

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 4 APRIL 2022 AT 8.00PM**

Present: Mr T Tuck – Chairman, Mr D Hazell, Mr A Quick, Mr A Voysey
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. Mike Lewis, 5 members of the public

The meeting started at 8.00pm.

SPC140 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr L Piper

SPC141 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC142 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes of the 7 March 2022 meeting were agreed.

SPC143 CRIME

No crime report had been received since the last meeting.

SPC144 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

ML reported that Somerset Waste Partnership had agreed to transfer the business of Viridor to Biffa. It has been confirmed that the Unitary election will take place on 5th May 2022. SSDC Area meetings are still being held virtually and decisions being taken by the Chief Executive.

SPC145 HIGHWAYS

There were no updates to report from SCC Highways. ML advised that residents at Little Weston had contacted him regarding concerns about traffic, particularly at weekends. It was suggested to look into the possibility of siting a sign at the Little Weston junction with the old A303 advising that the road was not suitable for sat nav traffic.

SPC146 PLANNING DECISIONS

None

SPC147 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) **22/00243/OUT Outline application for demolition of existing structures and development of three Drive Thru units associated parking, servicing, landscaping and infrastructure. All matters reserved except access. Land Opposite Hazelgrove Lodge, High Street, Sparkford** Parish Councillors unanimously objected to the proposals. Concerns were raised about the capacity of the sewerage system and increase in existing problems already acknowledged within the parish, increase in traffic and access onto the High Street, potential flood risks to existing properties within the parish and neighbouring parishes due to surface water drainage issues.

- b) **22/000259/OUT Outline planning application for the development of up to 45 residential units, a 60 bed care home, open space, play space, associated infrastructure (including works to the public highway, swales and a surface water pond), access, parking, servicing and landscaping. All matters reserved except for access. Land Opposite Hazelgrove Lodge, High Street.** Sparkford Parish Councillors unanimously objected to the proposals. Concerns were raised about the capacity of the sewerage system and increase in existing problems already acknowledged within the parish, increase in traffic and access onto the High Street, potential flood risks to existing properties within the parish and neighbouring parishes due to surface water drainage issues, the current land mass absorbs some water but the proposed development would not enable this to continue. Concerns were also raised with regard to the lack of infrastructure to support development of this land ie. schools, doctors, transport, access to shops etc.

It was agreed to send the details of these planning applications to Queen Camel and West Camel Parish Councils.

SPC148 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

a) McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update

Local residents reported issues with noise from the intercom and night deliveries at McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services. Re-frigerated trucks are still parking overnight. It was agreed to ask McDonalds for an update on the parking arrangements and ownership of the hedge and grass areas at the site.

LD

b) A303 dualling works/traffic calming measures – to discuss and agree any actions from the meeting with National Highways and Galliford Try

There was no update as the meeting had been cancelled due to COVID and the availability of the Traffic Management team. It was noted that there would be a road closure in place on 13th May for the bridge installation. It was agreed to request that Galliford Try put signs on the North Cadbury turn off advising no access during the road closure. The Clerk advised that she had spoken to the Police Traffic team who were happy to support the Parish Council with any requests for traffic calming and traffic safety improvements.

c) Jubilee celebrations – TT reported that he had spoken to Camelot Growers and they were happy to support tree planting at Daisy Wood. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact them and ask for a quote and advise on an appropriate tree to be planted over the Jubilee weekend. Arrangements for entertainment at the Sparkford Inn on Saturday 4th June were yet to be finalised. The Clerk would follow this up.

LD

LD

d) Land at Old London Road – It was noted that the land at Old London Road is advertised for sale. Concerns were expressed about flooding at the bottom end of the field and the potential risks to existing properties in the parish if planning for development was sought on this land.

e) Tree Preservation Order – It was noted that SSDC (Sparkford No. 1) Tree Preservation Order 2021 is confirmed.

f) New development sites – update and discuss any issues The Clerk reported that SSDC advised that they could not take action against Lovells

regarding the damage to the verges at Brains Lane. TT had asked Crestmoor Construction for a quote to repair the verges but it was agreed that it is not a Parish Council responsibility.

g) Financial update – Village Hall - Details noted

h) Financial update – Playing Field – No update had been received to date. It was agreed that LP would follow up.

i) Playing Field inspections – The quarterly report had not been received and concerns were raised regarding the faults reported by SSDC on the last two inspection reports. It was agreed that the Clerk would follow up with the Playing Field Committee to request up to date inspection reports and confirmation of works completed.

LP

LD

SPC149 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary) **Approved**
- b) Payment to John Bright Fencing (picnic benches for Daisy Wood) **Approved**
- c) To note the NJC Pay Award for 2021-22 **The pay award and back pay were noted**

SPC150 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that a request had been received from South West Heritage Trust regarding the submission of information to celebrate the Jubilee year. It was agreed to send any suggestions to the Clerk.

ALL

SPC151 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

It was noted that the Annual Parish meeting would be held at 7.30pm on Monday 9 May.

SPC152 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 9 May 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

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.