

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

Present: Cllr K. Mogridge (KM), Cllr R Munroe (RM), Cllr M. McKeown (MM), Cllr S. Powell (SP), Cllr R. Sleeman (RS), Cllr J. Whitwell (JW), Cllr T. Berry (TB, Cotswold District Council (CDC), W. Cartwright (WC, clerk) and 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Cllr S. Parsons (Gloucestershire County Council, GCC)

2. Declaration of interest: Cllr MR and 18/03698/TCONR, Cllr MM and LME

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th November were approved and signed. Proposed RM, seconded MM.

4. Clerk's report

4.1 Keynes Country Park (KCP):

Footpaths: KM had written a letter of thanks to GCC and local parishes for their support, and WC had also responded to Wiltshire County Council (WCC) with thanks. Signs around KCP publicising the dedicated footpath had been erected and there had been no appeal by the Cotswold Water Park Trust (CWPT). However, it does not include access within the car park meaning that the official footpath would require a section to be along the verge of Spratsgate Lane, and SKPC considered that a permissive path would be sensible given the hazards of walking along the road. Action: WC contact the CWPT and Planning Solutions Limited (PSL) in the New Year to invite to a future Parish Council meeting. WC to remind SPa (GCC) to check with Jaci Harris (GCC) how the notification of park closure would be operationally monitored. WC to respond to a parishioner who had expressed thanks to the SKPC for all their hard efforts in securing public access to KCP.

4.2 Village lake: There is a Management Committee meeting scheduled for the end November. Quotes were currently being sought from 3 companies for undertaking the revised environmental management plan. Mike Wilding (MW) is currently roping out the triangular area for land to obtain a fencing quote. Action: MW should get a quote for fencing the area and report back on quotes for environmental plan. The Management Committee had requested that letters/e-mails of support for the environmental plan from parishioners be forwarded to the Clerk as this would aid funding. Action: KM to include request in next newsletter, WC to send out request in general distribution e-mail.

4.3 Lower Mill Estate (LME) cycleway: WC had re-contacted Mike Viney (MV, LME) with nothing further to report. Action: WC to maintain contact with LME and keep SKPC of any developments.

4.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP): A lengthy response (6-7 pages) had been received from Cotswold District Council (CDC) which RM/SP are addressing for a future informal meeting with CDC to ensure they are satisfied with reference to any new regulations/the adopted CDC local plan before submitting pre-submission consultation. After the informal CDC meeting, the Council NDP working party will then have a follow-up meeting. Action: RM/SP to inform of any developments.

4.5 Flooding: Shaun Shackelford (Environment Agency) had contacted WC and offered to walk the riverbed at Neighbridge with interested parties - it was agreed that KM, RS, Michael Harris and Margaret Timbrell be involved. Action: WC to request three dates and arrange a suitable meeting date. Action: KM to write to Mr Holland Martin regarding clearing the ditch in Spratsgate Lane following a parishioner's concern.

4.6 GCC Highways: *Public footpaths:* WC had contacted Mike Barton for a follow-up meeting on a variety of footpath issues who had responded with three possible dates which is also to involve RS. Action: WC to confirm the most suitable date.

Spine Road flooding: MM had provided excellent photos of flooding which WC had been sent to Gillian Portlock/Richard Gray (GCC Highways) and was awaiting a response. Action: WC to chase Highways.

4.7 Parish Field: WC had raised an invoice for the annual rent which had been promptly paid. It was agreed that having received the VAT back, that £94 be reimbursed to Waterland to reflect their overpayment of solicitor fees. Proposed MR, Seconded RS. Nothing further to report other than the next meeting scheduled for 19th November, and that Councillors to communicate any issues they wish to be raised. It was agreed that a Public Right of Way (PROW) should be sought for the short path at the end of the Parish Field. Action: RS to contact Jaci Harris (GCC).

4.7 Neighbridge: RM had suggested that a notice be placed up on the current sign on entering the park that draws attention to the modest charge, which RS had raised at the recent CWPT AGM. WC had also written to the CWPT regarding this suggestion and asked for copies of leaflets that the CWPT/security company are placing on cars when parked on verges and is currently awaiting response. Action: WC to chase response.

4.10 GCC Minerals Local Plan: Nothing further to report.

4.11 Road speed limits: KM had drafted a letter Wiltshire County Council (WCC) with concerns about Spine Road (by Somerford Keynes, Keynes Country Park), and Councillors comments had been incorporated. Action: KM to send final letter.

4.12 Second defibrillator: A number of volunteer mornings had taken place and progress was being made. It was agreed that all volunteers should be thanked. KM had also been in contact with the Community Heartbeat regarding

defibrillator costs as well as a new training session, although further contact was proving difficult. KM requested that an additional budget of up to £50 be allowed for additional scrapers/blades. Proposed: JW, Seconded SP. The Village Hall Committee had agreed to contribute £500 towards the cost of the defibrillator and were thanked.

4.13 Cotswold Community site: Nothing further to report.

4.14 Trees/hedges/verges: Action: KM to write to Lake House regarding bowing stone wall alongside the pavement and request for action in terms of maintaining safety.

4.15 Other matters:

“Battles over”: An evening event had been organised by KM on behalf of the Parish Council will include food (pulled pork, mulled wine) and the lighting of the beacon in line with national commemorations. The number attending was around 40 currently. MM offered the use of a Bluetooth speaker for the last post. The event is kindly being funded by the Parish Council (£100), Village Hall Committee (£100) and CDC (£185).

The Village Hall Management Committee had voted and agreed to place the commemoration poppy plaque in the village hall.

Baker’s Arm Community Asset (on-going): JW had completed the form to designate the Baker’s Arms as a community asset, incorporating Councillor comments with only a couple of further minor additions from RM to be included. The Council thanked JW for his hard work and considered that the form should be sent as soon as possible in view of the current situation with the sale of the pub. Action: JW to complete form and WC nominated to send.

Village signs (on-going): Councillors to view recent Siddington village signs and reconsider at next meeting.

BT Overhead cables: A parishioner had indicated that some BT cables were being catch up in trees on Water Lane and it was also noted that the post looked as if it were leaning. Action: WC to contact BT.

Dog control: A number of complaints had been received regarding the aggressive behaviour of a dog within the village. TB (CDC) advised that the most appropriate action would be to pass onto the CDC dog control warden. Action: WC to pass on details and TB to contact dog warden.

6. Planning matters: 18/03450/FUL; 18/03698/TCONR; 18/03916/TCONR; No objections.

7. Financial Matters:

7.1 Expenditure: Village Lake strimmer servicing £53.45; Defibrillator pads £45.60; Rope for Village Lake £10.58; Waterland reimbursement of overpayment of solicitor fees £94. Agreed *en bloc*: Proposed RM, Seconded MM.

8. Questions/AOB

TB (CDC) indicated that a new planning proposal for the “The Orchard” had been submitted.

RS informed the Parish Council that the film “Spitfire” was being screened at the Village Hall on 26th November, run by the History Group.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Next monthly meeting date of the Parish Council: Monday 3rd December 2018 7.30 pm, Village Hall.