

Minutes of Somerford Keynes Parish Council Meeting

Village Hall, 9th December 2024

Present: Cllr A. Clark (AC), Cllr J. Whitwell (JW), Cllr G. Valentine (GV), Cllr M. Keegan (MK), Cllr M.H-Oldland (MHO), CC Cllr L Spivey (LS), CDC Cllr M McKeown (MM)

Also present: Clerk K. Holdsworth (KH), Mike Wilding (Village Lake), Richard Goldman (VH), Nick Cartwright (VH) and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr N. Hunt (NH), Hilary Collins (HC),

2. Declaration of Interest

Cllr G Valentine, Cllr M Keegan

3. Public Session

- 3.1** A parishioner explained that they have objected to planning application 24/03269/FUL. They are not asking the Parish Council (PC) to object.
- 3.2** A concern was expressed about potential future growth in activity at Field Farm, though not specifically with the current planning application. The PC explained that only actual applications can be considered and we have no objection to the one currently in progress. It includes items such as a shop which many parishioners have asked for in community surveys.

4. Approval of Minutes of September 11th 2024 Meeting

Proposed GV, seconded JW.

5. Report from County Cllr L. Spivey

Two main topics were discussed with LS.

- 5.1** The repairs and new white lines at the Spratsgate Lane/South Cerney/Ewan crossroads have now been completed. The PC thanked LS for providing funds to do this. LS has also requested that a full safety audit be undertaken there to see whether measures such as replacing the current give way signs with stop notices could be implemented.
- 5.2** Following the recent flooding in Shorncote which affected a number of properties LS will work with MK to ensure stakeholders and landowners put in the preventative measures to ensure this is not repeated.

6. Report from District Cllr M.McKeown

MM was asked to look in the matter of a number of green bins having gone missing on the last couple of collection days.

MM was also asked to chase up the CIL people in CDC. Over a month ago the PC wrote to them seeking guidance on potential funding of swings at Neigh Bridge through the provision of a grant. No reply has yet been received and this is holding up a project we would like to proceed with.

7. Actions from Previous Meeting

- 7.1 Speed Control**
Following NH's meeting with GCC Highways regarding traffic calming measures at the north end of the village he is still awaiting a date to meet with the Traffic Team.
Action: NH will continue to chase
- 7.2 Village Hall Defibrillator**
This is now over 10 years old and needs replacing. Marcus Gibbons has obtained a quotation to replace it (c£1200) and will seek two others. Conclusions will be presented at the February PC meeting.
- 7.3 Field Farm Planning Application**
KH circulated details of the drop-in session at Field Farm regarding their planning application.
The PC welcomed this community engagement and sharing of plans by Field Farm's owners and hope to maintain an ongoing and positive dialogue.

7.4 Anaerobic Digestion Planning Application

KH has engaged with Ashton Keynes PC and Bewley Homes regarding this planning application. The PC has again submitted an objection to Wiltshire Council.

7.5 Emergency Planning

HC will look at this topic in the new year.

8. Village Hall Energy/Infrastructure

The Village Hall committee has been successful in obtaining a grant of £10000 for energy related investments. Nick Cartwright has taken the lead on identifying specific works to be implemented which will result in improvements to lighting and heating along with provision of EV chargers.

As well as the grant funding Thames Head Energy will contribute £2379. The PC agreed to fund the balance required of £6152 from CIL monies.

The Village Hall committee will progress this as the work needs to be completed by February 2025 in order to secure the grant funding.

9. Financials

Income and expenditure are in line with projections.

It is agreed that we will utilise GAPTC Internal Auditing for our end of year accounts, KH and GV will engage with them.

When starting the role as Parish Clerk it was assumed KH would work 5 hours per week. Through both general activities and all the administrative work generated by CIL projects significantly more hours than this are required. KH will report on actual hours worked in 2024 early in the new year in order that an accurate spend projection can be built into budgets going forwards.

The PC is appreciative of all of Karen's hard work which has also been recognised by many parishioners.

10. Community Investment Levy

10.1 Village Hall

See point 8.

10.2 Church Staircase

We are still awaiting approval from the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches.

10.3 Neigh Bridge Swings

The PC are still awaiting clarification from CDC on the funding of this project and have asked MM to chase.

10.4 Bus Shelter/Notice Board

A site visit from Gloucestershire CC confirmed the area by The Coach House is the most appropriate location. The property owner has raised concerns about visibility when driving into The Street, the PC have funded the trimming of an adjacent bush to mitigate this.

The PC took a vote and the decision was to proceed as it was felt that this project meets the previously published criteria for CIL investments.

Action: JW to progress. Includes writing to The Coach House owner; firming up final costs by engaging a recommended supplier to provide a notice board for inclusion; scheduling installation (Gloucestershire CC, who will fund the hard standing, and Made in Oak); and providing a summary of the quotes received to demonstrate best value was achieved for audit purposes.

10.5 Cycle Paths, Foot Paths and Shared Spaces

No update on this project.

Action: NH to continue to progress.

10.6 Defibrillator

See point 7.2

11. Planning

24/03269/FUL

Full Application for Erection of a single-storey extension at Kellydown 2 Grange Park
Somerset Keynes Cirencester Gloucestershire.

MK to review.

24/03412/FUL

Full Application for Expansion of decking at Rush House 67 Mill Village Lower Mill Lane
Somerset Keynes Cirencester

No Objection

24/03445/FUL

Full Application for Erection of second storey extension and installation of photovoltaics
and air-source heat pump at 13 Spinney Lake Lower Mill Estate Somerset Keynes
Cirencester Gloucestershire

No Objection

24/02947/FUL

Full Application for Erection of boat store at 38 Minety Lake Lower Mill Estate Somerset
Keynes Cirencester Gloucestershire

No Objection

24/01169/FUL

Full Application for Conversion of equestrian building to single dwellinghouse at Manor
Farm Shorncote Somerset Keynes Cirencester Gloucestershire

No Objection

12. Correspondence

12.1 Planning Application - Land to the Southeast of Ashlands House

As per previously distributed communication, CDC's rejection decision has been upheld.

12.2 Ewen/South Cerney/Spratsgate Lane Crossroads

See point 5.1

13. November Income and Expenditure

<u>Income</u>	Interest Earned November 24 £257.03 Rent Parish Field £1653.75
Total Income	£1910.78
<u>Spend</u>	TSO Host (Domain renewal) £9.54 NHBS (Village Lake, BBB Fund) £211.98 Wicks (Village Lake, BBB Fund) £34.65 JC Tye & Son (Village Lake, BBB Fund) £14.22 Meadowmania (Village Lake) £83.68 Master Sheds (Village Lake, BBB Fund) £710.00 Silverline Tree & Landscape £50.00
Total Spend	£1114.07
CIL Spend	None
Transfers	None

14. Any Other Business

None raised

Meeting closed at 9pm

Date of next meeting Monday 13th January 2025