

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council 3rd February 2014

Present: Cllrs S.Powell (Chair), J.Brailey,T de Bertodano K.Mogridge, M.McKeown, R.Sleeman, M.Watkins (Clerk), GCC Cllr Parsons and two members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr R.Munroe,CDC Cllrs Layton and Bennett

Declarations of Interest: Cllr McKeown on LME.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2014 were read, approved and signed. Prop TdeB, seconded KM
2. Business remaining
 - 2.1 **CDC Local Plan** – Water Park Workshop December 12th Joseph Walker of CDC has distributed a summary of the meeting
 - 2.2 **Lake 31** KM reported that the flow between the two lakes is OK. She had found an Engineer employed by CWPT working on a Sunday to resolve the problem of why the outflow gets blocked. He said that an inspection cover will be installed in due course. Councillors stated that problems occur as the pipe between the two lakes is not straight.
 - 2.3 **Lake 99** Cllr Brailey reported that the CWPT has arranged to transfer the first tranche of money (£7744.83) this week. All the contractors have decided that to do much of the work at present would be detrimental to the site as it is far too wet, and everything is weather dependent.
 - 2.4 **Spine Road Cycleway**. The LME planning application containing the final length of Cycleway is going to appeal shortly. PC agreed to maintain its objection to the proposed Minety Lane entrance, while expressing support for the Cycleway element. Clerk to ask Minety PC whether they object to the proposed new entrance.
 - 2.5 **Defibrillator**. In Cllr Munroe's absence, Cllr Powell said that St Johns Ambulance had been very helpful in providing information. Budgetary costs would be a maximum of £2.5K. The Village Hall committee has agreed to make a donation and grant aid may be available from British Heart Foundation. It was suggested that St Johns be invited to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting on April 11th. Clerk to invite.
 - 2.6 **Cullimore application**. Likely to go to the March Planning meeting
 - 2.7 **Neighbourhood Plans**. Cllr Powell reported that she, John Sweet and Ron Munroe had put together a brief outline of what such a plan should include. They intend to meet with Elin Tattersall of GAPTC soon to discuss how the plan should include second home owners and how it should address a potentially substantial development just outside the Parish and County boundary.
 - 2.8 **Emergency Plan**. On-going. It may link in with the purchase of a defibrillator.
 - 2.9 **Flooding**. The situation is currently little different from last month. Parish Councillors had a meeting with Laurence King of CDC, who is very helpful but pointed out that the problems the village experiences with high water levels and septic tanks are not high priority. He did, however, have 3 possible solutions for diverting water from the Spratsgate Lane ditch. 1) to reinstall the culvert at the bottom of Spratsgate Lane so that it will actually divert water eastward, 2) install another culvert directly across Spine Road taking water to L36 3)install a parallel culvert under Water Lane to the ditch across Mack's Farm to ensure that water draining south of the field can get away.KM to call a meeting of Water Lane residents to explain the situation, to be held on Monday 24th February at 7.30 in the Village Hall
 - 2.10 **Insurance**. A letter has been sent to the MP highlighting the issues that many households are having obtaining home insurance. A holding response has been received. GCC Cllr Parsons said there was to be a multi-agency meeting in early March which was a good forum to raise these issues as all bodies would be represented. He wanted specific examples of those having problems. SP to action. Jenny Phelps (FWAG) has evidently done some good work at Siddington, noting 81 points of

'difficulty' There is to be a meeting on Friday at South Cerney at which GCC SP hopes to persuade Jenny to offer assistance in SK

2.11 **Speedwatch.** The Gloucestershire Police Speedwatch programme has been suspended temporarily and should recommence in March 2014.

2.12 **Boundary Commission Review.** GCC SP says the information should now be available.

2.13 **Review of Lease of Parish Field.** Clerk to ask John Searle whether he could assist with providing a valuation and possible rental rate of the Parish Field. The discussion was then deferred until the March Meeting

3. Planning

13/05361/ADV Erection of 3 static externally illuminated stone columns, two to replace signs on Spine Road and one at access on Mill Lane

The Parish Council objected to this application on the grounds of light pollution and proximity to the village.

13/05264/FUL Corner of Minety Lane /Spine Road: Installation of two above ground gas tanks, vapourisor, perimeter fence and landscaping

No objection to this application providing more natural screening is provided at a lower level and that the tanks are lowered into the ground as much as reasonably practicable.

13/05339/FUL Erection of Security Gatehouse, entrance gates, widening of vehicular access etc

The Parish Council objected on the grounds that it would result in a vast increase in noise, light and traffic pollution in an area that sits within the 250m buffer zone between the village of Somerford Keynes and the permitted development area of the Lower Mill Estate.

4. Financial Matters nil

5. Questions

Clerk to contact GCC Highways to ask whether the Water Lane hedge could be cut back and maintained.

The Ashton Field Brook has now been reinstated and appears to be working well.

Date of Annual Parish Meeting 11th April at 7.30p.m.

Newsletter to include Flooding, Speedwatch, Defibrillator, Faster Broadband and VH AGM on 4th April. KM to compile.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday March 3rd at 7.30p.m.in the Village Hall