

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER AT 8.00PM**

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Present: Mr T Tuck - Chair, Mr D Hazell, Mr L Piper, Mr A Quick, Mr R Squires, Mr D Westwood  
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr Henry Hobhouse, Cllr Kevin Messenger, 15 members of public

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**Public session**

The owner of Horrell and Horrell spoke about their current planning application. They confirmed that they had already taken bookings for the additional dates and would apply for a Temporary Events Notice if planning permission was refused.

The meeting started at 8.03pm

**2024**

**SPC68 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr K Flood

**SPC69 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**SPC70 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting on 7 October were agreed.

**SPC71 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

A crime report had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

**SPC72 SOMERSET COUNCILLORS**

Henry Hobhouse expressed his disappointment that the planning application for commercial development off the High Street had been granted approval by Somerset Council last month. He felt that the points raised by the Parish Council, Somerset Councillors and residents were ignored, particularly with regards to the sewage issues. He reported that works could not commence until Wessex Water had completed the works required and these were not expected to be completed for several years. Henry had visited RNAS Yeovilton and could arrange for Sparkford Parish Councillors to visit if they felt it would be useful.

**SPC73 HIGHWAYS**

It was noted that the A303 dualling had officially opened today, although some minor works were still to be completed.

**SPC74 PLANNING DECISIONS**

a) **22/01598/OUT Outline application with all matters reserved except for access for the creation of commercial buildings under Use Class B2 and B8** It was noted that this application had been granted approval at the recent Somerset Council Planning Committee meeting.

**SPC75 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- b) **24/02401/S73A Section 73A application to remove condition 3 (occupancy condition of approval 15/02459/FUL for the erection of an agricultural worker’s dwelling to replace existing mobile home). The Vale of Camelot Growers, Old London Road, Sparkford** Concerns were raised regarding the removal of the agricultural tie and the risk of further development. It was unanimously agreed to object to the application.
- c) **24/02347/HOU Proposed single storey front extension to form a porch. Linnet Cottage, 11 Ainstey Drive, Sparkford** The applicant spoke about the proposal. It was unanimously agreed to support the application.
- d) **24/02461/HOU Installation of a domestic 12kW air source heat pump. Tamar, Church Road, Sparkford** It was unanimously agreed to support the application.

**SPC76 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS**

- a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update**  
There was no update
- b) **Update on quotes for tree works at Daisy Woods** LP raised concerns about the lack of detail in the quote received and the potential cost of the works and suggested that the contractors are asked to re-visit to confirm the number of hours required to complete the works. DH agreed to meet them on site. There are still some trees to be cleared by Montgomery’s. DH
- c) **To discuss erection of a fence at Daisy Woods** It was agreed that this would be reviewed once the tree works had been completed.
- d) **To discuss the purchase of two brush cutters** it was unanimously agreed to purchase two brush cutters up to the value of £500. DH would order and store the equipment. DH
- e) **Update on new website** AQ gave an update. It was unanimously agreed to change the domain name to a gov.uk address. AQ would contact the website design company. AQ
- f) **Transfer of land for village hall – update** There was no update, although it was noted that the land was too wet to undertake any works.
- g) **Local Community Network (LCN) – update** RS gave an update following the LCN meeting on 23 October. It was agreed that TT and RS would meet with Kier to discuss the Enhanced Highways pilot. LD/TT/RS
- h) **New development sites – update and discuss any issues** There was no update.

**SPC77 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) **Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary)** Approved
- b) **Payment of £1,284 to SLR (mowing and strimming)** Approved

**SPC78 CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**SPC79 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 2 December 2024 at 8pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.52pm

## **PUBLIC NOTICES**

**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.

**Warm Hubs** – Do you have a few hours to spare each week or month? Would you like to help people who may be struggling with the cost of living crisis? Do you like to meet new people? If you answer yes to all these questions then please contact the Parish Clerk to learn more about how you could help with a Village Café/Warm Hub?

**Community Newsletter** – do you have experience in producing newsletters? We are looking for someone to create a regular newsletter for Sparkford. If you are interested then please contact the Parish Clerk to find out more.

**Community events** – are you holding an event in Sparkford? Please send the details to the Parish Clerk so that it can be promoted on the parish website and Community Facebook page.

**Daisy Woods** – please note that in the interests of safety and to protect the habitat Daisy Woods has been closed temporarily to allow the area to recover following recent bad weather.

**Emergency Plan** – would you like to get involved in producing an emergency plan for Sparkford? Please get in touch with the Parish Clerk to find out how you help!