

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council (SKPC), 6th February 2017

Present: Cllr S.Powell (SP, Chair). Cllr M. McKeown (MM), Cllr R. Munroe (RM), Cllr M. Rigby (MR), Cllr R. Sleeman (RS); Cllr T Berry (TB, Cotswold District Council, CDC), W. Cartwright (WC, Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

At the start of the meeting, a minute silence was held in respect and gratitude to Cllr J. Brailey, who sadly passed away in January.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr S Parsons (SPa, Gloucestershire County Council, GCC), Cllr Karen Mogridge (KM).
2. **Declaration of interest:** MM on Lower Mill Estate (LME).
3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 9th January 2017 were approved and signed. Proposed RM, seconded RS.

4. Clerk's report

4.1 Village lake (Lake 99):

The maintenance of Lake 99 will be an on-going concern and it was agreed that Cllr SP and Cllr KM begin the process of setting up an independent Management Committee (villagers who had already volunteered were John Whitwell, Mike Wilding, David Miles). It was agreed that Cllr MR be a representative for the SKPC.

4.2 LME cycleway:

WC had spoken to Jason Braid (JB, LME) who, following contacting Ben Welbourn (BW, Cotswold Water Park Trust, CWPT), indicated that both were very keen to progress the project before the summer. Cllr SP to locate the plans for the change in entrance to Neigh Bridge and check for any local parish comments. WC and Cllr RS to arrange a meeting with JB and BW to progress the project.

4.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): Cllr SP and Cllr RM were in the process of producing a document which responds to comments on the draft NDP and would be sending this document to the PC for comment. If agreed, the draft NDP will be then modified accordingly.

4.4 CDC Local Plan:

This is currently undergoing a public consultation period (16th Jan-27th February) and no further action other than to keep on agenda and monitor actions.

4.5 Flooding:

WC reported on the latest e-mail contact by Laurence King (LK, flood defence manager, CDC) to the SKPC in which he is of the opinion that if the culvert under Water lane requires remedial works, it will take priority above commissioning a new culvert due to limited funding. It was agreed that WC contact LK directly to further clarify the situation, especially in view of the Cullimore drainage scheme application (see under Planning). The importance of re-demonstrating the need for commissioning the new culvert under Spratsgate Lane was discussed. It was agreed that Cllr SP and Cllr KM reproduce the evidence again for Cllr TB (CDC) in terms of photographs and documents on the flooding which happened previously. Cllr TB (CDC) offered presenting the issue at a portfolio meeting if difficulties in adequate funding had now arisen.

4.6 GCC Highways:

WC had reported the pothole in Water Lane to GCC Highways which had been marked up and is due for completion within 28 days. Other on-going highway issues (a need for yellow-backed highway sign at staggered junction at Shorcote/Spratsgate Lane, highway sign at LME, culvert under Water Lane) were under review and in progress. WC was asked to could report new highway issues of a) flooding at the top end of the village in heavy rainfall (from School Cottages to Pendle) and the need for clearing blocked drains b) the poor state of the cycle path between Mill Lane/Spratsgate Lane c) cleaning of culverts under Water Lane and by Go-by-Cycle on the Spine Road side d) cleaning of the Spine Road drain near LME as the road was prone to flooding in heavy rainfall.

4.7 Cotswold Water Park Trust (CWPT):

It was agreed that Cllr SP would contact CWPT to ascertain what had been agreed for a new professional organisation to take over the lease of Keynes County Park. Continued right of access to public footpaths should be a key component and Cllr SP had written to Peter Bungard (Chief Executive, GCC) to reactivate the modification order of the definitive map and formalise the current footpath access.

After the PC meeting, a closed meeting was held to discuss the agreed termination of the current lease of the Parish field, a future tendering document and, as necessary, to obtain more legal advice up to a maximum spending of £1000. It was agreed that a six-month notice of termination be given to Matthew Millett (MM, Managing Director, CWPT) to be in line with the usual renewal date at the end of September.

