

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 7 JANUARY 2019 AT 8.00 PM
IN SPARKFORD PARISH HALL**

Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr T Tuck, Mr D Northcott, Mr R Bell, Mrs A Roylance, Mr J Tuck
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. M Lewis, 3 members of public

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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S (3 DECEMBER 2018) MINUTES

The minutes of the 3 December meeting were agreed.

4 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There were no reports from the Police. LP advised that there had been a break in at Cherry Pie Lane and also a spate of sheds being broken into in Castle Cary and Wincanton during the previous weekend.

5 COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Lewis wished everyone a Happy New Year. SSSC and SCC are in the process of setting the Council Tax. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has provided some additional funding so there not be as much pressure to increase the Council Tax this year. A decision will be made at the end of February. Discussions about the A303 proposals are taking place this week.

6 HIGHWAYS

The Sparkford sign has been removed and needs to be replaced. The junction sign also is yet to be replaced following the accident in December 2017, it was agreed to chase this up with SCC as it was understood that this would be completed through the insurance claim.

LD

The gullies near the Church are blocked, it was agreed to request that all gullies in the village are cleaned. The fingerpost at Mill Farm still needs to be repaired. The concrete in the roadside channel blocking the water flow outside of Barley Cottage also needs to be investigated.

LD

Reports of water from the car wash running across the A359 and freezing during the recent cold weather have been received. It was agreed to contact SCC Highways and SSSC Planning to investigate.

LD

RB clarified that the new street lighting proposed for the new build at Cherry Pie Lane

would not affect the existing properties. The developer is negotiating with Highways.

7 PLANNING DECISIONS

None

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) 18/03536/OUT Erection of 2 no. dwellings and construction of vehicular access thereto (outline) Land adjacent Fletcher Moss, Sparkford Hill Lane, Sparkford. Councillors object to this application because the entrance/exit to the site is inadequate.

9. MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

a) A303 dualling project RB proposed and DN seconded that TT and LP would be given delegated powers to act on behalf of the Parish Council regarding the A303 project consultation. Les Stevens would act as the Clerks representative for Sparkford, West Camel and Queen Camel. TT attended the Inspectorate meeting on 12 December. All present from the Parish Council's were taken aback by the attitude of the Highways England solicitor. TT read the correspondence between the Parish Council's and the Inspectorate and agree to circulate copies to be posted on the website. A request has been made for site meetings at various locations and a meeting is taking place on 11 January to agree the way forward.

TT

b) Grit bins The existing grit bins are being re-filled by SCC Highways. TT suggested that there should be additional bins located within the parish. It was agreed to discuss this again in June/July to review before next winter.

LP

c) Parish Paths consultation LP has been unable to complete this yet but will do this before the consultation deadline of 31 January

d) Rural Housing Plan consultation Parish Councillors had no comments to make on this. Cllr Lewis felt that Sparkford had seen a significant amount of housing in recent years, the only possible gap may be for the older generation looking to downsize such as smaller bungalows.

LD

e) Parish insurance The parish insurance covers the Parish Council and sub committees (Village Hall and Playing Field). It was agreed to contact the Cricket Club and the Copse Trust to arrange a meeting to discuss further the possible options available to include them within the insurance cover. LD advised that Marc Beale, Chair of the Playing Field Committee has confirmed that weekly playing inspections are taking place.

f) Tree Preservation Orders Phil Paulton from SSDC has responded with some initial advice to apply for TPO's. TT agreed to take photos of the trees and contact Phil Paulton for further information.

TT

g) SID's It was agreed to ask the Police for incident reports for the stretch of road between McDonalds and The Avenue before agreeing locations and purchasing a device. The information would be brought back to the next meeting.

LD

h) Defibrillator Discussion took place regarding the best location for the defibrillator and possible funding/purchasing options. The preferred option was the offer from South West Ambulance Service. It was agreed to approach McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services regarding possible funding for signage if a device was retained at the site. This would be discussed further at the next meeting.

LD/LP

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Payment of £283.94 to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary) Approved

b) Payment of £6.96 to Mrs L Davis (postage stamps) Approved

c) Payment of £250 to Greenslade Taylor Hunt (Playing Field rent) Approved

- d) **Payment of £150 to Flay de Mouse (Parish website)** Approved
- e) **Annual grant request – Sparkford Cricket Club** No request received to date
- f) **Annual grant request – 3rd Sparkford Scout Group** £150 grant approved
- g) **Annual grant request – Sparkford Parish Hall Committee** £150 grant approved
- h) **Annual grant request – Sparkford Playing Field Association** £150 grant approved
- i) **Annual grant request – Sparkford Copse Trust** £150 grant approved
- j) **Annual grant request – Weston Bampfylde PCC** No request received to date
- k) **Setting the precept for 2019/20** It was agreed to increase in line with the rate of inflation

11 CORRESPONDENCE

An e-mail has been received regarding an issue with rats at McDonalds. This has been reported to SSDC Pest Control.

Malcolm Littlewood has spoken to Tim Cook at SSDC again about producing an NDP for Sparkford. It was agreed to reply to confirm that until we have someone prepared to lead and take this forward unfortunately there is nothing further to discuss.

LD

LP has been in contact with the mother of the driver involved in the recent accident that caused damage to the fence around the cricket club and also the silhouette. She has confirmed that the driver will pay for a replacement silhouette. The fence has been repaired but there are outstanding issues to resolve with the cricket club, LP would contact Mr King Brain to discuss further.

LP

12 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

It was agreed to invite the new Manager of Hazelgrove Services to the next meeting.

LD

TT asked that McDonalds are chased for confirmation of when the yellow lines will be completed.

LD

LP advised that Sparkford Storage have offered to store the silhouettes free of charge but it was agreed that they would be re-located together by the Sparkford stone with appropriate planting around them. RB would arrange for this to happen.

RB

RB asked that all documents are sent in pdf format for publishing on the website.

ALL

13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- Parish Paths consultation
- SID's
- Defibrillator
- Wessex Water update

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 4 February 2019, Sparkford Parish Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm

