



**MINUTES OF THE ZOOM MEETING OF  
SOPLEY PARISH COUNCIL 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm.**

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Emmel and SPC sent their best wishes to her.

Present: Clerk Katie Hughes, Chairman Rawstron, Cllr Brake, Cllr Eccles, Cllr Hacker, Cllr Shutler, Cllr Allen and Cllr Ludford.

No apologies were received from Cllr Ring or Cllr Thierry. No reports were made available.

The Clerk (KH) confirmed that the meeting was quorate and there were no declarations of interest in respect of Agenda items.

2. Minutes to be agreed from 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 meeting. **All Council members agreed V3 Minutes as a whole.**

Village Gateway is now up, thanks was passed to Cllr Shutler. Very effective. Excellent response from parishioners in supplying photographic evidence of flooding in the area, especially Derritt Lane these have been passed to Lord Manners. Laptops for Sopley School have now been received after SPC granted funds from the Allotments for the Labouring funds were allocated to them. Heatherstone Grange are discussing options for outside areas with NFDC, prior to proposal to Sopley Parish Council.

**No parishioners asked to join the meeting, no members of the Public were present.**

**3. CURRENT ISSUES & FORWARD PLANNING:** (All Council Members)

Cyclist/horse signs – chased. 5 extra signs ordered to include no horses as requested by Cllr Hacker. Clerk is to chase these due to covid they are working on a skeleton staff. No cyclists signs – Gerald Lewis to install. No cyclists/horses – Cllr Hacker to install.

**4. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT:** (Clerk Katie Hughes) Bank Account balances update.

Current Account		£28,757.29
Deposit Account		£0.21
Allotments Account		£3,014.45
Parish Hall Account		£1,055.96
	Total	£32,827.92
Lengthsman Scheme		£1,283.90

		To be confirmed
S137 Allocation	£8.32 per elector	550 parishioners = £4576.00
	Spent	£500.00

The Chairman reminded all councillors to draw up spending proposals and projects for 2021/2022, in order to deliver value and investments in Sopley Parish.

Correspondence received – New Forest Disability application for grant. Normally £50 annually is granted. **All Council members were in favour. The clerk confirmed that only £450 had been donated using the S137 to Thorney Hill Community Centre in the last financial year.**

Friends of Sopley Church – signs on footpaths for their Easter Trail up on Good Friday and taken down Easter Monday. **All Council members agreed this would be acceptable.**

Cllr Ludford confirmed that she will be sworn in on 31<sup>st</sup> March as SPC Governor representative at Burley & Sopley Schools.

#### **Parish Maintenance Contractor update.**

The Chairman reminded the Council that we need to drive these areas forward or no progress will occur. Cllr Shutler proposed splitting up works into parcels. Cllr Eccles to split up the draft plan with Cllr Shutlers assistance.

<b>Sopley Currently:</b>	Contractor
Ditches/hedges	Dan Shutler
Cemetery	none
Trees	Tree Management Company
Pest Control	Dave Hill
SPC Boards	Ian Pinder
<b>Burton:</b>	
Grass cutting	Ian Farwell 075145 41641 Scott Mitchell 07719 707547
Trees	Ashley Tree Surgeons 01425 616051 Monty Ward 07415962744
Ditches	Dave Adams 07775 926819
<b>NFDC:</b>	No response to numerous emails/calls
<b>Hurn:</b>	

	We either report the matter to BCP Council for maintenance or if minor a Councillor or a Resident will carry out the work.
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Re-election of current Council members and Chairman position. (virtual AGM). The clerk will liaise with Chairman regarding how to run AGM under current restrictions and get the Standing Orders in place as soon as practicable. Clerk asked again about Chairmanship candidates to replace the current temporary measure.

## 5. PLANNING

17/03/2021			
App No	Address	Application	Current Status
20/11472	London Farm, London Lane	barns to commercial units	Granted stc
21/10211	9&10 Priest Lane	Two houses to one	Awaiting Cllr Comments
21/10212	9&10 Priest Lane	Two houses to one	Awaiting Cllr Comments
21/10255	12 Burnt House Lane	rear extension	Awaiting Cllr Comments
21/10362	9 Marryat Way, Bransgore	Two storey infil extension	Awaiting Cllr Comments

The Clerk, Cllr Ludford, Cllr Allen, Cllr Eccles and Cllr Hacker attended a meeting held by NFDC on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 4.30pm by Teams to discuss the new development South of Derritt Lane (Wyatt Homes).

- Clerk to obtain the notes taken by NFDC of this meeting.
- Clerk to gain a copy of the Traffic Assessment which was referred to during the meeting.
- Cllr Ludford and Cllr Allen to submit their notes to Cllr Hacker who will collate and forward to the Clerk. