

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

Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr A Quick, Mr T Tuck
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. Mike Lewis

The meeting started at 8.00pm.

SPC114 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr A Voysey

LP reported that DN had resigned from the Parish Council. LP thanked him for all that he had done as a Parish Councillor. It was suggested that a flyer is produced and delivered to new properties to attract interest to fill the three vacancies.

SPC115 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC116 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes of the 10 January 2022 and 25 January 2022 meetings were agreed.

SPC117 CRIME

No crime report had been received from the Police. LP asked the Clerk to request the Speedwatch information by the PCSO.

LD

SPC118 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

ML reported that the phosphate issue has still not been resolved and planning decisions are still not being issued for large applications. The Local Government Review is moving forward but it is still unknown what will happen with Planning and Highways. There are concerns about income generation at SSDC following Clare Pestell leaving. ML reported that the SCC budget is on track for year end.

SPC119 HIGHWAYS

It was noted that the yellow lines had been painted at Wolfester Terrace but the area opposite the layby had been missed. The Clerk agreed to contact Highways and find out when they would be returning to paint the area that had been missed and Bennett Close.

LD

TT asked that Highways are reminded about the surfacing and patching works at Sparkford Hill Lane that are due to be completed this summer.

LD

LP reported that there had been a number of accidents between Hazelgrove and Steart Hill since the start of the A303 improvement works. TT suggested a meeting with National Highways to discuss the possible installation of average speed limit cameras. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact

LD

National Highways to request a meeting.

SPC120 PLANNING DECISIONS

a) 21/03513/TPO Application to carry out tree surgery works to No. 2 trees as shown with the South Somerset District Council YDC (SPAR 1) 1979 Tree Preservation Order. 1 Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**

SPC9121 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None

Further details relating to the variation of conditions for planning application 21/03630/S73A had been received and it was agreed to support this application providing the number of EV charging points was not reduced and that there was no substitute of block paving in the parking areas.

SPC122 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

a) McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update

TT advised that he is meeting with Sarah at McDonalds on 9th February to discuss the ditch clearance works. Concerns had been raised by a resident of Wolfester Terrace about an increase in the number of rats at the site. TT agreed to ask McDonalds about the frequency of pest control.

TT

b) Sparkford Village Hall land transfer – update Battens have reviewed the draft transfer deed and the comments were circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no concerns raised and ML agreed to read through the document and provide any comments. LP would sign the appropriate documents and return to Battens.

ML
LP

c) New Village Hall Steering Group – update report TT advised that the Steering Group met on 31st January. SMART Communities are producing a final report that would be circulated to the Parish Council once available. The Steering Group would be arranging visits to good examples of halls and TT advised that he was trying to obtain example copies of business plans. It was suggested that it would be useful to identify if there was someone locally who could put the plan together rather than use SMART Communities to do this. LP/TT would feed this back to the Steering Group.

LP/TT

d) Jubilee celebrations – discuss arrangements and agree who will co-ordinate LP advised that Mrs Piper had booked the Sparkford Inn for a music event on the Saturday night and was happy for this to be in celebration of the Jubilee. It was agreed that this should be a ticketed event to cover any costs and to manage numbers. The Village Hall Committee have advised that they would like to provide cream teas as part of the celebrations, it was agreed to suggest that this took place on the Friday afternoon at the Village Hall. It was agreed to ask Camelot Growers if they would like to arrange tree planting on the Thursday.

LD

e) Speed Indicator Device – update on highways consent and posts

TT advised that Crestmoor Construction are able to apply for the licence. LP suggested that the pole outside Longhazel Caravan Park is moved but it was agreed to leave it in the existing location.

f) Daisy Wood – consider quotes to complete tree survey One quote had been received to complete a tree survey, although following further discussion with another Tree Surgeon the advice was that a detailed report

was not necessary and he had offered to meet with someone at Daisy Wood to mark the trees that require works. It was agreed that a notice would be erected at the entrance to the woods advising that people enter at their own risk and another notice requesting that people do not enter the area in high winds/adverse weather. TT advised that he had arranged to meet Woodmill Fencing to discuss the installation of the gates.

g) Playing Field inspections – update on play inspection report LP reported that the repairs to the play equipment had been completed with the exception of the goal. The Playing Field Committee are re-designing the weekly inspection log to include more details but LP would circulate the inspection reports from October to end of January.

LP

h) New development sites – update and discuss any issues It was noted that the verges at Brains Lane had been damaged by contractor vehicles. It was agreed to ask Lovells to confirm that any areas damaged would be re-instated and to notify SSDC Planning of the issue.

LD

SPC123 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary) **Approved**
- b) Payment to Flayedemouse Media Ltd. (website domain renewal)
Approved

SPC124 CORRESPONDENCE

There was a request that the bench at Sparkford Hill Lane should be repaired. It was suggested that Garretts Commercial may be able to assist with the fabrication. LP agreed to contact Garretts.

LP

SPC125 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

SPC126 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 7 March 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.18pm

PUBLIC NOTICES

Parish Council vacancies – there are currently two Parish Councillor vacancies to fill by co-option. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you are interested and would like to make a difference to your community.

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.