

## Minutes of the meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council (SKPC), 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

Present: Cllr R. Sleeman (RS, Chairman), Cllr R. Elsey (RE), Cllr. M. Keegan (MK), Cllr M. Rigby (MR), Cllr A. Stradling (AS), Cllr G. Valentine (GV), Cllr J. Whitwell (JW), Cllr T. Berry (TB, Cotswold District Council (CDC) (late arrival), W. Cartwright (WC, clerk) and 8 members of the public.

**1. Apologies:** None.

**2. Declaration of interest:** GV and Lower Mill Estate (LME).

**3. Minutes** of the meeting held on July 1<sup>st</sup> were approved and signed. Proposed MR, seconded JW.

### **4. Clerk's report**

**4.1 Keynes Country Park (KCP):** Nothing further to report other than the recent drowning accident which was currently under investigation.

**4.2 Village lake:** RS congratulated the Village Lake Management Committee (VLMC) on its success in winning the £5000 bid from the Calor Gas Rural Fund. JW indicated that a successful volunteer morning had occurred on August 31<sup>st</sup>, and a site identified for a shed in order to house the increasing number of tools which had been donated. The next volunteer morning was scheduled for Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September which would also include a BBQ. Mike Wilding was putting together quotes/timescales for the work funded by Calor Gas Rural Fund, and the work undertaken by Wildwood Ecology had been paid and the grant contribution received by CDC. Action: WC to maintain links with VLMC and awareness of progress of village lake projects.

**4.3 LME cycleway:** Nothing further to report.

**4.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):** Ron Munroe (RM) gave an update on the current situation with the NDP and had provided SKPC with three documents (basic conditions statement, responses to Spring 2019 consultation and a draft consultation statement) for consideration/approval before the submission of the final plan which would be presented at the next PC meeting, before submission to the Inspector. A meeting was to be held with Will Vicary (LME) on 6<sup>th</sup> September regarding the issue of the LME boundary which had proved more difficult than expected. Action: RM/SP to report on outcome of meeting and to continue to provide timely updates to SKPC.

**4.5 Flooding:** Nothing further to report.

### **4.6 GCC Highways:**

Village gateways signs: A meeting had occurred between AS/MR/GV and Richard Gray (RG, Highways) in July and three entry points to the village had been identified where one gate/site could be located. AS presented the design and cost of £3500 (CDC would pay 50% meaning a contribution of £1750 from SKPC). It was agreed that SKPC would consider at the next meeting once the current boundary issues were addressed. Action: SKPC to reconsider at next PC meeting.

Erosion of double yellow lines – RG (Highways) viewed those missing in Water Lane and indicated he would get this issue addressed. Action: WC to maintain awareness.

Potholes – RG (Highways) had viewed all potholes in Water Lane and noted. MK indicated that the potholes in Shorcote had been rectified. Action: WC to maintain awareness.

Spine Road flooding – The Spine Road has been resurfaced and MR had met with RG (Highways) and a contractor to discuss the remedial action for flooding by the cyclepath and how the water could be re-directed into ditches. Action: MR to contact RG for outcome of discussions.

Footpaths: The Kennel Bungalow footpath work had been completed and all considered was a vast improvement. A further meeting between RS, Mike Barton (GCC) and landowners was scheduled later in September regarding replacing some stiles with kissing gates. The meeting could also be used to discuss any other identified issues, namely the FP18 footpath (fallen fingerpost and overgrown vegetation) and that the Shorcote reedbed was also overgrown. Action: RS to discuss with MB regarding all on-going footpath issues and provide updates.

**4.7 Parish Field:** There had been questions raised from the Cotswold Water Park Trust (CWPT) regarding the use of the parish field for car parking and further information would be sought. The next meeting was scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> November. Action: MR, RE to seek further information and provide update.

**4.8 Neighbridge:** Nothing further to report other than it was thought that some of the reed bed planting had been damaged due to swimming in the lake around that area. Action: All to continue to monitor where possible and report any issues to CWPT as necessary.

