

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 9 MAY 2022 AT 8.00PM**

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Present: Mr T Tuck – Chair, Mr A Quick, Mr D Hazell  
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Helen Lazenby – Clive Miller Associates, one member of the public

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**2022**

**SPC1 TO NOMINATE AND ELECT A CHAIR**

AQ proposed, DH seconded and it was unanimously agreed that LP be elected as Chair.

**SPC2 TO NOMINATE AND ELECT A VICE CHAIR**

AQ proposed, DH seconded and it was unanimously agreed that TT be elected as Vice Chair.

**SPC3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr L Piper, Cllr Mike Lewis

**SPC4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**SPC5 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES**

The minutes of the 4 April meeting were agreed.

**SPC6 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

A crime report was circulated for information.

**SPC7 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

There was no update as ML was unable to attend the meeting. It was noted that Mike Lewis and Henry Hobhouse had been elected as Councillors for the new Somerset Council.

**SPC8 HIGHWAYS**

There were no further updates from SCC Highways. TT reported that the sign near Crestmoor Construction on Wolfester Terrace had been bent.

**SPC9 PLANNING DECISIONS**

**a) 19/02160/FUL** The siting of three temporary agricultural workers' dwellings for a period of 5 years together with an agricultural barn with PV array and new vehicular access to provide three affordable smallholdings to new entrants to ecological agriculture. Land north of Sparkford Hill Lane, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**

**SPC10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**a) 22/00991/COL** Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of building as a residential dwelling. Sparkford Hall Equestrian Centre, rear of Sparkford Hall, Sparkford Road. **The agent for the application explained that**

this was a retrospective application following enforcement discussions and that the change of use had taken place more than four years ago. Parish Councillors had no objections to the application providing the existing entrance was used.

**b) 22/00992/FUL** The erection of a timber office building and welfare building (retrospective). Sparkford Hall Equestrian Centre, rear of Sparkford Hall, Sparkford Road. **The agent for the application explained that this was a retrospective application following a request from SSDC to obtain formal approval. Parish Councillors had no objections to the application providing the existing entrance was used.**

**c) 22/00969/HOU** Erection of single storey side / rear extension (revised application to approval 21/01111/HOU). Birchwood, High Street, Sparkford. **Parish Councillors had no objections to this application.**

### **SPC11 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS**

**a) Co-option – to fill vacant seat on Council** This item was deferred until the next meeting on 6 June.

**b) McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update**

Following concerns raised by local residents regarding overnight lorry parking it was agreed to check the planning/licensing requirements with SSDC. The Clerk also agreed to follow up the land ownership query.

LD

**c) Footpath diversion – to discuss response from Somerset County**

**Council** TT suggested that the Parish Council fund the footpath diversion using CIL monies. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr Reeves and discuss further at the next meeting.

LD

**d) Jubilee celebrations – update on arrangements for tree planting**

TT confirmed that the tree planting would take place at 11am on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. TT advised that the contractors were finding it difficult to get the new gate to fit the posts.

**e) Re-adopt the Standing Orders and Code of Conduct** It was proposed and unanimously agreed to re-adopt the Standing Orders and to adopt the Code of Conduct produced by SCC.

**f) Social Media Policy – to consider adoption of draft Social Media Policy** It was proposed and unanimously agree to adopt the Social Media Policy.

**g) SALC Forum : Affordable Housing – discuss consultation regarding Forum** The Clerk would respond to advise that the Parish Council would be interested in future forums to discuss affordable housing, although it was noted that there was no need for additional housing at the present time.

**h) Quarterly play inspections – update on weekly inspections and SSDC quarterly report** Weekly inspections reports for January to April were circulated and it was noted that the Playing Field Committee were making arrangements for all faults/issues reported by SSDC to be resolved.

### **SPC12 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**a) Payment of £357.35 to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary)** Approved

**b) Payment of £50.00 to Natural Numbers (Payroll services)** Approved

**c) Payment of £4,865.52 to Elan City (Radar Speed sign and solar panel**

**kit)** Approved. TT advised that the device had been delivered and

Crestmoor Construction were awaiting the appropriate consent/licence from SCC Highways to replace the existing poles and complete the work.

**d) Invoice from Smart Communities for Parish Survey – discuss invoice**

**and agree who is responsible for payment of £2,069.40** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would pay the invoice for the remaining 50% of the Parish Survey costs using CIL monies.

- e) Insurance – to consider the renewal quote for 2022-23 and agree contributions to be requested from the Village Hall and Playing Field Committees** It was proposed and unanimously agreed to accept the insurance quote for 2022-23 and to request contributions of £250 from Sparkford Playing Field Committee and £250 from Sparkford Village Hall Committee.

LD

**SPC13 CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**SPC14 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

TT advised that he had requested a quote from Crestmoor Construction to cut the greenspaces in the parish. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact SCC and SSDC to check their cutting schedules for this year and that two further quotes would be obtained for discussion at a future meeting.

LD  
TT

**SPC15 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**SPC16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 6 June 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.34pm

## **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.