

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 12 APRIL 2021 AT 7.30 PM  
VIA ZOOM**

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Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr T Tuck, Mr A Quick, Mr A Voysey, Mr J Tuck  
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. Mike Lewis, Ross Glendinning and Philip Farrar – Galliiford Try, 4 members of the public

The meeting started at 7.33pm following a minutes silence in memory of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh

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**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Darrell Northcott

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

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

The minutes of the 1 March meeting were agreed.

**4 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

It was reported that there had been some issues with youths hanging around the empty property on the High Street. It was felt that the tape around the property made it look derelict. It was agreed to contact the owners and make them aware.

LD

**5 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

ML reminded Parish Councillors that the deadline for the consultation on the local government re-organisation is 19 April.

**6 HIGHWAYS**

TT reported that the High Street nameplate opposite Haynes and the Castle Cary junction is broken.

LD

**7 PLANNING DECISIONS**

None

**8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

a) 21/00285/FUL Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings and associated parking. Land at Church Road, Sparkford **Councillors object to this application due to location, drainage issues, access and contrary to planning policy**

b) 21/00624/FUL Erection of single storey reception extension. Sparkford Storage, High Street, Sparkford **Councillors support this application**

c) 19/03006/FUL Land adjoining The Entrance Lodge, High Street, Sparkford. The erection of 1no. wooden residential log cabin dwelling with associated parking (amended plans) **Councillors object to these amended plans due to concerns about visibility at the access**

## 9 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

**a) A303 dualling works and traffic calming proposals – presentation by Galliford Try** Ross Glendinning and Philip Farrar gave an update on the dualling works and proposed timescales. Galliford Try are delivering the project on behalf of Highways England. Stakeholder engagement will take place as necessary in due course. The main concern of the Parish Council is the increased traffic, SCC has always promised that traffic calming measures would be put in place prior to the commencement of the dualling works. A request was made for Galliford Try to support the Parish Council's efforts to ensure that traffic calming measures are put in place.

**b) McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update** No update

**c) Defibrillator at Sparkford Services – possible re-location** The Clerk would collect the defibrillator from the Services and check the batteries/pads. LP agreed that it could be sited at Pipers Trimmers temporarily if necessary.

**d) Local Government reform – consultation response** Councillors were encouraged to respond to the consultation by 19 April. It was agreed to re-circulate the information on the Community Facebook page to ensure that residents were aware of the proposed reform.

**e) Playday – consultation response and consideration of contribution towards an activity** It was agreed that the Playday should be supported if it can be run in a COVID safe way. A contribution was agreed in principle subject to receiving further details about the possible activities and costs.

**f) Return to face to face meetings – discuss requirements and agree arrangements for face to face meetings to resume from May 2021** NALC and SALC continue to lobby government to allow virtual meetings to continue beyond 7 May but unfortunately unless the decision is overturned then face to face meetings must re-start from 8 May. LP and TT agreed to produce a risk assessment for the Parish Council meetings and TT would circulate an updated risk assessment for the Village Hall. TT advised that the hall could accommodate 15 people socially distanced.

**g) Website – discuss additional content** AQ is updating the website content regularly. It was agreed that AV would draft an information leaflet to be delivered to all households in Sparkford to remind them of the information available on the website and Facebook page. TT reminded Councillors to let him know if new residents move into the village so that they can be given a Welcome Pack. A member of public in attendance commented that she thought the webpage was brilliant, easy to navigate and lots of information.

**h) Review of buffer zone agreements – consider request from Twines Close residents** Further advice is needed to identify if the agreements can be reviewed early. ML suggested that Tim Cook at SSDC may be able to assist.

**i) S106/CIL contributions – update on contributions agreed** Information regarding all S106/CIL contributions available/paid was circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting.

**j) Daisy Wood – discuss use of land and maintenance** TT suggested that a stile or kissing gate would be needed to provide public access. It was agreed that LP would arrange a time to visit the site with Kevin Davis.

**k) Annual Parish meeting – agree date of meeting** It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish meeting on Monday 24 May

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

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

LD

LP/TT  
TT

AV

LD

LP

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

**o) Development behind Bennett Close – outstanding issues update** Concerns were raised by Councillors about issues in and around the development site. It was agreed to report the early starts on site and bank holiday working to SSDC Planning and to invite Lovells to attend the Parish Council meeting in June to discuss the concerns and agree a way forward.

**LD**

**10 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

**11 CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence received from three properties regarding the proposed re-instatement of the bridleway across the A303. These objections would be forwarded to SCC and a formal objection lodged from the Parish Council.

**LD**

TT advised that he had received a quote for the repair and re-fit of the noticeboard. It was agreed that the Clerk would look into possible funding towards the cost.

**LD**

**12 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

The wall of Manor Farmhouse is bulging and should be reported to SCC as it may cause a hazard for pedestrians.

**LD**

**13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

Barton Court  
Defibrillator registration with Heartsafe

**14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 24 May 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.47pm

## **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.