

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPARKFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 MAY 2025 AT 8.00PM**

Present: Mr K Flood - Chair, Mr D Hazell, Mr L Piper, Mr R Squires, Mr T Tuck, Mr D Westwood
In attendance: Mrs A Tuck, Cllr Henry Hobhouse, 8 members of public

Public session

The meeting started at 8.00pm

2025

SPC1 TO NOMINATE AND ELECT A CHAIR

Mr Flood told the meeting that Mr Squires wished to talk before the appointment of Chairman and that he, Mr Flood had decided to resign. Mr Squires said due to one member of the Council who had undermined the Chairman, that Council members were not prepared to stay on the Council if that Councillor was staying, Mr Flood was standing down and leaving the meeting. Mr Piper said he had tendered his resignation that morning and was also leaving the Council. Mr Squires was resigning in support of Mr Flood and Mr Hazel also got up to walk out. Before leaving Mr Flood felt the need to point his finger and shout at one of the two remaining Councillors making numerous accusations in front of eight members of the public. That he had put members of the public in danger, that he had ridiculed the LCN emergency planning procedure when the Councillor had previously represented Sparkford on that Committee, complained that he shouldn't be a Councillor as he didn't live in the village (although he is within a 3 mile radius of the village). He told the Councillor in question he had broken the code of conduct and was not in a position to hold an office in the Council.

As the Council was not quorate the Council meeting could not go ahead. Cllr Hobhouse informed the clerk that Democratic Services needed advising first thing in the morning. That on Mr Quick's return if he still wished to stay on the Council then they would be able to hold a meeting with all three remaining Councillors present.

No decisions could be made tonight.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

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.