

Minutes of the meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council (SKPC), 17th July 2017

Present: Cllr K. Mogridge (KM, Chair), Cllr M. McKeown (MM), Cllr. R. Munroe (RM), Cllr S. Powell (SP), Cllr. M Rigby (MR), Cllr R. Sleeman (RS), Cllr T. Berry (TB, Cotswold District Council, CDC), W. Cartwright (WC, Clerk), Annie Horn (Planning Solutions Ltd, PSL) and 8 members of the public.

Before the start of the meeting, Cllr KM wished to acknowledge the sad news of Pete Pendlebury (Waterland) who had recently passed away, and the grateful recognition of the support that he had given the Parish Council over the years.

1. Apologies: Cllr S. Parsons (Cllr SPa), Mike Stickland (PSL), Alan Steeves-Booker

2. Declaration of interest: Cllr MM on Lower Mill Estate (LME)

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2017 were approved and signed. Proposed MM, seconded SP.

4. Presentation by PSL

Annie Horn (AH, PSL) gave a detailed overview of how PSL, who are now managing Keynes Country Park (KCP) on behalf on the CWPT, are improving facilities currently and future plans. The park was re-opened at the end of May, and a number of additional facilities such as Aquaventure, new boating and play area equipment, additional toilets and catering have been incorporated, with future landscaping being considered. The issue of the park reaching capacity, traffic and overspill dangerous car parking around the local area was discussed in detail and what measures can be taken to solve this problem in the hot weather, as there had been two weekends which had resulted in major disruption to local roads. AH discussed the imminent access to an additional car parking site, variety of solutions such as improved signage, communications to the Gateway Centre when the park is full, a new website to enable booking to the site and publicise when full, streamlined charging on entry. Cllr TB (CDC) suggested that contact with the Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) car parking supervising attendant for advice may also be helpful. It was suggested that a meeting with local parish councils (and possibly GCC) be scheduled for October following a summer season, to discuss any lessons learnt and best ways forward for alleviating any future traffic issues. The public right of way footpaths was also discussed and AH reassured the Parish Council that there was no intention to change their status, but did indicate the problems of safety when the park is full, as some visitors park nearby and use the paths to walk in to use the facilities (as opposed to walking) which puts an extra strain on health and safety. It was recognised this is a difficulty in hot weather, and would be discussed again at the October meeting once PSL had more experience of a summer season and ideas forward. Cllr KM thanked AH for attending the meeting and her keen desire for PSL to work with the local community.

5. Clerk's report

5.1 Village lake

WC (Clerk) had managed to contact Tom Maddox (TM, Green Attitude) who had subsequently met with Cllr MR, Lisa Willis and John Whitwell at the village lake and discussed maintenance work as well as securing the benches. TM had quoted for the work, and was scheduled to conduct the work on 20th July if Councillors gave approval which was agreed. It was also agreed that Cllr MR (SKPC representative) set up the first meeting of the

independent Management Committee (four parishioner volunteers) and present the terms of reference which had been previously agreed. Proposed SP, Seconded RM.

5.2 LME cycleway: Cllr TB (CDC) indicated that there is to be a meeting with Sophia Price (CDC) and LME on the current planning application. It was agreed that WC (clerk) maintain awareness of progress.

5.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): Nothing further to report, progress to be updated at next meeting.

5.4 CDC Local Plan: Nothing further to report.

5.5 Flooding: Nothing further to report.

5.6 Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Highways: Cllr KM had written to Cllr SPa (GCC) regarding potholes and received a response from Highways on the current approach for the county. WC (clerk) confirmed that some more of the reported broken highway signs had been replaced. Cllr KM to seek parishioners' views in the next Parish newsletter on the need for double yellow lines on Water Lane, or at least to extend to include the blind bend.

5.7 Cotswold Water Park Trust (CWPT): PSL presentation (see section 4). Cllr KM also indicated that there were a number of staff changes at the CWPT with a number of personnel leaving, and that Sir David John would now be responsible for the day to day management supported by Ben Welbourn (BW).

5.8 Parish Field: See note below on closed meeting.

5.9 Neighbridge: Cllr KM had written to the CWPT as to not only car parking issues but also the need for increased emptying of litter and dog bins. BW (CWPT) had responded in detail to the concerns although, due to lack of resources, indicated that immediate adequate solutions were not readily available.

5.10 Broadband installation: Nothing further to report. Cllr KM to include the issue in the next Parish newsletter as to ascertain parishioners' desire to upgrade.

5.11 GCC Minerals Local Plan: Nothing further to report.

5.12 Road speed limits: Cllr RS had contacted and Cllr Spa (GCC) try to arrange a meeting with Wiltshire and GCC Highways to discuss the on-going issue of making the whole length of the Spine Road adhere to a cohesive speed limits.

5.13 Transparency code: Nothing further to report, WC (clerk) to apply for funding for a laptop computer and software which may be on offer under the transparency code.

5.14 Second defibrillator: Nothing further to report. Cllr KM to ask for parishioners' views in the next newsletter on the wish for a second defibrillator in the telephone box, and at the same time request for volunteers to put themselves forward to conduct the required weekly maintenance checks.

5.15 Cotswold Community site: Nothing further to report.

5.16 Village entry signs: WC (clerk) had contacted GCC Highways and the SKPC must decide on the type of desired village signs, and Highways would then continue to process in establishing full costs. The decision as to the type of sign was deferred to the next meeting.

5.17 Village noticeboard: Maintenance work to be organised by WC (clerk) which is hoped to be scheduled for late July.

5.18 Councillor vacancy: No expressions of interest had been received and it was therefore agreed that a letter be attached to the next parish newsletter requesting volunteers, whilst continuing to approach parishioners on the

subject. In addition, the newsletter should make it clear that further Councillors are likely to be needed at future elections in 2 years.

6. Planning applications

6.1 16/0110/CWMAJW (Sandpools Farm, inert recycling plant)/17/0001/NONDET: Nothing further to report, other than wait to be asked to be further consulted following the appeal for non-determination.

6.2 16/0099/COMPU Cullimore Drainage scheme; Compliance with condition 33

Nothing further to report. Cllr KM had written to JB (GCC) to ask for reassurances that should additional water enter the County ditch, that remedial action to protect Somerford Keynes from flooding be funded.

6.3 17/02050/FUL, 17/02464/FUL, 17/02595/FUL (variation of temporary home clause): No objections

6.4 17/02434/FUL (LME application for 2 units to 1, erection of boatstore, swimming pool): Cllr MM to report to Councillors on location of plot to inform the decision.

7. Financial Matters

7.1 Expenditure: Green Attitude (maintenance/improvement work of Village Lake): £438, Internal auditor gift/card for Jo Pendlebury: £27.50; Printer cartridges/Stamps: £31.80. Agreed *en bloc*. Proposed SP, seconded MR.

There being no other business or questions, the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

A closed meeting was held to discuss and approve the decision of the [Lease of the] Parish Field.

Next monthly meeting date of the Parish Council: Monday 4th September 2017 at 7.30 pm, Village Hall.