

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 6 DECEMBER 2021 AT 8.00PM**

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

The meeting started at 8.00pm.

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**SPC87 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

**SPC88 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**SPC89 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES**

The minutes of the 1 November 2021 meeting were agreed.

**SPC90 CRIME**

No crime report had been received from the Police.

**SPC91 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

ML reported that the structural change order indicates that the Town and Parish elections and interim unitary authority elections will take place in May 2022, with Town and Parish Councillors being elected for a five year period.

**SPC92 HIGHWAYS**

The lights are still not working on the roundabout, ML advised that National Highways are aware of the issue. There is a loose manhole cover and an area of tarmac is sinking following the installation of the new pipe, it was agreed to report this to SCC Highways. A request had been made for the white lines to be re-painted when the yellow lines are painted in the village but SCC Highways advised that this was not possible as a new order would be required so this work would be completed after April 2022.

LD

**SPC93 PLANNING DECISIONS**

- a) **21/02593/HOU** Erection of a two storey extension (annexe) to dwelling. 2 New Cottages, High Street, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions.**
- b) **21/03001/TPO** Application to carry out fell 1 No. Ash as shown with the South Somerset District Council YDC (SPAR 1) 1976 Tree Preservation Order. Ainstey Cottage, Ainstey Drive, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**

**SPC94 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- c) **21/03513/TPO** Application to carry out Tree Surgery Works to No. 2 Trees as shown within the Yeovil District Council (SPAR 1) 1978 Tree Preservation Order. 1 Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford. **Councillors had no**

**comments on this application.**

- d) **21/03161/HOU** Proposed single storey extension to dwelling. Proposed replacement garage/workshop extension with first floor extension above with balcony. Hill View, Weston Bampfylde Road, Weston Bampfylde.  
**Councillors had no objections to this application.**

**SPC95 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS**

- a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update**  
Sarah Lloyd was unable to attend the meeting but had advised that McDonalds would be undertaking hedge cutting works. It was agreed that the Clerk would follow up about the siting of a defibrillator and cabinet at McDonalds and contact Queen Camel Parish Council to identify if this could be a joint initiative. TT reported that two cars are still regularly parked on the road/pavement on Wolfester Terrace which may belong to members of staff at McDonalds/Hazelgrove Services. **LD**
- b) **Sparkford Village Hall land transfer – to discuss draft agreement and consider the appointment of a Solicitor** A solicitor is to be appointed to advise on the agreement. The Clerk would contact Battens and LP would contact Porter Dodson and BGW to get quotes. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Lovells to advise that a Solicitor would be appointed and the agreement would be considered again at the next meeting. **LD/LP**  
**LD**
- c) **Greenspaces – update on review** TT is meeting with the other Parish Councils to discuss a possible Parish Warden scheme on 14<sup>th</sup> December so it was agreed to defer this item until the meeting in January.
- d) **Re-wilding – feedback from Somerset Wildlife Trust event (AV) and Re-wilding Somerset event (JT)** JT and AV provided feedback from the events that they had attended.
- e) **Wildflower seed giveaway – consider possible areas that could be included in application to SSDC** It was agreed to ask 3<sup>rd</sup> Sparkford Scouts if they would like to apply for wildflower seeds for Daisy Wood to maintain and use an educational source. It was also agreed to send the information to the Cricket Club to ask if they want to plant some on the banks around the field. **LD**
- f) **Daisy Wood – consideration of design and quotes for stile/gates and update on tree report** Small to Tall Tree Surgery are unable to provide a report. The Clerk would obtain three quotes to be considered at the next meeting. LP had not been able to get quotes for the gate but agreed to measure the gate width and get a quote. TT circulated proposed wording for a sign to be put on the gate once installed. **LD**  
**LP**
- g) **Litter bin at the Copse – update on replacement of litter bin** LD reported that the litter bin was being replaced by McDonalds.
- h) **Playing Field inspections – update on play inspection report** LP reported that Marc Beale had stepped down from the Playing Field Committee so there was currently no Committee Chair. Prior to leaving Marc advised that Lapsett had been asked to complete the repairs on the new equipment, LP would follow this up with the Committee Secretary and ask for an update on the faults reported by SSDC at their last inspection. **LP**
- i) **Thermal Imaging Camera project – consider if Sparkford would like to get involved in project** It was agreed not to be involved in this project.
- j) **New development sites – update and discuss any issues**  
Land to the rear of Bennett Close – TT advised that there are continuing

complaints about the cleanliness of the road at Bennett Close.

