

Minutes of the meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council (SKPC), 4th June 2018

Present: Cllr K. Mogridge (KM), Cllr R Munroe (RM), Cllr. M. McKeown (MM) Cllr S. Powell (SP), Cllr M Rigby (MR), Cllr R. Sleeman (RS), Cllr T. Berry (TB), Cotswold District Council (CDC), W. Cartwright (WC, clerk) and 4 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Cllr J. Whitwell (JW), Cllr S. Parsons (SPa) (Gloucestershire County Council, GCC)

2. Declaration of interest: None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2018 were approved and signed. Proposed RM, seconded RS.

4. Presentation by Police Community Support Officer: Adrien Kapronczai introduced herself and discussed the community alert system (which parishioners can sign up to obtain local police information). On listening to the local car parking issues, she indicated that the police can be called for a car obstruction (i.e. inability to get past) which is not on yellow lines if blocking a pavement, blocking the exit of a drive, blocking a road in which case the police can issue a ticket (£30 fine). RS also highlighted the blocking of the Thames trail which is a public footpath. A parishioner also raised the recent issue of an unknown car veering off the road and damaging hedges, and it was recommended that all incidents should be reported to the police even where unlikely to identify the culprits since this help them to spot a pattern of incidents.

5. Clerk's report

5.1 Keynes Country Park (KCP):

Footpaths: RS, RM and MR had met Nigel Riglar (NR, GCC) who all agreed had been a helpful and positive meeting. RS gave an overview of the current situation in that the active PRoW application would still need to be formally considered by the GCC Committee (postponed from June until 5th October) even though it would be rejected on the basis of the 2014 Neuberger case. The Cotswold Water Park Trust (CWPT)/Planning Solutions Limited (PSL) had withdrawn any support for a PRoW, had employed a barrister and were currently in no direct dialogue with GCC. GCC were hoping that negotiations would resume and that a compromise agreement could be made based on the original offer made by SKPC of access to the public footpaths with up to a 10-day closure for hot days where the park at capacity. GCC also indicated it could invoke the Localism Act in which case it could designate footpaths on this basis, and it was agreed that it would be helpful if local parishes showed their continued support in order instigate this. Action: KM to respond to the consultation letter from GCC and to write a letter to all local parishes to give an overview of the history/current situation and request them to also respond. RS to respond to NR (GCC) correspondence.

Car parking/traffic queuing: WC had been in contact with a number of GCC colleagues (Highways, Parking) for advice and who had indicated that on the first bank holiday May weekend which had resulted in much disruption, many cars parked on double yellow lines in the vicinity had been ticketed. GCC could also confirm APCOA are sent to the location at times considered to be "high risk". However, removal of the cars is not possible, but it is hoped that ticketing will act as a future deterrent. It is also possible to leave comments on the website Parking@gloucestershire.gov.uk which is monitored to help identify any patterns. WC also made GCC aware of the triathlon due to take place on the 10th June. In terms of Neighbridge, as there are no parking restrictions, GCC cannot offer any enforcement on verges. However, it was recommended the future cycleway be legally designated, which would then provide powers for enforcement. SP also wished to raise this issue of queuing being also problematic and the need to manage car re-direction at such times.

5.2 Village lake: Councillors considered the S106 grant application which had been submitted by the Village Lake Management Committee and were highly supportive, raising only two comments: the 5% contingency fund should be removed and questioning any VAT charged on voluntary work. Subject to these issues being addressed and confirmed to the Chair, it was agreed that approval be given for the application be submitted. Proposed: MM. Seconded RM.

5.3 LME cycleway: WC had contacted Mike Viney (MV, Lower Mill Estate, LME) whom had indicated that the planning application was now with GCC. Action: WC to maintain on-going contact with MV.

5.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): RM had now provided photos to SP on the inclusion of a key vista site at Shorcote church. Nothing further to report.

