

## **Minutes of the meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council (SKPC), 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

Present: Cllr Karen Mogridge (KM, Chair), Cllr M. McKeown (MM), Cllr S.Powell (SP), Cllr R. Sleeman (RS), Cllr T. Berry (TB, Cotswold District Council, CDC), W. Cartwright (WC, Clerk), Graeme Hardie (113 Events) and 7 members of the public.

**1. Apologies:** Cllr R. Munroe (RM), Cllr M. Rigby (MR), Alan Steeves-Booker

### **2. Apology by 113 Events:**

Graeme Hardie (GH, 113 Events) attended the meeting to give a formal and profuse apology for the extensive and, in some instances, dangerous car parking which had occurred around the village on the previous day during its triathlon (Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June). He gave background to the organisation, the two annual races involving the Somerford Keynes route, its past and exemplary health and safety record, and the steps to be taken to ensure this will not happen again. He explained the difficulties in accessing adequate car parking from Planning Solutions Limited (PSL) and the Keynes Country Park (KCP) due its lack of capacity on that day. His apology was accepted and the discussion concentrated on communication to the village and taking steps with PSL (additional parking sites) to ensure no repeat will arise in the future. It was also agreed that GH (113 Events) contact WC (Clerk) in good time with explanatory details of events and route maps. This information will be e-mailed, placed on the website and included in Parish newsletters. There was also discussion of coning the road the night, but it was considered that this perhaps only be needed on dangerous spots such as the blind bend on Water Lane. It was agreed that close working with PSL on accessing adequate parking and improved communication by 113 Events should be able to prevent disruption but also ensure that parishioners are kept fully aware of future events (next scheduled event August 13<sup>th</sup>).

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

**4. Minutes** of the meeting held on 8th May 2017 were approved and signed. Proposed MM, seconded RS.

### **5. Clerk's report**

#### **5.1 Village lake**

Cllr KM had contacted Tom Maddox (TM, Green Attitude) on numerous occasions but not received any response from regarding future working arrangements/payment. As a result, it was suggested that WC (clerk) contact other local parish clerks to recommend alternative companies (three quotes) who would be able to clear the grass around the benches and picnic area, before handing over to an independent Management Committee (parishioner volunteers) which is to be arranged by Cllr KM and Cllr SP. Cllr MR had ascertained from GCC that the public right of way is on the definitive map.

**5.2 LME cycleway:** It was requested that Cllr TB check on progress of the current planning application.

**5.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):** Cllr SP updated the current progress on amending the draft NDP with external comments, which is now its final stage of amending any maps. It will then be circulated to SKPC.

**5.4 CDC Local Plan:** Cllr TB indicated he had read the last report; the next stage of the process is that it will go to a full Council meeting although he was unsure of exact timing.

**5.5 Flooding:** A number of issues were raised during the meeting as follows: Cllr MM reiterated his concern of flooding on the Spine Road between Mill Lane and Go by Cycle (already reported to GCC Highways) and Cllr RS restated his concern of flooding in the village by Dower Court/School Cottages (already reported to GCC Highways). Jenny Swaffer also referenced road flooding at the lower end of the village and WC (clerk) requested she give details of exact location (e-mail a photo if possible) to enable reporting to GCC Highways. Colin Mortimer indicated that the culverts by Go by Cycle had also just been jetted, and the broken sign removed at the end of Water Lane with a second new one being added.

**5.6 Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Highways:** It was agreed that Cllr KM write to Cllr S. Parsons (SPa, GCC) to put concerted pressure to repair potholes and undertake, as necessary, road surfacing in the local vicinity. It was felt this issue was not being adequately addressed in Somerford Keynes or the area as a whole (many other Councils/organisations have also raised concerns and it was considered this should be referenced in her letter). It was also agreed that Cllr KM would 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):** As part of a wider introduction meeting involving all the local councils, Cllrs SP, RS and MR had met PSL who were taking over the management of KCP. PSL gave a professional impression and at this stage, the public rights of way appear to be being kept on the current basis. WC (clerk) confirmed that Mike Stickland (PSL) had offered to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> July monthly PC meeting, although it was requested whether WC (clerk) investigate whether may this be better to be postponed due to the absence of some Councillors due to holidays.

**5.8 Parish Field:** Advertising is now closed; the date for consideration for proposals received has been scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> June.

**5.9 Neighbridge Parking:** There was a discussion of the increased use of Neighbridge and its impact on noise (loud music playing), swimming in the lake, cycling round the path (although there is no signage to indicate whether this use is allowed), increased litter and use of dog bins, car parking on verges and on occasion overspill of picnics into an adjoining field. It was agreed that Cllr KM alert the CWPT as to some of these issues, in particular, the need for increased emptying of litter and dog bins.

**5.10 Broadband installation:** As there was a general dissatisfaction on the state of the verges following Gigaclear work for a number of parishes, Cllr TB would write a letter of complaint and to include SKPC dissatisfaction on the area around Chestnut Junction and Mill Lane. Cllr KM to include again in the next Parish newsletter as to ascertain parishioners' desire to upgrade.

**5.11 GCC Minerals Local Plan:** No action to report.

**5.12 Road speed limits:** Following the conclusion of the general election, Cllr RS and Cllr Shaun Parsons (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:** WC to apply to the transparency fund for a laptop (and software) for the clerk, associated running costs with the website (deadline for applications mid-monthly).

**5.14 Second defibrillator:** 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:** See planning applications.

**5.16 Village entry signs:** WC has contacted GCC Highways for advice on the procedure/action/cost of upgrading the entrance to the village signs, and is awaiting response. WC showed a brochure of examples of gateway signs following contact to Glasdon (cost range £300-1500 depending on design). GCC Highways would need to install and would be able to give details on the exact process.

**5.17 Village noticeboard:** Maintenance work to be organised by WC and scheduled for late June/July.

## **6. Planning applications**

**6.1 16/0110/CWMAJW (Sandpools Farm, inert recycling plant):** Cllr KM had written a letter of objection on behalf of SKPC on the basis of negative impacts on noise, dust, SSSI sites, leisure activities. This had been copied to Poole Keynes Parish Council who were extremely grateful for SKPC support. It was requested that WC (clerk) contact and forward the information to Oaksey Parish Council.

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

It was agreed that there should be increased pressure for the new culvert to now be installed given the previous approval. A letter of dissatisfaction had been sent to Cllr SPa (GCC) from WC on behalf of SKPC on the way the planning process was conducted and inadequate communication responses to concerns raised. Given it appeared that plans had been approved, a subsequent letter from Jason Betty (JB, GCC Planning Officer) requesting comments by 14<sup>th</sup> June had been surprising. It was agreed that Cllr KM write 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 17/01917/NEI (New information for 16/027765/WCM Cotswold Community Site):** Following a discussion, it was considered there was nothing new of significance and therefore no objections.

**6.4 17/01891/FUL (LME application for 5 cabins, 4 containers):** Cllr RS raised some concerns of potential traffic issues, but following discussion, it was agreed to not object.

## **7. Financial Matters**

**7.1 Expenditure:** Payment for clerk's salary: £318.90; expenses to Cllr SP for previous clerk's gift: £28 expenses to Cllr MR for advert for standard for Parish Field: £36. Agreed *en bloc*. Proposed MM, seconded RS.

There being no other business or questions, the meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

A discussion was held on slightly increasing the clerk's current number of working hours in a closed meeting.

**Next monthly meeting date of the Parish Council:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 at 7.30 pm, Village Hall.