

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 4 OCTOBER 2021 AT 8.00PM**

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

The meeting started at 8.00pm.

SPC59 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr L Piper

SPC60 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC61 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes of the 6 September 2021 meeting were agreed.

SPC62 CRIME

A crime report received from the Police had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It was noted that PCSO Beata is hoping to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

SPC63 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

ML reported that the Unitary Authority debate is ongoing. Planning is still an issue, particularly regarding phosphates, although it has been agreed that David Kenyon will be responsible for Area East Planning moving forward.

SPC64 HIGHWAYS

There were no further updates from SCC Highways.

The signs on the A359 are dangerous and have been reported to SCC. The bollard outside the Sparkford Inn needs replacing following an accident.

The streetlight on the High Street is awaiting upgrading and SCC Street Lighting have advised that Ashford Homes are responsible for this work. TT reported a broken BT cover on Sparkford Road.

LD

SPC65 PLANNING DECISIONS

- a) **21/01662/HOU** Redesign of Pool building as approved under 20/02050/FUL. Weston Bampfylde Manor, Higher Farm Lane, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions.**
- b) **21/01952/HOU** Erect single storey extension to rear elevation, demolish part of the existing garage and extend to provide larger garage and room above. Asheen, 7 Church Road Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions.**

SPC66 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- c) **21/02091/HOU** Removal of conservatory to front elevation and lean to porch to rear elevation. The erection of a two storey extension and a single storey garden room to side elevation and a single storey utility room to rear. Woodlands, Cary Road, Sparkford. **Councillors had no objections to this application.**
- d) **21/00413/FUL** Erection of an acoustic bund. Sparkford Hall, Sparkford Road Sparkford. **Councillors had no objections to this application, although noted that it was disappointing that the applicants were not considering mitigation to reduce the noise created from their site.**

SPC67 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 confirmed that McDonalds were still looking to identify who was responsible for the hedge cutting.

b) **Greenspaces – discuss review of greenspaces** It was agreed to identify who is responsible for the greenspaces in the parish before discussing the possible future options.

c) **Play and Leisure Space Strategy – discuss response to consultation** All comments to be sent to the Clerk by the end of October.

d) **Neighbourhood Planning – discuss possible Neighbourhood Plan** It was agreed to invite Jo Witherden to attend a Parish Council meeting to give a presentation on the Neighbourhood Planning process and how she may be able to assist.

e) **Sparkford stone – discuss possible repairs/replacement** TT suggested that the Quarry at Charlton Mackrell be asked to look at the stone and advise if any repairs are required.

f) **Parish Warden scheme – update on consultation with surrounding parishes** Following consultation with the surrounding parishes it was agreed to arrange a zoom meeting at the end of November. TT would Chair the meeting and represent Sparkford PC.

g) **WW1 silhouettes – agree the siting of the silhouettes for the remembrance period** It was agreed that LP would arrange for the silhouettes to be sited by the Sparkford stone by Friday 22nd October.

h) **Traffic calming – update on proposals** Galliford Try have confirmed that a traffic survey was completed in October 2019 with another due in October 2022. It was agreed to request that the next survey is completed in October 2021 with further surveys undertaken in July 2022 and July 2023 to collect comparable data for peak and off peak season travel. TT suggested that the option to purchase a SID should be re-visited. It was agreed to seek clarification from Highways England as to what they would consider as evidence when looking at traffic calming options.

i) **Social Media Policy – consider draft policy** JT has been unable to produce a draft policy so it was agreed that this item would be deferred to the meeting in January.

j) **Platinum Jubilee celebrations – discuss possible event ideas and Jubilee beacons** It was suggested that a beacon could be lit at the Millenium Copse, trees could be planted at the Millenium Copse/Daisy Wood and a community event could be held on the Saturday.

k) **Financial update – Village Hall** Details noted

l) **Financial update – Playing Field** Details noted

m) **Playing Field inspections – quarterly report** Report circulated and details

LD

ALL

LD

LD/TT

LP

LD

JT

noted. Councillors expressed concerns about the recent play area inspection report from SSDC, particularly the faults identified on the new equipment. It was agreed to contact the Playing Field Committee regarding the concerns and the quality of the weekly inspections.

SPC68 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) **Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary)** Approved
- b) **Payment of £250 to Greenslade Taylor Hunt (Playing Field rent July 21 to Jan 22)** Approved

SPC69 CORRESPONDENCE

None

SPC70 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Continuing concerns were raised by Councillors about the Lovells development, particularly the cleanliness of Bennetts Close and the parking issues, including staff vehicles parking in the residents parking area at Bennetts Close. Residents are encouraged to report issue directly to the developers. It was agreed to remind Lovells that parking in Bennetts Close is for residents only and to encourage more considerate parking on Church Road. It was reported that an enforcement site visit was due to take place in the next few days to investigate possible planning breaches.

SPC71 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Neighbourhood Development Plan presentation
Draft Social Media Policy
New development sites
Greenspaces Review update

SPC72 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 1 November 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm

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.