIB (Parish Council insurance) Approved

b) Payment of £266.19 to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary) Approved

11 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter has been received from the agents dealing with planning application 18/00810/OUT suggesting a possible reduction in affordable housing to provide the Parish Council with a piece of land to build a new village hall. Councillors still have concerns about the drainage and also the proposed access via Bennetts Close so it was agreed to ask for a site meeting with the Case Officer and SSDC Highways consultant. The request to consider a possible amendment to the plans would be considered at the next meeting.

Mr Voysey requested consideration of the annual maintenance grant for Sparkford Church. This would be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr Voysey asked for support/assistance to promote the Remembrance Sunday celebrations. The attendance last year was particularly low. It was suggested that perhaps the Scout group could assist with the delivery of flyers that could also be displayed in the Sparkford Inn. Information could also be put onto the Parish website and Village Facebook page.

Concerns were raised by Mr Griffiths regarding recent communications about an Eco Land Co-op. It was agreed to contact the enterprise and invite them to attend the next Parish Council meeting to outline their proposals.

McDonalds have confirmed that they have instructed their traffic warden to be in place from 27th July to 1st September, Friday to Monday. It was agreed to request that this commences a week earlier from 20th July when the majority of local schools break for the summer holiday period.

One person has expressed an interest in the Parish Councillor vacancy to date. The current vacancy notice runs until 23 July so all expressions of interest will be considered for co-option at the next meeting.

12 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Eco Land Co-op proposals
Sparkford Church annual grant request
Co-option of Parish Councillor

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 6 August 2018, Sparkford Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.52pm