5.5 CDC Local Plan: Nothing further to report, although TB indicated that finalisation should be next month.

5.6 Flooding: Nothing further to report.

5.7 GCC Highways: WC had contacted GCC regarding double yellow lines on Water Lane which had been put on their schedule of works to be completed. Richard Gray (RG, Highways) had circulated an e-mail on Spine Road flooding and had requested for capital funds to be earmarked for future work to address the problem. Action: KM to include in the next newsletter as suggested by RM. Action: WC to report to Highways the following: Drain

overflowing again opposite the Baker's Arms, flooding at left hand corner of Spratsgate Lane/Spine Road junction, poor recent repair at Mill lane/The Street junction.

RS had re-contacted Mike Barton (MB, GCC Footpaths) on the progress on footpath issues and MB (GCC) indicated he was in the process of getting quotes for required the work. Action: RS/WC to maintain contact.

5.8 Parish Field: Next meeting with the tenant is scheduled for June 11th.

5.9 Neighbourhood: The on-going issues of car parking (see section 5.1) and litter was raised including any further parishioner comments which had been received/or from the floor. Actions: KM to re-write to the CWPT regarding litter/anti-social behaviour. All to continue to monitor the situation and provide photos if possible.

5.10 Broadband installation: Nothing further to report.

5.11 GCC Minerals Local Plan: Nothing further to report and no comments on recent GCC consultation.

5.12 Road speed limits: Nothing further to report. Action: SPa (GCC) to keep SKPC aware of situation in view of any new planning applications which might increase any progress. KM to write to Wiltshire County Council (WCC) with concerns about Spine Road (by Somerford Keynes, Keynes Country Park), request for action and updates.

5.13 Second defibrillator: Nothing further to report. WC had requested for a quote from a contact who renovated phone boxes. Action: WC to chase and keep SKPC aware of developments.

5.14 Cotswold Community site: Nothing further to report.

5.15 General Data Protection Regulations: KM was near completion of drafting a SKPC policy based on the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) toolkit and would circulate to Councillors for comment with the aim of approval at the July meeting, as well as identifying any required actions. In the meantime, WC had sought for individual's consent to hold e-mail addresses for the general distribution list, and the majority had replied wishing to continue receiving information this way. MM also had met KM/WC to give computer training on best ways to manage our data in terms of security, access by Councillors and use of Microsoft Office 365. Action: KM to write a privacy policy, action Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) registration and circulate protocol to SKPC before next meeting.

5.16 Standing orders: WC had circulated recently revised guidelines issued by NALC and requested for comments on whether ours current standing orders are in line with the revised guidelines. Action: Councillors to provide any written comments to KM prior to the July meeting.

5.17 Trees/hedges/verges: Our tree warden had brought to the attention trees/hedges near Water Lane/The Street junction that are in need of attention (e.g. ivy growing, height). This land is owned by Highways, which is responsible for the trees, although in the past the Parish Council (and volunteers) had been involved in maintaining the hedges. Action: It was agreed that WC would contact Highways to request reducing the height of trees.

5.18 Other matters: Action (on-going): WC to communicate with the Church on village commemorations of "Battles Over". Action (on-going): JW to explore whether the Baker's Arms could be designated as a community asset, especially in view of its possible sale.

6. Planning matters: 18/0717/OUT (Holiday lodges, Cerney Wick): No objections.

7. Financial Matters:

7.1 Expenditure: Clerk's salary: £492.75; Stamps £5.03, Councillor petrol expenses (GCC meeting) £22.50
Proposed MM, Seconded RM *en bloc*.

8. Questions/AOB: It was also requested that parishioners be reminded of their hedges if overhanging paths, and a specific request was raised about trimming the hedge near the postbox. One parishioner from the floor reported that she had seen local verges being recently cut by Highways.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Next monthly meeting date of the Parish Council: Monday 2nd July 2018 at 7.30 pm, Village Hall.