

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 MAY 2023 AT 8.00PM**

Present: Mr L Piper – Chair, Mr K Flood, Mr D Hazell, Mr A Quick, Mr R Squires, Mr T Tuck, Mr D Westwood
In attendance: Mrs L Davis

2023

SPC1 TO NOMINATE AND ELECT A CHAIR

KF proposed, DH seconded and it was unanimously agreed that LP be elected as Chair.

SPC2 TO NOMINATE AND ELECT A VICE CHAIR

DH proposed, RS seconded and it was unanimously agreed that TT be elected as Vice Chair.

SPC3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

SPC4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC5 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes of the 3 April meeting were agreed.

SPC6 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A crime report was circulated for information.

SPC7 SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

There was no update

SPC8 HIGHWAYS

TT reported that there was a second pothole on the High Street. There is also a pothole on Sparkford Hill Lane that is more than 200mm deep with another six along the road. It is essential that these are dealt with as a matter of urgency.

LD

It was noted that there is still an issue with lying water at the entrance to Goodwood Drive that needs to be resolved before the road is adopted and to avoid potential issues in icy conditions. The Parish Clerk would contact Somerset Council for an update.

LD

There are still concerns about the condition of Cherry Pie Lane. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would ask Somerset Council to confirm who is responsible for ensuring that the planning condition is complied with.

LD

SPC9 PLANNING DECISIONS

a) 22/03022/S73A S73A Application to vary Condition 02 (approved plans) to allow for minor amendments to the siting, finish and size of the agricultural barn, relating to Planning Consent 19/02160/FUL; The siting of three temporary

agricultural workers dwellings for a period of 5 years together with an agricultural barn with PV array and new vehicular access to provide three affordable smallholdings to new entrants to ecological agriculture. Land North of Sparkford Hill Lane, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**

SPC10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) **23/01086/PDE** Proposed Single Storey Flat Roof Rear and Side Extension (i) the projection of the rear extension beyond the rear wall is 4.94 M (ii) the maximum height of the extension is 2.90M (iii) the height at the eaves of the extension is 2.90 M. 9 Burrows Court, Sparkford. **Parish Councillors had no comments to make on this application.**

SPC11 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

- a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update**
Sarah had advised that they were still awaiting the quote from Crestmoor Construction. TT agreed to follow this up. It was suggested that the original planning conditions should be looked at following the change of ownership at the Service Station. TT
- b) Re-adopt the Standing Orders and Code of Conduct **The Standing Orders and Code of Conduct with re-adopted with no amendments.**
- c) **Local Community Network (LCN) update** – It was noted that the next LCN pilot event would be held on 20 April.
- d) **Kings Coronation** – LP reported that the event would be held on Sunday 7 May. The Playing Field Committee would be erecting the marquee on Thursday 4 May and the playing field would then be closed until the Sunday. LP confirmed that the Playing Field Committee now have an alcohol licence to enable the sale of alcohol at events. LP also confirmed that the Playing Field Committee have separate insurance cover for the use and public liability for the bouncy castle and all volunteers have received training to enable them to supervise the use of the bouncy castle.
- e) **Community Consultation report and Action Plan** – the updated report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Smart Communities were now formatting the document and the final report and Executive Summary would be circulated.
- f) **To discuss renewal of lease for properties at Twines Close** It was agreed as per the terms of the original leases that the annual rent would be increased from £25 to £50 per annum. The Parish Clerk would contact the owners of the properties. LD
- g) **To consider plans and quotes for next phases of play area improvements** LP had circulated a plan and quote in advance of the meeting but it was noted that the quote would need to be updated as it was dated November 2022. The Parish Clerk reported that there was currently £35,492 S106 funding available to be drawn down. LP agreed to report back the Playing Field Committee and ask for an updated quote and also find out if they wanted to proceed with the draw down of this funding or wait until further S106 monies were available. LP
- h) **To consider ten year maintenance plan for playing field and play area**
LP agreed to circulate the ten year maintenance plan for the playing field and play area for discussion at a future meeting. LP
- i) **Damage to garage roof** LP reported that photos had been taken and a

quote was awaited to remove and replace the roof. LP would circulate the quote when received for discussion at a future meeting.

- j) **New development sites** KF reported that he had visited the Eco Land Co-operative site to meet the occupiers. They confirmed that they will be selling produce at markets and not from the site. It was noted that the site could benefit from being tidied up, which the occupiers acknowledged.

LP

SPC12 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) **Payment of £392.00 to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary)** Approved
- b) **Payment of £324.00 to Silver Street Loos (hire of toilets for Coronation celebration event)** Approved
- c) **Insurance – to consider the renewal quote for 2023-24 and agree contributions to be requested from the Village Hall and Playing Field Committees** It was agreed that the contributions towards the insurance for 2023-24 would be £275.00 from the Village Hall and £275.00 from the Playing Field.

SPC13 CORRESPONDENCE

Galliford Try had suggested a site meeting on 31 May. It was agreed to ask that this be moved to the following week as LP and TT would both be away on 31 May. The Sat Nav sign had been delivered to the Village Hall and it was agreed that TT and LP would put it up the following morning.

LD

LP/TT

TT reported that the new seat at the Copse is completed.

LP thanked SLR for the grass cutting and strimming and commented how much better it looked.

SPC16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 5 June 2023

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.23pm

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