4.8 Broadband installation:

WC indicated there had been less than 10 households who had indicated an interest in Gigaclear installation which meant it was unlikely to be viable. Cllr MM reported that LME are now unlikely to have Gigaclear install broadband but BT Open Reach. It was agreed that Cllr TB (CDC) and Cllr MM liaise on the situation and contact Gigaclear and BT Open Reach to ascertain what, if any, future possibilities there are for the village to upgrade service.

4.9 GCC Minerals Local Plan: No action to report.

4.10 Ashton Keynes NDP: SP to send letter of support to AKPC.

4.11 Road speed limits:

WC now had the contact (Juliet Layton, CDC) to try to progress making the whole length of the Spine Road adhere to a cohesive speed limit, and to make enquiries on the current situation.

4.12 Transparency code:

WC had spoken to Sue Creswick (Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils, GAPTC) on the possibility an external audit by GAPTC to ensure compliance with the transparency code. Her advice had been to check requirements against their website and conduct an internal audit. As SKPC had not requested for funds to ensure compliance, a spot check by National Association of Local Councils (NALC) was unlikely.

4.13 Second defibrillator: No action to report.

5. Planning applications

5.1 16/0099/COMPU Cullimore Drainage scheme; Compliance with condition 33

Cllr RM reported on his latest discussion with Jason Betty (Planning officer, GCC) who had indicated that the document written by Alan Steeves-Booker (ASB) had been given to Richard Mitchener (RM, Atkins consultant to GCC) for consideration. He also wished the document to be made a public access document, and be given to Cullimore to respond. JB had indicated that the final decision would normally not go back to a Full Planning Committee meeting and any decisions will be delegated to him as planning officer. However, Cllr SPa (GCC) has given his support that this should go back to Committee if there were any concerns by the SKPC and its potential to cause additional flow into the county ditch. It was agreed that the RM stay in touch with JB, monitoring the situation and ascertain the next steps that need to be taken.

5.2 16/0110/CWMAJW Sandpools Farm

The application (will be for the introduction of an inert recycling plant) is currently at an environmental impact assessment (EIA) screening stage and SKPC has given its comments to support that an EIA is needed. Marcus Sparrow (GCG, Senior planning officer) has confirmed that SKPC will be formally contacted at the time of the formal consultation.

5.3 16/05165/OUT Severalls Field

There is an appeal on the objections previously raised which will be held on the 28th February. It was agreed that WC inform Cllr SPa (GCC) to ask if he could attend.

5.4 16/0061/CWMAJM, 16/0062/CWMAJM, 16/0094/CWMAJM Dryleaze Farm Quarry, Dryleaze Farm Quarry (Northern Extension); Changes to various compliance conditions

It was agreed that WC directly contact the Amanda Baylis (GCC planning officer) to ascertain more about the application and changes of compliance conditions and if necessary, ask for an extension, to consider the application further.

6. Financial Matters

6.1 Budget and precept:

The precept had been sent and the budget (2017/18) was agreed subject to SP making a slight increase in miscellaneous costs to make income/expenditure balance. Proposed RM, seconded RS, and formally adopted.

It was considered that the increase in miscellaneous costs could be to upgrade 'Somerset Keynes' signs for entry into the village, possibly with gates. Proposed RM, seconded MM.

6.2 Other expenditure

Payment for GAPTC course for new clerk (£35), WC travel expenses (£27), maintenance estimate for the noticeboard (£20-30), flowers for Janice Brailey (£25) were agreed en bloc. Proposed RS, seconded MM.

7. Election of Councillor

It was agreed that Cllr SP draft a short newsletter to express sincere thanks to Cllr J. Brailey, who had sadly died in January, for his years of service to SKPC. The vacancy for a new councillor would be publicised. It was also agreed to take this opportunity to publicise WC as the new parish clerk and thank Muriel Watkins following her retirement at the end of December.

WC to contact electoral services on organising a future parish councillor election in line with the GCC elections (May 4th 2017).

8. Questions/comments

WC asked to contact Rob Garnham (Planning Consultant for Cotswold Community) to ascertain what is happening with the live planning applications for Cotswold Community.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Next monthly meeting date of the Parish Council: Monday 6th March 2017 at 7.30 pm, Village Hall.