

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 6 JANUARY 2025 AT 8.00PM**

Present: Mr T Tuck - Chair, Mr D Hazell, Mr L Piper, Mr A Quick, Mr R Squires, Mr D Westwood
In attendance: Mrs L Davis, Cllr Henry Hobhouse, Cllr Kevin Messenger, 3 members of public

Public session

The meeting started at 8.00pm

2024

SPC92 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr K Flood

SPC93 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

SPC94 APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 2 December 2024 were agreed.

SPC95 CRIME/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

No crime report had been received.

SPC96 SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

Henry Hobhouse reported that he had spoken to Mr King-Brain regarding the removal of trees from the river. A meeting had been arranged to discuss further. Somerset Council are currently £58million short for next years budget.

SPC97 HIGHWAYS

There was no update.

SPC98 PLANNING DECISIONS

- a) 24/02401/S73A Section 73A application to remove condition 3(occupancy condition) of approval 15/02459/FUL for the erection of an agricultural/horticultural worker's dwelling to replace existing mobile home. The Vale Of Camelot Growers Old London Road Sparkford. **Application refused**
- b) 24/02461/HOU Installation of a domestic 12kW air source heat pump. Tamar, Church Road, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**
- c) 24/02468/HOU Erection of oak frame garage. Little Weston House, Little Weston Road, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**
- d) 24/02341/HOU Retrospective porch on the front elevation. 9 Wolfester Terrace, Sparkford. **Application permitted with conditions**

SPC99 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) 24/02823/TPO Application to carry out Tree Surgery Works to No. 1 Tree as shown within the Yeovil District Council (SPAR 1) 1981 Tree

- Preservation Order. Beeches, Church Road, Sparkford** Noted
- b) **24/02862/COU Change of use of stables (suis generis: equestrian use) to B8 (storage) use. Mill Farm, Weston Bampfylde Road, Weston Bampfylde** No objections were raised.

SPC100 MATTERS ARISING NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SECTIONS

- a) **McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services - outstanding issues update** It was agreed to contact McDonalds and Hazelgrove Services to ask for an impact report following the completion of the A303 dualling works. LD
- b) **To discuss Planning Inspectorate report of findings and conclusions regarding Traffic Monitoring and Mitigation in Sparkford High Street** The Inspectors report was circulated in advance of the meeting. It was agreed to contact Somerset Council Highways regarding the de-classification of the old A303. LD
- c) **To discuss consultation survey regarding The Old School, Queen Camel** It was agreed that the Clerk would complete the consultation survey when it was live. LD
- d) **Update on new website** AQ gave an update on the new website.
- e) **Transfer of land for village hall – update** It was reported that LVA Planning may have purchased the access road through Cherry Blossom Way. It was agreed to contact LVA Planning to clarify. LD
- f) **Local Community Network (LCN) – update** There was no update
- g) **New development sites – update and discuss any issues** It was reported that there are issues with sewerage in Cherry Blossom Way and continuing issues in Church Road during periods of heavy or persistent rain. Henry Hobhouse reported that he met with the Engineers at Wessex Water who confirmed that a costed plan would be submitted for consideration but and is likely to be included in the 2030-2035 plan.
- h) **LVA Planning – update following meeting with LVA Planning** TT gave an update and reported that there had been discussion about the need for play equipment for older children.

SPC101 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) **Payment to Mrs L Davis (Parish Clerk salary)** Approved
- b) **Payment of £696.00 to WesternWeb Ltd. (website and content management licence for 1 year)** Approved
- c) **Agree budget and precept for 2025/26** It was proposed and unanimously agreed to set the precept at £25,000 for 2025/26.

SPC102CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that an email had been received regarding concerns about breach of planning at Vantage Business Park.

It was noted that KF had been mis-quoted in the recent edition of the SPARK magazine.

SPC103 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 3 February 2025 at 8pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.28pm

PUBLIC NOTICES

Neighbourhood Watch – we are looking to re-instate the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. If you would like to get involved then please contact the Parish Clerk.

Speedwatch – we are looking for volunteers to get involved with Speedwatch in the Parish. If you are interested then please contact the Parish Clerk.

Warm Hubs – Do you have a few hours to spare each week or month? Would you like to help people who may be struggling with the cost of living crisis? Do you like to meet new people? If you answer yes to all these questions then please contact the Parish Clerk to learn more about how you could help with a Village Café/Warm Hub?

Community Newsletter – do you have experience in producing newsletters? We are looking for someone to create a regular newsletter for Sparkford. If you are interested then please contact the Parish Clerk to find out more.

Community events – are you holding an event in Sparkford? Please send the details to the Parish Clerk so that it can be promoted on the parish website and Community Facebook page.

Daisy Woods – please note that in the interests of safety and to protect the habitat Daisy Woods has been closed temporarily to allow the area to recover following recent bad weather.

Emergency Plan – would you like to get involved in producing an emergency plan for Sparkford? Please get in touch with the Parish Clerk to find out how you help!