

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 8.00 PM
IN SPARKFORD PARISH HALL**

Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr T Tuck – Vice Chairman, Mr D Northcott, Mr A Quick, Mrs A Roylance
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. M Lewis, PCSO Thelma Mead

After a short opportunity for members of the public to address the Council, the Chairman opened the meeting at 8.02 pm.

Following the completion of a full risk assessment and the signing of the appropriate checklist it was deemed safe to hold this meeting in the Parish Hall. This will be subject to review before each meeting whilst COVID-19 restrictions are in place.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr J Tuck

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

DN – item 6b and 6C

3 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S (6 JULY 2020) MINUTES

The minutes of the 6 July meeting were agreed

4 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

PCSO Thelma Mead circulated a Crime report prior to the meeting. Following recent vandalism and damage patrols have been carried out around the playing field. With two members of staff off on long term sick and one working from home the team are struggling with resources.

Issues at Sparkford Inn car park have been reported.

Thelma advised that she is leaving Avon and Somerset Police in December. The authority are looking at options for bidding for funding for a new PCSO. SSDC are in the process of selling Churchfield but at this time it is not known where the Police will be relocating.

5 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Lewis advised that whatever happens there will be a unitary authority in Somerset by 2022. SCC have put forward a 'One Somerset' proposal for one unitary and SSDC are meeting on 10 September to agree the bid for a two unitary. A decision should be made by Christmas.

The SSDC building at Churchfield, Wincanton has been sold and the sell will be completed ASAP

6 HIGHWAYS

Collapsed manhole reported on the track leading to WN27/0

LD

7 PLANNING DECISIONS

- a) 20/01603/HOU Erection of a car port extension to side of dwelling. Sandon, Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**
- b) 19/01099/LBC Alterations to the public house to include; relocation of bin store, alterations to existing single storey rear extension, creation of a 2m wide link to existing pub cellar, relocation of toilet and store, erection of stone wall, removal of existing wall in beer garden and refurbishment of holiday lets. Sparkford Inn, High Street, Sparkford **Application permitted with conditions**
- c) 19/01098/FUL Alterations to the public house to include; relocation of bin store, alterations to existing single storey rear extension, creation of a 2m wide link to existing pub cellar, relocation of toilet and store, erection of stone wall, removal of existing wall in beer garden and refurbishment of holiday lets. Sparkford Inn, High Street, Sparkford **Application permitted with conditions**
- d) 20/01364/HOU Erection of single storey extension. 1 Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford **Application permitted with conditions**

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) **20/00825/REM** Reserved matters seeking approval of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the construction of 36 dwellings and associated infrastructure pursuant to outline planning permission 18/00810/OUT. Land at Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford – amended plans and additional information.

Parish Councillors support the development but object to the details of the current plans due to concerns about the eastern boundary, drainage, access and the footpath. It was agreed to forward the recent email from Wessex Water to the Case Officer dealing with this planning application with a request to re-consult.

9. MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

- a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services outstanding issues update** Unfortunately Sarah was unable to attend the meeting. There are ongoing concerns about the traffic management at the restaurant and services site and the surrounding area and it was also noted that the bins are regularly overflowing.
- b) **Traffic issues at High Street** Letters of concern have been received by two parishioners. It was agreed to contact SCC Highways again and request an appraisal to assess the area and consider traffic calming options LD
- c) **Parking issues at Wolfester Terrace** A letter of concern has been received by a parishioner. It was agreed to contact SCC Highways again and request an appraisal to assess the area and pursue the speed limit reduction on Wolfester Terrace. LD
- d) **Wessex Water update** Wessex Water have advised that unfortunately the proposed flood alleviation scheme that is at outline design stage has not secured funding at this time to progress to the next stage. It was agreed to send the email to SSDC Planning, SCC Highways and Wessex Water Planning Liaison team and to respond to Wessex Water to express the Council's disappointment. LD
- e) **Street naming order – new development off High Street, Sparkford** Objections were raised to the proposed name of Damson Drive as there was no relevance to the local area. It was agreed to contact SSDC with alternative suggestions of Burrows Court, Burrows Close or Dunmer Drive. LD
- f) **A303 dualling proposals** TT circulated the joint submission response from the three Parishes. All those present were happy with the response. The new Parish Clerk at

Queen Camel has raised concerns about the possible challenge regarding delegated powers for a named Councillor to represent each Council. It was agreed that TT would be given delegated powers to represent Sparkford Parish Council on the A303 dualling project with LP also having the same delegated powers.

g) Consultation on changes to the current planning system It was agreed to re-send the consultation details and for all comments to be sent to the Parish Clerk by 11 September 2020.

LD/ALL

h) Grit bins The new grit bins have been delivered. It was agreed that LP and TT would install them one day prior to them being filled. LD to contact SCC and find out when the re-filling would be taking place.

LP/TT
LD

i) Damage to garage at Playing Field There was a recent incident of vandalism at the playing field which resulted in damage to the garage roof. The Parish Clerk has contacted the insurance company who have confirmed that the garage building is not covered under the current insurance. It was agreed to contact the insurance company and requests a quote to add the building. Cllr Lewis suggested that the replacement of the roof may be something that could be considered as part of future S106 contributions.

LD

j) CCS Community building webinars TT attended a recent webinar that was very useful.

k) Quarterly update of outstanding issues

Daisy Wood – paperwork has been signed by LP and TT, now awaiting confirmation of transfer

TPO's – no update

Footpath diversion – no update

Goodwood Drive pavement – no response from Planning but Ashford Homes have confirmed that they have completed the works that they are proposing. LP agreed to follow up with Ashford Homes

LP

Damage to verges – *Instalcom* have agreed to pay for replacement bulbs. LD to send price to them.

LD

Broken finger post – *Easton's* unable to do the repair work until next Spring. Quote requested for re-painting but not received yet.

Health and Safety Policy – *Examples of other Town/Parish Council policies to be circulated*

LD

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Community Transport South West funding request Not approved as service not offered in local area

b) Payment of £164.88 to SALC – Affiliation fee 2020/21 Approved

11 CORRESPONDENCE

None

12 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 5 October 2020

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm

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.

New Village Hall Steering Group – we are looking for volunteers to join a steering group for the new village hall project. If you are interested 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.