

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER 2023 AT 8.00PM**

Present: Mr L Piper – Chair, Mr K Flood, Mr D Hazell, Mr A Quick, Mr R Squires, Mr Chris Nelson – Wessex Internet, Lydia Dunn – Whiteacre Planning, 4 members of the public

2023

SPC56 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

SPC57 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC58 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting on 4 September 2023, to be signed by the Chair at a later date.

SPC59 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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

SPC60 SOMERSET COUNCILLOR

KM reported that he had been doing some research about the water works and had discovered that the existing system is not up to speed. HH reported that the ROW application is being discussed at the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on 19 October and encouraged a representative from the Parish Council to attend. HH advised that the flooding incident on 9 May was a direct result of climate change.

SPC61 HIGHWAYS

TT reported that there are more lights out on the roundabout and that the advance warning sign by the old Haynes office is overgrown. The hedge along the boundary of Mr Nurse / Mr Smith's land on the High Street is overgrown and needs to be cutback. It was agreed to report these issues to Highways.

LD

SPC62 PLANNING DECISIONS

- a) 23/01360/S73A S73A application to remove conditions 6, 7, 8 and 14 relating to planning approval 19/02160/FUL (as amended by 22/03022/S73A) for 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. **Application permitted with conditions**
- b) 22/03248/HOU Erection of a two storey and single storey extension to rear of dwelling and erection of a new side porch. Barley Cottage, High Street, Sparkford. **Application withdrawn**

SPC63 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) 23/02360/HOU Erection of oak frame extension on existing outbuilding and regularisation of previously implemented alterations to the building (part

retrospective). Brooklands Barn, Brains Lane, Sparkford **Lydia Dunn from Whiteacre Planning provided an update on the works at Brooklands Barns and the application that had been submitted to regularize the works already completed to stabilise the building and more recently the oak frame extension that had been erected. Parish Councillors had no objections to the works completed.**

- b) 22/02361/LBC Erection of oak frame extension on existing outbuilding and regularisation of previously implemented alterations to the building (part retrospective). Brooklands Barn, Brains Lane, Sparkford. **Parish Councillors had no objections to the works completed.**

SPC64 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

- a) **Wessex Internet** – Chris Nelson from Wessex Internet gave a presentation about Ultrafast, full fibre broadband for Sparkford
- b) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services** – TT reported that he had arranged to meet with Sarah at McDonalds on 1st November
- c) **Local Community Network (LCN)** – the Parish Clerk reported that the next LCN meeting would be held on 4 October.
- d) **Transfer of land for new village hall**
- e) **Update on site meeting with Lovells** A site meeting had taken place on 22 September and the outcome of the actions agreed was awaited.
- f) **To discuss letter from residents at Cherry Blossom Way** it was agreed that a holding letter would be sent. LD
- g) **Sparkford Stone** – TT reported that he was awaiting quotes for a replacement stone. The Parish Clerk advised that the insurance company had asked for photos and details of the damage and quotes before confirming if it could be replaced or repaired under the insurance. DW offered to take photos of the damage. DW
- h) **To agree plans and quote for new playing field equipment and discuss draw down of S106 monies** The Playing Field Committee had advised that they were still awaiting quotes so this was deferred to the next meeting.
- i) **To agree ten year maintenance plan for playing field and discuss draw down of S106 commuted sums.** It was unanimously agreed to submit the ten year maintenance plan with the S106 application for new playing field committee when it is ready to submit.
- j) **Financial update – Village Hall** the details were noted
- k) **Financial update – Playing Field** the details were noted
- l) **Playing Field inspections – quarterly report and update on faults reported** the report was circulated in advance of the meeting
- m) **New development sites – update and discuss any issues** there were no updates

SPC65 FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

SPC66 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Letter from resident regarding gate at entrance to Daisy Wood** the letter and response had been circulated in advance of the meeting.
- b) **Request from Horrell & Horrell to use Parish Hall car park for dining**

events TT reported that the Village Hall Committee had agreed that Horrell & Horrell could use the car park until December 2023 but suggested that parking on Brooklands Barn land or in Brains Lane is considered for long term use.

SPC67 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 6 November 2023

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.17pm

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