

Minutes of the meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council (SKPC), 5th March 2018

Present: Cllr M. McKeown (MM), Cllr K. Mogridge (KM), Cllr S. Powell (SP), Cllr R. Sleeman (RS), Cllr J. Whitwell (JW)

In the absence of the Clerk, by agreement SP chaired the meeting and KM took minutes

1. Apologies: Cllr R Munroe (RM), Cllr M Rigby (MR)

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

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2018 were approved and signed. Proposed RS, seconded MM.

4. Clerk's report

4.1 Cotswold Water Park Trust (CWPT): RS had chased Nigel Riglar of GCC regarding the Public Right of Way application for Keynes Country Park but had only received a delaying response. Action: Cllr KM to write to other Parish Councils (South Cerney, Minety, Poole Keynes, Ashton Keynes, Kemble) to inform of the current situation and request that they write to GCC in support.

4.2 Village lake: A Volunteers' Day on 3rd March had been cancelled due to heavy snow and rescheduled for 17th March. RS suggested that for this event, rather than hiring a strimmer, the Management Committee should borrow the Church's two strimmers and a donation of £20 made to the Parochial Church Council. A tree condition survey had been completed and was being considered by the Management Committee. The expenditure of £300 previously allocated for grass cutting had not been made due to the weather and it was agreed that this should be carried forward into the 2018-19 financial year, prop SP sec RS. Action: KM to suggest to Management Committee that the Church's strimmers could be used.

4.3 LME cycleway: Nothing further to report. Action: Clerk to follow up during March.

4.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): A meeting of the NDP group had been held during February, during which a revised draft of the NDP had been discussed. Action: SP to circulate the revised draft, incorporating the discussed changes, by Easter for discussion at the next PC meeting. All Councillors to read it before meeting.

4.5 CDC Local Plan: This is now out for consultation. It was not considered necessary for the PC to make any comments.

4.6 Flooding: There are currently no concerns despite the recent bad weather.

4.7 Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Highways: There was still a great deal of surface water on roads, especially following a bout of very cold snowy weather at the end of February/beginning of March, but the worst had already been reported to GCC Highways. RS noted that two coping stones appear to have been deliberately knocked off the Thames bridge on the Spine Road. Action: Clerk to report this to Highways.

The footpath next to Kennel Bungalow is still in a muddy and difficult state. It was suggested that a meeting between the landowner, Mike Barton of GCC Highways and the PC should be set up to see if anything can be done. Action: Clerk to try to set up the meeting.

4.8 Parish Field: Action: Clerk to set up her diary to raise the issue of the Parish Field every three months, so that a line of communication is kept up between the PC and the tenant.

4.9 Neighbridge: Nothing further to report. Action: All to continue to monitor the situation.

4.10 Broadband installation: JW had attended an interesting meeting in Kemble Village Hall set up by wireless broadband provider Voneus. Action: KM to include information in next Parish Newsletter.

4.11 GCC Minerals Local Plan: Nothing further to report.

4.12 Road speed limits: Nothing further to report. Action: County Councillor S Parsons to keep SKPC aware of progress.

4.13 Transparency code: MM suggested a suitable laptop computer and software option for the Clerk to purchase using the £550 grant previously received. The expenditure of up to £575 on this was agreed unanimously. Prop MM sec RS. Actions: MM to communicate details to Clerk; Clerk to implement.

4.14 Second defibrillator: KM had applied for a grant towards this, but nothing had yet been heard. Kevin Dickins of the SW Ambulance Service had recommended a supplier and installer, and BT recommend a different supplier. Action: Cllr KM to investigate these options.

4.15 Cotswold Community site: JW had been in contact with the developers, who believe a decision by Wiltshire Council is now not far off.

4.16 Village noticeboard: Work on this had been delayed by the weather. It was agreed to authorise a payment of up to £100 if the Clerk can get this done in the current financial year. Action: WC (clerk) to organise preferably before end of March.

4.17 Data Protection regulations: KM and the Clerk had booked to attend a GAPTC course on this for 26th April at a cost of £40 per person (Clerk's attendance to be covered by her training budget for 2018-19). The expenditure was agreed prop RS sec JW.

6. Planning matters: 18/00367/FUL (LME Gym); 17/05194/FUL (Land parcel end of Mill Lane). No objections. JW asked whether it would be possible for the PC to visit LME to get some idea of its current layout, which will help when considering planning applications. Action: MM to organise this.

7. Financial Matters:

Salary owing to Clerk prop RS sec SP:

£192.78 It was unanimously agreed that rather than clawing back the time £192.78 owing to the Clerk from 2017 should be paid in the current financial year.

£8.32 Underpaid following April 2017 salary rise

£481.95 Clerk's salary for Quarter 1 2018

The following were agreed en bloc prop RS sec SP:

£35.00 GAPTC for Clerk's course

£58.91 Clerk for attendance on course

£27.00 Clerk's travel expenses for course.

£135.59 GAPTC subscription

£8.00 Clerk for Village Hall heating, PC meetings

£15.00 ASHTAV subscription

£65.98 Clerk for inks/stationery

£219.91 Certhia Consulting Ltd (for tree inspection, Village Lake)

£20 Donation to PCC (for borrowing strimmers, Village Lake)

8. Questions/AOB: None

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Next monthly meeting date of the Parish Council: Monday 9th April 2018 at 7.30 pm, Village Hall.