

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 8.00PM**

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Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr K Flood, Mr D Hazel, Mr A Quick, Mr T Tuck, Mr R Squires  
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. Mike Lewis, Cllr. Henry Hobhouse, two members of the public

The meeting started at 8.00pm.

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**SPC71 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**SPC72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**SPC73 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES**

The minutes of the 3 October 2022 meeting were unanimously agreed.

**SPC74 CRIME**

A crime report received from the Police had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

**SPC75 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

HH reported that he and ML had attended the Regulation Committee and confirmed that the bridleway application had been deferred for one month. The new Unitary finances are being squeezed and the Executive have applied to capitalise the cost of the change to the Unitary.

ML asked that if anyone has any knowledge of where the bridleways / footpaths were historically then to let him know.

**SPC76 HIGHWAYS**

There were no updates to report from SCC Highways.

It was noted that the signs from the road closure in Marston Magna had not yet been collected. The Clerk would contact SCC.

**SPC77 PLANNING DECISIONS**

- a) **22/02013/FUL** Erection of an acoustic bund. Sparkford Hall, Sparkford Road, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**
- b) **22/02510/HOU** Two storey extension. 14 Church Road, Sparkford. **Application withdrawn**

**SPC78 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- a) **22/02877/TPO** Application to carry out Tree Surgery Works to No. 1 Tree as shown within the Yeovil District Council (SPAR 1) 1976 Tree Preservation Order. Linnet Cottage, 11 Ainstey Drive, Sparkford **Parish Councillors had**

LD

- no objections to this application.**
- b) **22/02845/HOU** Create 2 window openings in the south elevation. Linnet Cottage, 11 Ainstey Drive, Sparkford **Parish Councillors had no objections to this application.**
- c) **22/02615/S73** S73 application to remove condition 4 (Highways works) of planning permission 20/02743/FUL erection of 2 dwellings. Land adjoining The Orchard, Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford **Parish Councillors object to the removal of condition 4 due to the highway improvements not being completed as per the conditions of the previous planning consent. It was agreed to request that this application is taken to Area East Committee for a decision.** LD
- d) **22/02274/FUL** Single storey detached dwelling and detached garage. The Orchard, Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford **Parish Councillors object to this application due to the highway improvements not being completed as per the conditions of the previous planning consent. It was agreed to request that this application is taken to Area East Committee for a decision.** LD
- e) **22/02137/FUL** Installation of one rapid electric vehicle charging station within the car park of McDonalds. One existing parking space will become an EV charging bay, along with associated equipment. McDonalds, Sparkford Hill, Sparkford **Parish Councillors had no objections to this application, although it was noted that it may be difficult for McDonalds to ensure that the parking space was only used for EV charging.**

**SPC79 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS**

- a) **Co-option – to fill vacant seat on Council** It was agreed to defer the co-option until the next meeting.
- b) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services** McDonalds had confirmed that the land currently used for lorry parking is owned by them. It was agreed to invite the manager of McDonalds to the next meeting. LD
- c) **A303 dualling programme** – A site meeting had been arranged to take place on 23 November. ML reported that the road closure by National Highways at Downhead was creating issues for residents.
- d) **Speed Indicator reports** – The reports had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed to send the data to SSDC Planning as supporting evidence regarding the planning applications off the High Street and to SCC Highways in support of the request for traffic calming measures to be introduced on the High Street. It was noted that the tree near the SID by the car park needed to be cut back. TT agreed to ask Crestmoor to do this. LD TT
- e) **Website** - It was agreed to defer this discussion until the next meeting and that the Clerk would draft and circulate a specification. LD
- f) **Land adjoining playing field** – the Clerk reported that GTH had confirmed that a short term lease had been agreed for the land adjoining the playing field. SSDC had also advised that it the land would not meet the test to be included on the Community Asset Register.
- g) **New development sites** – Concerns were raised about potential breach of conditions at the Lovells site. It was agreed that the Clerk would draft an email to SSDC Planning and request that they attend the site meeting on 18 November. Concerns were raised regarding the risk of encampment on the site when the contractors leave. LD

**SPC80 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary – October) **Approved**

**SPC81 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported that a request had been received from the Cub Leader asking that the Parish Council meetings start later. TT confirmed that part of the agreement when the Cubs changed the day that they meet was that they would finish by 7.45pm or meet outside of the hall.

TT reported that Mark Collins had asked if the Parish Council would allow him to refurbish the seat at the Copse in memory of Stuart Imrie. It was agreed that this would be allowed.

LP reported that the grit bin had been moved from Wolfester Terrace to Sparkford Hill but was not back in the correct location.

The Clerk advised that Youth Connect had visited Sparkford during the past few weeks to speak to young people as part of the youth engagement work commissioned through the Local Community Network pilot. It was noted that they had found evidence of young people drinking in a greenspace off the High Street. DH also reported that young people use this area for riding motorcycles.

**SPC82 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 5 December 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.37pm

## **PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Sparkford Community Plan** – If you are interested and would like to get involved with this then please contact the Parish Clerk.

**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?