**4.9 Road speed limits:** A note had been circulated by Des Sheen on re-instigating Speedwatch in the village and some volunteers would be required. Tony Berry indicated he had funds available for buying equipment which he would be happy to release to SKPC. Action: RS to raise issue and ask for volunteers in autumn newsletter. TB to contact WC and summarise the funding for the necessary equipment.

**4.10 Second defibrillator:** Progress with renovating the telephone box had been slow over August due to the holiday period, but it was hoped work would be resumed in September, with further volunteers needed - a parishioner indicated her husband was interested Action: WC to liaise with Karen Mogridge on how/when volunteers could help.

**4.11 Cotswold Community site:** Nothing further to report.

**4.12 Trees/hedges/verges:** The trees causing the bowing of the stone wall by Lake House had been removed and the Water Lane hedge maintenance was raised. Action: WC to contact Highways to ascertain when last conducted.

**4.13 Training courses:** All new Councillors had been booked on “Being a Better Councillor” courses and would be trained by the end of the autumn.

**4.14 Other matters:**

Dog control: Nothing further to report other than the police had visited the dog owners, and that no further problems had been reported.

First Aid Training: It was agreed to defer any further training sessions until the until next defibrillator had been installed. Action: WC to inform GCC.

Village hall meeting: JW had attended and provided an update to SKPC on the frequency of cleaning, renewal of first aid equipment and his suggestion of the purchase of a table tennis table for the benefit of the community.

GCC Minerals local plan consultation: No comments (due 11/9/2019)

CDC Response to LME change of occupancy conditions: Awaiting response. Action: WC to recontact CDC.

Newsletter: RS would write an autumn newsletter and would be requesting for Councillors to help with delivery in Somerford Keynes, surrounding areas and LME (the latter by e-mail).

**6. Planning matters:**

18/04988/FUL (Oak and Furrow/sculpture trail): TB gave an update that CDC wanted to approve the application, but that the applicants needed to firstly place a notice in their site to offer their residence up for sale to Oak and Furrow employees. This was yet to happen. Action: TB to keep SKPC aware of developments.

19/02233/FUL (Old stable block to become 4 dwellings, Manor Farm Shorncote): New plans had been submitted regarding entrance and concerned raised by Highways and were now being reconsidered.

19/02114/LBC; 19/0213/LBC - Yew Tree Farm driveway. An objection letter had been submitted from SKPC as had a number from individual parishioners regarding the new entrance hazardous nature. However, Highways had not supported the view that the new entrance would be present any danger. MR/AS had visited the owners who indicated that there would not be room for a turning circle and therefore reversing onto the road would be necessary, and that the owners were unaware of the previous 2010 report. TB noted the strong objection from SKPC and other parishioners. Action: TB to try to organise a site meeting with Planning Officers.

19/02422/FUL; 19/02583/FUL - Additions of Jetties, LME: No objection

19/02699/FUL - LME air conditioning unit: No objection

19/02390/FUL; 19/02391/FUL; 19/02392/FUL; 19/02393/FUL; 19/02394/FUL; 19/02395/FUL – LME occupancy: No objection

19/02705/DD - The Old Vicarage, garden work – no objection, work completed.

**7. Financial Matters:**

**7.1 Expenditure:** Clerk’s salary £673.20, GAPTC Being a better Councillor course attendance (JW) - £95, Printer ink £39, GCC Kennel Footpath contribution £750, ICO Fee (GDPR Regulations) £40. Agreed *en bloc*. Proposed JW, Seconded GV.

**7.2 Income:** Village lake: CDC reimbursement to SKPC - £660; Calor Gas Rural Fund - £5,000

**7.3 Signatories of Bank Account;** Change of signatories for the SKPC current bank account had been completed and NSI (savings account) would now be informed and paperwork completed.

**8. Questions/AOB:**

A parishioner requested that SKPC re-contact the Environment Agency regarding clearing the weeds from the Neighbridge waterbed. Action: WC to recontact Shaun Shackelford (EA).

A parishioner requested that the footpath at Shorncote reedbeds be cleared as very overgrown. Action: RS to raise with MB (GCC, Footpaths) at next meeting.

**Next monthly meeting date of the Parish Council:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30 pm, Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.