

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council 2nd March 2015

Present: Cllrs S Powell (Chair), M McKeown, R Munroe, R Sleeman, T de Bertodano, K Mogridge, CDC Cllr J Layton, GCC Councillor S Parsons and one member of the public.

Apologies: Mrs M Watkins (Clerk), Cllr J Brailey

Declarations of Interest: Cllr McKeown on LME.

The Chair began by informing the Meeting of the recent death of Fred Timbrell, aged 82, who had been a Parish Councillor for 32 years until his resignation in 2011. He would be greatly missed, having been very involved in village matters, Vice Chair of the PC for several years and more recently snow warden. A minute's silence was then held in his memory.

1. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 2nd February 2015 were read, approved and signed. Prop T de B, sec RM.

2. **Business remaining**

2.1 **CDC Local Plan** A letter in response had been sent by SP. Neither the PC nor Cllr Layton had heard anything further. Time scales are still not known.

2.2 **Lake 31** Ongoing.

2.3 **Lake 99** The Lake 99 sub-committee had met with Martine Tyler (GCC) regarding the PRow application. This was considered to be straightforward and GCC had agreed to fund its own side of the legal expenses, although it was recommended that the PC consult its own solicitor, for its own protection, prior to completion of the application. GCC had also agreed to carry out twice-yearly grass cutting of the footpaths.

A meeting will be required with the Cotswold Water Park Trust to clarify conditions for funds releases. Benches have now been ordered.

SP to check with JB whether the S106 funding of £3120 has yet been received, or whether the PC still has to do anything to progress this.

SP had circulated a proposed layout for an interpretation board. It was agreed that she should go ahead and order the board, which would cost about £1310. Prop KM, sec RM.

2.4 **LME cycleway** The Clerk had been told by LME management that this was imminent but RS had spoken with the contractors constructing the new entrance to LME and they were unaware of the matter. Clerk to follow up with LME on her return.

2.5 **Defibrillator** A sheet recommending the 'buddy' system had been prepared, to be delivered alongside the latest PC Newsletter.

2.6 **Cullimore Gravel application** Nothing further had been heard. Cllr Parsons stated that the applicants still had to respond to the questions on water management submitted by GCC's consultants, Atkins.

2.7 **Neighbourhood Development Plan** RM had previously circulated a progress report, together with a transcript of (overwhelmingly positive) comments received at the public consultation of January 19th. Unfortunately John Sweet had had to resign, due to ill health, from the NDP Project Group, leaving only RM and SP to prepare the first final draft of the Plan. It was agreed that they would do this in time for the April PC meeting, at which point responsibility for completing the Plan could pass to the PC as a body. Thanks were expressed to John Sweet for all his work.

The meeting agreed to endorse the principles in the Policies reviewed at the presentation to members on December 8th 2014 and the public consultation on January 19th 2015. Prop RM sec RS.

2.8 **Emergency Plan** There had been a substantial time gap since this was first mooted but KM reported that Peter Metz, a LME resident with experience in these matters, was still prepared to assist in the preparation of an Emergency Plan. A database of resources (people, skills and equipment) had been compiled but would need to be updated, and a draft letter and email to this end were circulated and approved by the PC. KM to arrange meeting to scope what the plan should cover. MM and T de B agreed to form part of this.

2.9 **Flooding** Nothing further to report.

2.10 **Cotswold Community Development** Nothing further had been heard. The PC was not aware of any application having been lodged yet.

2.11 **Meetings with Highways** Several Councillors had met with Richard Gray of GCC on February 5th and had complained about the lack of feedback on reported issues, the lack of progress on those same issues, and the standard of repair work which had been carried out on pavements in The Street. All this

work is now being carried out by Amey, GCC's contractors, and R Gray felt his hands were somewhat tied, but following the meeting had chased Amey by email, copied to the Clerk.

PC actions following this meeting are to inform R Gray of which stretches of pavement on The Street are in worst condition (to enable prioritisation of repairs); and to write letter of complaint to Amey. SP to action, copying Cllr Parsons in on the letter of complaint.

A further meeting, on 26th February, had been held at the Highways depot in Cirencester, its purpose being to discuss safety on Spratsgate Lane following a fatal accident outside Waterland's entrance in 2014. KM and the Clerk had attended, as had Cllr Parsons and Peter Pendlebury of Waterland.

Representatives of both Gloucestershire and Wiltshire Highways had been there. The meeting had decided that setting a speed limit on Spratsgate Lane could not be justified, but Highways would look at the feasibility of erecting seasonal signs to warn motorists of possible congestion, concealed entrances etc. This meeting had also discussed the problems with triathlons and other events, and the wider issues of traffic in the Water Park. It had been agreed that a further meeting, on the subject of the Spine Road, would be held later in the year.

PC actions following this meeting are to investigate whether the Speedwatch team could carry out some operations on Spratsgate Lane; to communicate with CDC regarding organisation of events; and to communicate with CDC regarding parking on Spratsgate Lane. Clerk to action on her return.

Cllr Parsons suggested it would be useful if the PC could respond to the GCC Local Transport Plan questionnaire. Concerns were: changes in parking at Swindon and Kemble stations leading to use of local roads as rat runs to Kemble; impact of development of Cotswold Community. PC contribution to be co-ordinated by KM before deadline of March 27th, comments to her by Fri March 13th.

3. Correspondence None

4. Planning Applications

4.1 [15/00217/FUL](#)

Full application for Extend deck area to rear at Misty Lodge 69 Mill Village LME. No objection.

5. Financial matters

5.1 Clerk's salary Jan-March incl £252.00

5.2 HMRC £63.00

5.3 Rental of Village Hall 2014-15 13 meetings @ £11.00 £143.00

5.4 Heating Village Hall for PC meetings/Clerk's expenses for meetings at her house £32.00.

Prop en bloc MM sec T deB.

6. Questions

6.1 T de B had some letters regarding the historic LME application – to be brought to the next PC meeting for decision on whether to keep them.

6.2 RS complained he no longer received planning notifications following CDC's adoption of a new system, leaving the PC with no planning information in the Clerk's absence.

6.3 Cllr Parsons asked about the status of the culvert at the end of Spratsgate Lane (no change) and said he would chase with Highways. He also said he had a budget for local initiatives to help keep people active – PC to consider this.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

The next monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday April 12th at 7.30p.m.in the Village Hall.