

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 1 OCTOBER 2018 AT 8.00 PM
IN SPARKFORD PARISH HALL**

Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr T Tuck, Mr D Northcott, Mr R Bell, Mrs A Roylance
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. M Lewis, 5 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 J Tuck

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S (3 SEPTEMBER 2018) MINUTES

The minutes of the 3 September meeting were agreed.

4 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There have been reports of diesel thefts so parishioners were advised to be vigilant.

5 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Lewis advised that a report is being taken to SSDC District Executive on 4 October regarding the A303 dualling proposals. Parish Councillors are invited to attend and make representations at the meeting.

The Somerset County Council finances continue to be a depressing issue. An extraordinary meeting is being held on 17 October to discuss the proposed cuts further to enable further decisions to be taken or not.

TT asked if there was an update on the Unitary authority proposal. Cllr. Lewis advised that discussions are taking place between the local authorities in Somerset regarding the possible sharing of services but no decisions had been made.

6 HIGHWAYS

The hedge cutting along The Avenue still has not been undertaken, Cllr. Lewis agreed to chase this up again on our behalf.

TT reported that the road sign is still in the verge on the corner of the Cary Road.

7 PLANNING DECISIONS

- a) **18/02229/FUL** Alterations and the erection of a two storey front and side extension and infill two storey rear extension to dwellinghouse. The Steppes, Green Close, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) **18/00810/OUT** Residential development for up to 36 dwellings and use of part of site for village hall and associated works. Land at Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford. This application is still being circulated so Councillors were unable to comment in full. There are still concerns about the need for increased parking and also the widening of the pavement at Bennett Close. It was agreed that the applicant would be asked to confirm if contact had been made with Yarlington Housing and if any agreement had been reached regarding the ownership of additional parking spaces upon completion of the proposed development.

Mr Quick raised concerns about the buffer zone, which was suggested to be 20m in the application but the scale on the drawings is inaccurate. Mr Quick would like to see a 20m zone including the gardens of the proposed properties. This has been queried with the planning authority who have advised that this would be resolved through a reserved matters application.

- b) **18/02880/FUL** Alterations including balconies and the erection of extensions to dwellinghouse. Grangeleigh House, Church Road, Sparkford. This application is still being circulated so Councillors were unable to comment. The applicant advised that the plans have been amended and the proposal now excludes balconies.
- c) **18/02916/TPO** Application to carry out tree works to 1 no. Beech tree included the TPO SSDC (Sparkford No. 1) 1985 confirmed 17.10.85. Beeches, Church Road, Sparkford. This application is for information only.
- d) **18/02091/FUL** Change of use of land to residential and the proposed relocation of the tennis court. Weston Bampfylde Manor, Higher Farm Lane, Weston Bampfylde. This application is still being circulated so Councillors were unable to comment but concerns were raised about the reason for the change of use of land.

9. MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

a) **Wessex Water quarterly update** In the absence of Mr Tidman from Wessex Water the Parish Clerk read the report. Concerns were raised about the new consideration of a second option as this would not relieve the pressure on the sewer at Church Road. The possible issues with the capacity of the treatment works were also considered to be worrying. There is a need to identify the longer term plans to resolve any potential issues at the treatment works. It was agreed to request that Mr Tidman attends the next meeting to further discuss the options and the concerns about the treatment works.

b) **A303 dualling consultation** TT attended a joint meeting with West Camel and Queen Camel Parish Councils to discuss joint representation for consultation. Highways England have submitted their plans to the Planning Inspector, objections need to be registered by 18 October to receive a reference number and enable a slot to be allocated to make representation to the Inspector. Sparkford Parish Council will submit an individual response as well as a joint response. The main concerns are still the Hazelgrove junction and increased volume of traffic through the village. Queen Camel Parish Council have looked at the levels and come up with a revised design. The revised proposal takes less parkland and reduces material needed for the underbridge. TT proposed and RB seconded that Sparkford Parish Council would contribute up to £1,000 or one third of the cost to produce professional drawings of the revised proposal. TT is confident that there is a strong case to back up the revised proposal.

TT would attend the SSDC District Executive meeting on 4 October to present the proposed revisions and request SSD/SCC support in their submission. Cllr. Lewis is

concerned about the impact on the A359 and traffic volumes using the bridge in Queen Camel, particularly at weekends. There is a need to look at potential issues further afield than West Camel, Queen Camel and Sparkford particularly during the construction period.

TT agreed to circulate the revised proposals and LD would contact Queen Camel and West Camel and confirm the contribution towards costs.

Mr Griffiths confirmed that he has submitted an objection regarding noise levels.

c) Neighbourhood Development Plan LP and Malcolm Littlewood have met with Rosemary Heath-Coleman from Queen Camel to gain additional insight into the NDP process. Malcolm is confident that there are two parishioners who could help him with a little persuasion. It was agreed that Malcolm would contact them and invite them to attend the next meeting. It was agreed that the project could not move forward without at least three people willing to commit to undertaking the work in consultation with the Parish Council.

d) Communication Strategy Item deferred to November.

e) Welcome Pack LP and RB would arrange to meet to discuss this further and bring proposals back to the meeting in November.

f) Neighbourhood Watch It was agreed that details would be put on the Facebook page and further attempts made to find a Co-ordinator.

g) CIL update A CIL update has been received from SSDC and circulated to all Parish Councillors. It was agreed to contact Lynda Pincombe at SSDC regarding allocation of CIL for future developments.

If planning consent is granted and the land is received for the siting of a new village hall there is a need for a project committee to be formed. It was agreed that an attempt would be made to try and find willing volunteers for this project committee now.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Payment of £283.94 to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary) Approved

11 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter and invoice has been received from South Somerset Community Accessible Transport regarding the contribution towards the continuation of the service. It was agreed to pay the £200 contribution.

12 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

A request would be made to the Playing Field, Village Hall and Cricket Club for copies of their minutes to be sent to the Parish Clerk for inclusion on the website.

The Playing Field Committee would be contacted to ask that the plans for the playing field are shared with the Parish Council before any decisions taken.

13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Welcome Pack

Communication strategy

A303 dualling

Defibrillator

Wessex Water issues/update

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 5 November 2018, Sparkford Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm