

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER 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, Mr J Tuck
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. M Lewis, Les Kimberly – Castle Cary Community Library, 2 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

None

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

LP – item 9h

3 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S (1 OCTOBER 2018) MINUTES

The minutes of the 1 October meeting were agreed.

4 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

No reports or updates

5 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Lewis congratulated the Parish on the siting of the commemorative silhouettes in Sparkford. Other parishes have not been as thoughtful to remember those who are fallen.

There may be some leeway in the £19 million deficit in the SCC budget. For 2019/20 the budget indicates that there will be significant help towards Adult and Children's Services. There have been questions over the £9.9 million spend on County Hall. Cllr Lewis clarified that this is capital spend compared to the Social Services spend which is revenue. The capital spend includes a new boiler system for the building that is rented by the Ministry of Justice. It is anticipated that the work should save SCC £700,000 p/a. The C Block if not being renovated but once staff have been decanted from this block it can then be sold or leased.

6 HIGHWAYS

The Avenue has now been cut but it was agreed to contact SCC Highways and advise that the cutting had not been completed to a satisfactory standard.

TT reported that the keep left sign near McDonalds had been hit.

SCC are no longer providing Speed Indicator Devices (SID's). It was agreed to express an interest in having one or two SID's in the parish. Cllr Lewis advised that West Camel are interested in sharing a device, it was agreed to contact them and find out more.

7 PLANNING DECISIONS

None

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **18/03181/TPO** Application to carry out tree works to 3 no. Limes within Tree Preservation Order TPO YDC (SPAR 1) 1976. Woodpeckers, 9 Ainstey Drive, Sparkford. This application is for information only

9. MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove services outstanding issues update** LP and TT met with McDonalds and they have since confirmed that all actions from the meeting have been completed. They advised that under their insurance they are only allowed to litter pick up to 200 metres from the restaurant. Cllr Lewis agreed to contact Chris Cooper at SSDC to identify if there is an option for them to do the street cleaning and recharge McDonalds.

b) **A303 dualling consultation** Our submission was made on 10 October and work with Queen Camel and West Camel PC's has continued to produce amended design proposals. A joint submission has also been made to the Inspectorate. Revised plans were circulated to those present. An initial invoice has been received and a contribution of £571.05 towards the costs incurred for the project so far was approved.

c) **First World War Silhouettes** LP thanked RB for his work on this. Four silhouettes have been ordered following contributions from Pipers, Sparkford Storage, Haynes Publishing, Sparkford Inn, Angie Bell Sports Massage, McDonalds, Sparkford Animal Feed, Quantock Wine and C & J Cheverall.

d) **Communication Strategy** JT has undertaken some research and found some e-mail marketing software that is free of charge. This would enable regular e-mails to be sent to those who have signed up. RB advised that he has changed the news page on the website to an electronic noticeboard.

e) **Welcome Pack** It was agreed to use the website to share information and produce a welcome card which would direct people to the website.

f) **Finger posts** A local contractor has offered to refurbish finger posts in South Somerset. There is one in Sparkford at the junction by Mill Farm. There is a need for Highways to replace the broken finger post which previously said Corton Denham 3 miles before any refurbishment is undertaken.

g) **Highways winter service/community snow wardens** TT raised concerns about the pre-salting programme in Wincanton, following the removal of the area between West Hill and Holbrook roundabout. The grit bins in the parish need topping up and there is a need to look at what we have and how to improve it. It was agreed to obtain prices for new salt bins and to purchase 1 tonne of salt.

h) **New road names for new development off High Street, Sparkford** LP left the room during this discussion. Three names have been proposed by the developer for the three areas of the new development. The names Goodwood Drive, Barton Court and Longhazel Mead were agreed.

i) **Defibrillators** Prices have been obtained and details circulated.

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

b) **Castle Cary Community Library Partnership request for funding** SCC Cabinet met today to decide the new format for expression of interest. They are willing to consider an offer from the community to keep Castle Cary Library open. £5,000 p/a

funding has been agreed towards the running of a volunteer run library. The volunteer group would need to hold the lease after March 2019 when the current SCC lease ends. The lease would be £6,400 p/a. The estimated costs are £10,000 p/a to run the library with no paid staff. A lot of work has been done to make contact with Town and Parish Council's in the local area and contributions have been agreed:

Castle Cary TC - £3,000

Ansford PC - £1,500

From 1st April visitors to the library should not see any changes to the service but it is hoped that the service will develop in time. A written bid must be submitted by 15

November. If the bid is not agreed then the library will close at the end of March.

TT asked if a tariff for contributions from Town and Parish Councils had been agreed.

There is no tariff, any contribution would be gratefully received.

RB proposed and TT seconded a contribution of £100 and it was agreed that an annual request would be considered in future.

c) Queen Camel Guides request for funding Agreed to contribute £100 towards resource packs

d) Payment of £48.00 to PKF Littlejohn for audit Approved

11 CORRESPONDENCE

12 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

LP has spoken at length to Justin Crawford who has confirmed that he does not have the capacity to run or commit to the Neighbourhood Development Plan project. Funding opportunities are reduced now so it was agreed that if Malcolm is still keen to run the NDP project then he will need to find volunteers and ensure that they are fully aware of the work involved and can commit to the group. Cllr Lewis advised that SSDC may be able to help with this but they are still going through transformation so at the present time there is no decision as to whether the support will continue.

RB requested that the minutes from the local committees/clubs are provided and made available on the website.

TT asked if there is a list of Tree Preservation Orders in the Parish. It was agreed to contact Phil Paulton at SSDC.

LP confirmed that a meeting is taking place with Martin Tidman from Wessex Water at 12pm on 20 November. All Parish Councillors are welcome to attend.

13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Wessex Water update

Tree Preservation Orders

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 3 December 2018, Sparkford Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.44pm