

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 3 OCTOBER 2022 AT 8.00PM**

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, one member of the public

The meeting started at 8.00pm.

SPC55 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

SPC56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC57 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes of the 5 September 2022 meeting were unanimously agreed.

SPC58 CRIME

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

SPC59 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

HH reported that both SCC and SSDC have serious problems at the moment due to the resource implications for the implementation of the new unitary authority.

ML reminded Councillors that the LCN consultation closes on 17th October and advised that a webinar had been organised to Shape the future of SEN, all are invited to attend.

SPC60 HIGHWAYS

There were no updates to report from SCC Highways.

It was noted that the road surface at Sparkford Hill Lane was continuing to deteriorate. It was agreed to contact SCC Highways to request that signs are erected at either end of the lane to advise of un-even surface and risk of grounding.

LD

Concerns were raised about vehicles being parked on the pavement on the High Street. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would ask the Police to monitor it.

LD

SPC61 PLANNING DECISIONS

None

SPC62 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **22/02510/HOU** Two storey extension. 14 Church Road, Sparkford. No objections were raised by Councillors.

SPC63

MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services** There was no update to report. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would request an update on the land ownership query and the clearing of rubbish from the ditches.

LD

b) **A303 dualling programme** DH, KF and TT attended a meeting with Galliford Try and National Highways. Galliford Try advised that the traffic calming is outside of their remit and that SCC are responsible for this and suggested that a request is submitted to SCC with Galliford Try's support. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would ask for an update on the actions from the meeting and also confirm a date for the next meeting in December. It was reported that the day to day usage does not seem worse.

LD

c) **Community Plan** the Parish Clerk reported that she had attended the training sessions but there was no further update.

d) **Cost of living crisis** there was no update to report

e) **LCN pilot** the Parish Clerk reported that the last event was well attended with a focus on health. The next event was planned for 20th October and would focus on the cost of living crisis.

f) **LCN consultation** it was agreed that the Parish Councillors would send their comments to the Clerk by 7th October so that a response could be submitted. Councillors were also encouraged to submit individual responses.

ALL

g) **Website** AQ reported that Flay-de-Mouse had advised that the Parish website is using software that needs to be updated and unfortunately it would not cope with the update. It was agreed that AQ would contact Flay-de-mouse to find out more about the possible options.

AQ

h) **Social media** LP raised concerns about the use of social media to share information about planning applications. The Parish Clerk reported that she had sought advice from SALC who advised that social media is a useful tool to encourage engagement and there was no reason why it should not be used to share information about planning applications, particularly to encourage public comments on major applications that the Parish Council do not support. It was agreed that social media would be used to encourage engagement for major planning applications or those that are likely to impact on the local community.

i) **New development sites** concerns were raised about the land being transferred from Lovells to the Parish Council for the new village hall. It was agreed to request that the site meeting with Lovells is moved back a week as TT and KF were not available to attend the meeting on the agreed date. The Parish Clerk would circulate the decision notice for the development for Councillors to provide comments on any conditions that may require clarification. It was agreed that Parish Councillors would meet on 31st October to look at the site in advance of the meeting with Lovells.

LD

LD

j) **Quarterly review of outstanding issues**

Cherry Pie Lane resurfacing – reported to SSDC June 2020, advised that enforcement case had been closed 25 October 2021. SSDC asked to re-open the enforcement case in February 2022 as works not completed. No further update received to date.

Goodwood Drive pavement – Ashford Homes have reported that they are waiting on drainage information relating to the commercial site and that unfortunately yellow lines had been put down by a third party without the permission of SCC Highways or Ashford Homes which has further delayed matters.

Possible planning breach at Longhazel Lodge – reported to SSDC October 2020, advised January 2022 that the enforcement case had been closed. SSDC asked to re-open the case in February 2022. No further update received to date.

Footpath diversion – formal application submitted to SSDC June 2021. Response from SCC in April 2022 confirming costs to progress application and advising that it would take 6 – 12 months to deal with an application. Awaiting confirmation of land ownership to submit new application to SCC.

Meadow View, High Street - possible planning breach reported October 2021. SSDC closed case and advised that there had been no planning breach.

Street lights at High Street - Ashford Homes have confirmed they will replace but SCC not aware when this will be done. It remains Ashford Homes responsibility until the roads are adopted. There is no further update on this, although LP has advised that there are further works required before the estate roads can be adopted.

Car Wash – the continuing problem of water running across the road has been reported again to SCC Highways and SSDC Planning. A response is awaited from SSDC Planning. LP spoke to Garretts in March and asked them to take a look at the problem, they agreed to speak to the people who run the car wash and ask them to come up with a solution. SSDC have been asked to look into this again and SCC have advised that they will contact the owner again but unfortunately SCC works will not be available to issue/schedule until April 2023 due to budget and resource. John Nicholson has advised that any surcharges on the carriageway will receive extra salting when the road length is gritted.

High Street nameplate – missing nameplate at entrance to Haynes Publishing reported. SSDC advised that it would be replaced by end of April but the work has not been completed to date, email sent asking for an update. SSDC asked for clarification of location of nameplate.

Street lighting at Burrows Court – SCC have provided an approved street lighting plan so the Clerk would follow up with Ashford Homes regarding completion. Ashford Homes have advised that the road is not being adopted and that no street lighting is being provided. SCC have been asked to follow this up. It should be noted that there is now a Private Road sign at the entrance to Burrows Court.

Private Road sign off Wolfester Terrace – damaged sign has been reported to SCC Highways. There has been no response to date.

Potential damage to trees with TPO's off High Street – reported to Phil Poulton at SSDC who advised that he would visit to inspect.

Double yellow lines at Bennett Close – SCC Highways advised that lines will be painted but no date given yet. Andy/Gary have been chased several times but no update on date that work will be completed.

Double yellow lines at Wolfester Terrace – SCC Highways have been asked to confirm enforcement arrangements for double yellow lines as drivers are continuing to park on the roadside.

SPC64 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Budget – update on budget and S106/CIL contributions **Noted**
- b) Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary – September) **Approved**
- c) Payment to Mrs L Davis (Book of condolence for HM Queen) **Approved**
- d) Payment to SALC (affiliation fees 2022/23) **Approved**

SPC65 CORRESPONDENCE

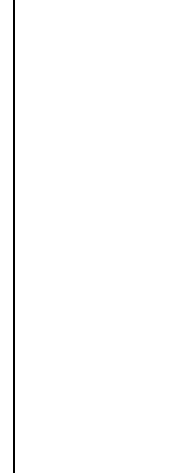
LP reported that the Playing Field Committee are keen to lease the land adjoining the playing field that is apparently being advertised for rent. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact Greenslade Taylor Hunt to find out more about the land and terms of the lease etc. LP would send the Parish Clerk the details for the land and ask the Playing Field Committee to provide a proposal for discussion at the next meeting.

LD
LP
LP

SPC66 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 7 November 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.52pm



PUBLIC NOTICES

Neighbourhood Development Plan – we are keen to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for Sparkford but this is not possible without a group of committed volunteers to lead and progress the work involved. 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?