**Minutes of the Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council (SKPC) 7th March 2022**

Cllrs Present: Cllr J.Whitwell (JW), Cllr R.Elsy(RE), (MR) Cllr A. Stradling (AS),Cllr M.Keegan (MK),Cllr T.Berry(TB),

Held in the Village Hall in person.

1. **Apologies:** - Cllr L Spivey (LS), Cllr G Valentine (GV), Cllr M Rigby (MR) Kristy Josey – Clerk, (KJ)
2. **Present:** Oberon Rogers (OR) LME
3. **Declaration of interest:** None
4. **Minutes** of meeting held 7th February were approved. Proposed AS, seconded RE.
5. **Clerk’s report** 
   1. **Parish Field:** RE and MK have a meeting tomorrow with Jo Pendlebuiry and will report back.
   2. **Village Lake**: Mike Wilding has purchased a multi-tool hedge trimmer and works have been carried out felling trees.
   3. **GCC Highways/ footpaths:**
      1. **Village gateway signs:** LS has written an email explaining that she is chasing Highways regarding various delays and said that COVID was mostly to blame.

**5.4 Neigh Bridge:**

TB commented that 25% of dog bins were being removed throughout the Cotswolds as there was not enough funding to empty them regularly. Once they are removed, there is a charge for them to be re-instated.

1. **Other Matters**

6.1 Regarding the Water Lane Hedge, Oberon Rogers (OR) had offered staff to cut back and re-lay, he reported that some progress had been made and training had started last week. This is to be continued next week and they were hoping to use existing materials and the cost of the operation would be zero. KJ had informed Richard Gray (Highways) that this was taking place.

6.2 Roger Sleeman has now retired after 42 years on the PC creating a vacancy.

6.3 KJ has written to CDC to inform them of the vacancy but has had no response. CDC should have put up a notice saying there was a vacancy. TB to chase. TB also said that if more than one person put themselves forward to the PC then there would have to be an election.

6.4 There is not going to be a village fete this year, but possibly an open garden with no link to the Queens Jubilee celebrations. The Village Hall has been booked for Jubilee Day (Sunday) for the village and the question is whether anyone would like to step forward and organize something. Road closure permission would have to be sought from CDC. Applications must be received by 31st March. The village has a Beacon but no-one is sure of its whereabouts. Action – KJ to email villagers asking if anyone would like to volunteer.

6.5 Defibrillator costs – AS reported that the Village Hall Committee had said that they could not contribute to the costs of the Village Hall defibrillator because it sits outside of their charitable scope.

**7 Correspondence**

7.1 EV charging point- it was decided to delay the decision until the PC has more information.

7.2 Bakers Arms Tree Works – TB said that they should have had consent as SK is in a conservation are. The pub is owned by Cotswold Fresh Group. Action- KJ to contact CDC and inform them of possible planning breach.

**8.Planning applications**

**22/00444/FUL** - Extension to car park comprising 9 No. additional spaces; 1No.

additional multi EV charging point; revised and additional bunding, landscaping and

House Martin puddle at Car Park At E402037 N194057 Lower Mill Estate Somerford Keynes –

**Planning application no 22/00444/**FUL Extension to car park comprising 9 additional spaces etc.

OR explained that this was to be 7 additional car parking spaces and 2 charging points. They already had 2 charging points. Some homeowners had installed their own charging points and their total number to date is 14.

Planning applications to be submitted:-

There is to be an extension of the composting area with timber bays built and the compost recycled and re-used. There will be a new allotment area just for planting with no further buildings. This is for growing herbs and vegetables for the restaurant. The existing allotment area will have a chicken coop on it. The site of the old polytunnel application which was approved will be relocated. This is for 2 polytunnels. There is no intention to let out the space.

There is to be a large overflow car park applied for which will remain grass but have green underlay matting for mud prevention. This will be used as a Staff Car park or overflow car park in the High Season. It will provide an additional 54 spaces. JW commented that he thought that that field was supposed to remain a field to form a ‘buffer zone’ between the village and LME as directed in the original planning permission. AS suggested that we might put a time limit on the temporary car park, for example 3 years. TB suggested that villagers might be able to bring their compost in

**21/04036/FUL** - Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and removal of condition 4

(occupancy) of the change of permitted unit type on plot 50 of Minety Lake West and

removal of occupancy condition) re permission 11/03126/FUL at Minety Lake Lower Mill – no objection

**22/00578/FUL** - Full Application for Variation of conditions 2 (Approved plans) and 3 (Occupancy) of

permission 21/02705/FUL - The erection of 17 detached holiday units within Minety Lake

South West (also referred to as Barberry Lake); the erection of three detached holiday

units within Lakeshore Reserve West; amendments to the water's edge of Minety Lake

South West; ancillary buildings, provision for new landscaping and revised ecological

areas, visitor parking and vehicular access to change the permitted unit type and

occupancy restriction on plot 59 Minety Lake South West at 59 Minety Lake Lower Mill

Estate Somerford Keynes Cirencester Gloucestershire – no objection

**Update on Planning Application for houses next to Ashlands House**

Paula Eales has worked extremely hard on keeping track of this application. The pollution officer has no objection to the Air Source Heat Pumps which will be installed. The Environment Agency has commented that the Village Lake is an SSSI and if there was any other development land within the village they would object to this application. Their comments were made 13 months ago, but only appeared on the CDC website last week. They were not added as a new document but placed in the middle of 310 documents. Paula has asked CDC why Natural England have not been consulted on this application, when they should have been. They have now been consulted and confirm that they should have been. We are now waiting for a comment from their Bio-diversity Officer.

**Tall Trees planning application.**

AS asked TB what was happening on this application. No decision made yet.

Financial Matters

Clerks Salary £691.80, Stationary £21.13, Village Lake Tree works £450. The clerks salary will increase by 20p an hour backdated to 21st April 2021

On going matters

Double yellow lines on Spratsgate Lane

Thames Spillway

Footpath 18 redirection

Keynes Park Signage

Drainage on The Street between Church Lane and Bakers Arms

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

**Date of next meeting**: Monday 4th April 2022, 7.30 pm