

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council 11th May 2015

Present: Cllrs S.Powell (Chair), J.Brailey, M.McKeown, R.Munroe, R.Sleeman, M.Pinto, M.Watkins (Clerk), and three members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Mogridge

Declarations of Interest: Cllr McKeown on LME.

Election of Officers.

It being the Annual Meeting of the Council, the Clerk took the chair while nominations were received for the position of Chair.

The new officers for 2015-16 are:

Chair: Sarah Powell prop. RM seconded MM

Vice-Chair: Ron Munroe prop. RS seconded SP

Footpaths: Roger Sleeman

Snow Warden: Andrew Timbrell

Newsletter: Karen Mogridge Michele Pinto.

Village Hall Rep: John Brailey

Lake 99 sub-committee: Cllrs Powell, Sleeman and Munroe with Brailey (Project Manager)

Ditches/Water Courses: Karen Mogridge / Clerk

Web site/Telecommunications: Mike McKeown, Peter Watkins

Tree Wardens: Lisa Willis, Sophie Livingston

After accepting the post as Chair, SP welcomed all the councillors back, including the newly elected Michele Pinto.

It was decided that a Newsletter should be produced by the end of this month. MP will shadow KM

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2014 were read, approved and signed. Prop RM, seconded JB

2. Business remaining

- 2.1 **CDC Local Plan** On-going, though progress is very slow.
- 2.2 **L31** SP is to chase Mr and Mrs Walker for plans about landscaping etc which have not been forthcoming for several months.
- 2.3 **L99.** The footpath is now in place and designation documentation should be available this week from GCC PRoW. It was suggested that it be checked by a solicitor at this point. The interpretation board order is being processed and items such as the dog bin and life buoys will be ordered shortly. A short meeting of L99 sub-committee will be held this week to discuss financial matters. Green Attitude accidentally overcharged by £600, which is being held against the cost of future work. £480 still remains. There has been two volunteers to join the Lake 99 Management committee so far.
- 2.4 **Defibrillator.** RM to contact Community Heartbeat to investigate the possibility of running a further training session, possibly in November.
- 2.5 **LME Cycle Way.** After finding out from Will Vicary that the process was temporarily held up by the need to provide a bond to GCC, Clerk is to ask how this is moving on.
- 2.6 **Cullimore Gravel Application.** This is to go before GCC Planning Committee on Thursday, when the first stage will be to approve the Water Management Scheme in principle. Approval will allow the applicant to commence the initial phases of extraction. However, no restoration or later phases of extractions will be permitted until a detailed Water Management Scheme has been approved. PC feels there is insufficient detail in the outline proposal and that the final Water Management Scheme may not be scrutinised by the GCC Planning Committee and that this is crucial to safeguarding the community. SP to draft a statement expressing these concerns to be sent to GCC Jason Betty and circulated to the Planning Committee prior to Thursday.
- 2.7 **Neighbourhood Plan** An updated draft NDP document is to be circulated for discussion at a meeting of the extended NDP team, which comprises all councillors, on June 8th

2.8 **Emergency Plan.** On-going.

2.9 **Flooding** On-going

2.10 **Cotswold Community development.** It is believed that an application will be lodged shortly. While the main application will be determined by Wiltshire, a Minerals application will be lodged with GCC as the material extracted, will go to Shorncote Quarry for processing

2.11 **Meeting with CWPT.** The main thrust of the meeting was Neigh Bridge Country Park. PC feels that there should be a vision for the Park that could be worked towards as funds allow. It does not need to be expensive and drawn by experts, but should be a simple 'wish list' with a ball park figure of costs. SP is to put suggestions in an email to the Trust.

The Trust reported that it should have made a decision regarding Keynes Country Park by the end of 2015, as the Watermark lease terminates at the end of 2016.

The Trust is able to help Riparian owners with obtaining licences from the Environment Agency for and weed removal in the Thames. PC were told that the application system has been simplified, though it would appear that there hasn't been as much input by EA as had been expected.

3. Correspondence

3.1 **Amey** sent a response listing all the items that PC has requested many months before. The Clerk wrote to them thanking them for the list and asking for some action after so long. Since then the ditch at Shorncote has been satisfactorily repaired by Andrew Timbrell and co, and the 30m.p.h signs have been re-erected. However, the 'church' sign requested for the Water Lane/Street junction had been erected at the end of Church Lane in error.

SP also asked that the fence at the bottom of Mill lane be re-erected and the huge puddle that occurs at Spratsgate Lane/Chestnuts junction after periods of heavy rain be reported. Clerk to write to Richard Gray.

3.2 Adopt a Kiosk On -going

4. Financial Matters

4.1 The Clerk presented the balance sheet and audited accounts for 2014-2015 Approved unanimously and signed by SP

4.2 Canon Printer £116.93 prop MP seconded MM

4.3 Gift for retiring councillor £11.99 prop MP seconded MM

4.4 Refurbishment of Village Hall floor at a cost of approx £2000 payable in two stages. Agreed Prop MM sec.RM

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.50pm

The next monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday June 1st at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall