

Minutes of Somerford Keynes Parish Council Meeting
Village Hall, 10th June 2024

Present: Cllr A. Clark (AC), Cllr M. Keegan (MK), Cllr J. Whitwell (JW), Cllr G. Valentine (GV), CDC Cllr M McKeown (MM),

Also present: Clerk K. Holdsworth (KH), Mike Wilding (MW Village Lake), Andrew Bonner, (Lower Mill Estate) and 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr M.H-Oldland (MHO), Cllr N. Hunt (NH), Cllr Hilary Collins (HC), CC Cllr L Spivey (LS),

2. Declaration of Interest

Graham Valentine, Cllr M McKeown

3. Public Session

A parishioner complained of noise from the Tap Room, explaining that on occasions it could be heard inside their house and not just in the garden. Two other parishioners have written to the Parish Council (PC) on this topic.

AC and MM met with Nick Hunt (representing Cotswold Lakes Brew Co, not in his PC role) on June 4th.

NH explained that he wanted the Tap Room to be part of the community and to enjoy a positive relationship with parishioners. He has looked at some noise control measures such as the direction of speakers and keeping the doors lowered as far as possible and measures the volume within the Tap Room grounds.

MM suggested putting in place a Noise Management Plan. This involves engaging a third party specialist to provide a report and recommendations on noise management measures and processes. NH is going to look into this.

NH took the feedback seriously. It was noted that there was less noise last weekend. The Tap Room's planned summer Festival on June 21/22nd has been cancelled though it will be open for normal business, the main night for live music being Fridays.

4. Approval of Minutes of 13th May 2024 Meeting

Proposed JW, seconded MK.

5. Report from Mike Wilding Village Lake

The Village Lake committee is finalising their request for various items under the Build Back Better Fund which have been approved in principle by Cllr Lisa Spivey.

The PC asked MW to consider whether there are any Village Lake projects for which CIL money could be used.

6. Report from County Cllr L. Spivey

There is no report from Cllr L Spivey this month.

7. Report from District Cllr M.McKeown

Due to the imminent General Election there is less CDC activity currently.

MM though has been working on resolving the matter of Tap Room noise and with the Village Hall Committee on their energy infrastructure investigations which include looking at possible grant funding opportunities.

8. Andrew Bonner, Estates Manager, Lower Mill Estate

Andrew Bonner is the new Estate Manager at LME. He confirmed that LME development is almost complete with only 12 more properties to build.

The team at LME have been very helpful in working with the parish on matters such as grass cutting and the flooding on Water Lane and they will assist later in the year in cutting around the hedges and tall trees at the Village Lake.

The PC are keen to build positive relationships across the community and thanked Andrew for his attendance.

9. Completed Actions from Previous Meeting

- 9.1** A submission was made to the National Planning Inspector in support of CDC's original decision to reject the Ashlands development proposal. Timescales for a final decision are not known.
- 9.2** MK has received an update from Jason Betty confirming that the Shorncote Flood Mitigation drainage has been installed and approved. A Monitoring Officer will be attending site in the future.
- 9.3** The PC's 2023/24 accounts have been signed off by the auditor.
- 9.4** The AGM was held on the 24th May. Slides presented by the PC can be found on the SK website.

- 9.5 KH has followed up on the offer to produce dog waste posters. It was confirmed there is still a plan to produce them but we will not chase further as the potential artists have revision to focus on.
- 9.6 The Residential Ponds event is on July 13th from 10am to 1pm in the Village Hall then from 2pm to 4pm at the Village Lake. If we receive further details KH will circulate.
- 9.7 The view was that having access codes on defibrillators could lead to them being stolen and would invalidate their insurance so this will not be done.
- 9.8 The order has been placed for the Village Hall kitchen work.
- 9.9 JW & AC have tidied around the village signs at Neigh Bridge and Water Lane respectively.

10. Ongoing and New Actions

10.1 Lower Mill Traffic in Mill Lane

This concerns traffic trying to get to LME by going down Mill Lane and then having to turn around. It is suggested that some LME signage be placed at the top of Mill Lane to point traffic towards Neigh Bridge.

Action: GV to discuss with Andrew Bonnar

10.2 Build Back Better Fund

LS has provisionally approved various items for the Village Lake.

Action: MW to submit formal bid

10.3 Community Speed Camera

AC has been in consultation with Bob Passmore of Gloucestershire Community Speed Watch regarding a new position for the camera following the decision by the installers that the location originally proposed by Gloucestershire Constabulary (GC) was unsuitable.

Bob suggested an alternative site but this has to be agreed with GC. Before approaching GC we need to confirm that we have volunteers to collect data from the camera and pass to GC.

Action: MM to ask Ewen (where they have such a camera) representative to confirm the work involved. Once done we will seek SK volunteers. If we get some will then engage GC and attempt to move forwards.

10.4 Active Travel Fund & Spine Road Cycle Path Missing Link

This is complex due to the number of stakeholders, landowners and local authorities (it spans Gloucestershire and Wiltshire) involved so is progressing slowly.

Following a recent meeting with them we are awaiting a quote for a feasibility study from SusTrans along with indicative costs from Gloucestershire CC (based on

previous projects) before it can be confirmed whether Active Travel Fund grants will be made available to support this.

Action: NH to continue to progress and update.

10.5 Flooding

Ongoing development of documentation along with looking at proactive inspection plans, mapping and the pump at Neigh Bridge.

Action: HC to continue to provide updates.

11. Other Matters

11.1 Financial

With last year's accounts signed off and the first payments received after moving funds into an interest generating account the PC thanked KH for all her hard work on financial matters over the past few months.

11.2 CIL Funding

The deposit has been paid for the Village Hall kitchen and we are now seeking other areas for investment. There is likely more from the Village Hall and the PCC have highlighted a potential church project.

Action: MW will look into any funding needed at the Village Lake.

Action: KH to look into new larger Parish Notice Board.

11.3 Bakers Arms/Community Asset

The listing of The Bakers Arms as an Asset of Community Value has now expired. ACV status means that should the owners look to sell and cease having the premises as a pub the community would have a window of six months to seek a way of keeping a pub there. It was agreed that we should attempt to reinstate ACV status.

Action: MHO to submit the application.

12. Planning

24/01639/TCONR

Works to trees in conservation areas for 1 - Cherry - reduce crown back to previous pruning points

2 - Hornbeam - reduce crown back to previous pruning points

3 - Hornbeam - reduce crown back to previous pruning points

4 - Maple - cut back by 1.0m on roadside up to 3.0m

G1 - Birch x3 - 2.5m overall crown reduction keeping crown as one at East Manor Barn
Somerset Keynes Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6DL

No Objection

24/01495/FUL

Full Application for Variation of Condition 20, removal of the temporal restriction from Sixth January until the Fifth February inclusive in each year, at plot 84 of permission

02/01741/FUL. 90 holiday units, six pools, pool pavilions and two tennis courts at Middle Bank 84 Clearwater Village Lower Mill Lane Somerford Keynes Cirencester

No Objection

13. Correspondence

13.1 Defibrillator Registration

See point 9.7.

13.2 GCC/CDC Housing Plan

Covered in MM's AGM slides which can be seen on the SK website.

13.3 Noise from Tap Room

See section 3.

13.4 Bakers Arms -Notice – Listing Removal Section 91 – Localism Act 2011

See point 11.3.

13.5 Knead on Wheels

Next visit is 22nd June.

13.6 Fly Tipping

There was an incident on the Ewen Road. It was reported to CDC and dealt with very quickly. The PC wrote to the team at CDC to thank them.

13.7 Asian Hornets

A note was received on a hornet sighting which turned out not to be Asian. However, if Asian Hornets are found they should be formally reported.

Action: KH to send out a note explaining how to identify and report such incidents.

13.8 20's Plenty for Gloucestershire

An email was received asking whether PC's in Gloucestershire would support a blanket 20 mph speed limit in built up areas. Whilst the PC is concerned about road safety we feel that such limits should be applied on a case by case basis.

13.9 Dog Incident

A parishioner reported that a dog was recently attacked by another dog. Dangerous dog incidents can be reported to Gloucestershire Police on the 101 non emergency number.

We would also remind dog walkers to respect signage around keeping dogs on leads where signs advise and to specific paths whilst, of course, also clearing up any waste from their animals.

13.10 Village Charities Council

SK Charities will need a new trustee to be nominated by the PC by the end of the year.

Action: KH to email Graham Shearn to discuss applicants and invite him to the next PC meeting.

14. Income and Expenditure

Income Interest Earned £34.85

Outgoings Village Hall Kitchen Deposit £759.34 (CIL expenditure)
AGM refreshments & gift £85.70

Transfers £25,000 into Interest Earning Account

15. Any Other Business

15.1 HMRC

£197.36 is owed to HMRC in respect of the Parish Clerk's employment.

Action: KH to make payment.

15.2 Thames Water Sewage Treatment Plant

MK raised the matter of whether this facility is being upgraded to deal with the increased waste from new developments around Cirencester. MM explained that LS is hosting a 'Sewage Summit' (yes, really) on July 8th.

Action: HC and MK will attend

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Date of next meeting Monday 8th July 2024