

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 3 APRIL 2023 AT 8.00PM**

Present: Mr L Piper – Chairman, Mr K Flood, Mr D Hazel, Mr A Quick, Mr R Squires, Mr D Westwood

In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr. Mike Lewis, Cllr H Hobhouse

The meeting started at 8.00pm.

SPC131 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Trevor Tuck

SPC132 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC133 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes the Parish Council meeting on 6 March 2023 meeting were unanimously agreed.

SPC134 CRIME

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

SPC135 SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

HH apologised for being out of the loop for two months following an operation. Somerset Council came into being on 1st April and the first Full Council meeting would be in May.

ML reported that the COVID spring booster for those over 75 was now available. A campaign was being run to help younger drivers.

SPC136 HIGHWAYS

KF reported that Wessex Water had advised that there was a blockage in Orchard Close when they visited Cherry Blossom Way to deal with the issues with overflowing drains.

SPC137 PLANNING DECISIONS

- a) **22/02615/S73** S73 application to remove Condition 4 (Highways Works) of planning permission 20/02473/FUL. Land adjoining The Orchard, Cherry Pie Lane, Sparkford **Application permitted with conditions**

SPC138 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None

SPC139 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

- a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services** – there was no update.
b) **To approve Community Consultation report** – the Clerk highlighted the main points in the report and advised that an action plan would be finalised. It was agreed to send any additional comments to the Clerk. It

ALL

was agreed to add the details of the new Village Hall proposals to the website and to consider holding a Seed Swap to engage with the community and update on the Community Plan.

- c) **To discuss renewal of lease for properties at Twines Close** it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Somerset Council to find out if they were able to assist with the renewal of the leases. The details of the current lease would be circulated. LD
- d) **Local Community Network (LCN) update** – the next LCN pilot event would take place on 20th April. The Clerk reported that the first official meeting of the new LCN was likely to take place in June.
- e) **Kings Coronation** – LP reported that a meeting had taken place with groups and Committees that would like to take part in the Coronation celebrations. It was agreed that the event would be held on Sunday 7 May 2 - 6pm with cream teas and hot food provided. A marquee had been hired and a band was being booked. LP confirmed that the toilets would cost £270 to hire which was less than the original quote and requested that the Parish Council consider contributing £230 towards the hire of a bouncy castle. Concerns were raised about insurance cover for bouncy castles and the associated risk and it was agreed that LP would check the arrangements proposed to ensure that the insurance requirements could be complied with before confirming a booking. LP
- f) **Financial update – Village Hall** the details were noted
- g) **Financial update – Playing Field** the details were noted
- h) **Playing Field inspections** the reports had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Playing Field Committee had agreed to send the missing reports ASAP
- i) **Wyvern Fields – to note Eco Land Co-operative Spring update** the contents of the spring update were noted and it was agreed that KF would visit the site to speak to the tenants about their business plans. KF
- j) **New development sites** – LP confirmed that he had spoken to Mr Tizzard and the Parish Clerk gave an update on the response from Lovells. It was agreed to contact Lovells to confirm that the Parish Council were not happy with the response and request that the soil is removed sooner rather than later. The Clerk reported that she had asked Somerset Council if they would be able to provide any assistance to move this forward as it forms part of the S106 agreement. LD

SPC140 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Payment of £392.00 to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary - March)
Approved

SPC141 CORRESPONDENCE

DH reported that Daisy Wood was very wet at the moment and that the fence by the river was damaged.

SPC142 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 3 May 2023

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.21pm

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