**k) Quarterly review of outstanding issues – to report any updates on outstanding issues**

Cherry Pie Lane resurfacing – reported to SSDC June 2020, advised that enforcement case had been closed 25 October 2021. Contacted SSDC 2 November asking for confirmation of works completed. No response to date.

TPO's on trees opposite Hazelgrove Lodge – request for TPO's submitted to Planning March 2021. Draft TPO produced October 2021.

Goodwood Drive pavement – Ashford Homes have advised that the block paving works and final wearing course to the footpaths have been completed. All roads within the residential part of the development will then be adopted by SCC Highways. Ashford Homes advised 25 November that they had initiated the inspection sign-off process.

Broken finger post by Old Parlour Farm Shop, Weston Bampfylde – order placed in December. Repairs completed November 2021.

Possible planning breach at Longhazel Lodge – reported to SSDC October 2020, no update received

Footpath diversion – formal application submitted to SSDC June 2021, no response received to date

Land rear of Bennett Close - possible planning breach reported April 2021 re: early starts on site. No response received about early starts but SSDC advised no other planning breaches following site visit.

Barton Court – possible planning breach report to SSDC June 2021, no update received. LP advised that the developers installed the garage doors.

Footpaths – issues are now being reported on the online mapping system, although no response received to date on the issues that have been reported

5 Manor Close - possible planning breach reported to SSDC October 2021, no update received.

Meadow View, High Street - possible planning breach reported October 2021, no update received.

Garretts Commercial - possible planning breach reported September 2021, no update received.

Street lights at High Street - Ashford Homes have confirmed they will replace but SCC not aware when this will be done.

BT cover - broken cover reported and made safe.

Trees at Wolfester Terrace - Mrs Wake reported height of trees causing potential issue with electricity lines. Sarah at McDonalds advised November

2021 that trees were being cut by SSE.

Traffic island on High Street – SCC Highways have advised that there are issues sourcing a new traffic island.

**SPC96 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) **Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary)** Approved
- b) **Payment of £1,194.00 to Crestmoor Construction (repairs to fingerpost)** Approved
- c) **Payment of £450.00 to Dorset Garden Machinery (mower for Daisy Wood)** Approved
- d) **Request for grant of £200 to support SSCAT's Ring and Ride Service** Approved

**SPC97 CORRESPONDENCE**

LP reported that a letter had been received from a resident concerned about speeding traffic and interested in re-starting a Speedwatch group. The Clerk advised that PCSO Beata is looking into Speedwatch and would liaise directly with the resident. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact SCC Highways again about a possible 30mph limit and that TT would obtain up dated quotes for the installation of a SID.

LD  
TT

**SPC98 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

TT reported that there had been a poor response to the Parish Survey with 25% of community users and 50% of hall hirers completing the survey. The New Village Hall Steering Group are due to meet on 20 December.

AQ reported that the fallen tree is still in the river near Cam Cottages. The Clerk would follow up with the Environment Agency.

LD

TT reported that there is lying water at the end of Brains Lane and the verges have been damaged. The Clerk agreed to contact SCC Highways.

LD

TT requested that SCC Highways be reminded about including Sparkford Hill Lane in the surface dressing programme for 2022/23.

LD

LP advised that the yellow lines will be painted in the parish as per the proposal. JT raised concerns that this would increase the speed of traffic.

LP asked that the Clerk contact SSDC to identify what the CIL contributions received from developments could be used for.

LD

**SPC99 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

- Draft Social Media Policy
- Jubilee celebrations – confirm plans
- Use of phone box

**SPC100 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 10 January 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.43pm



## **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.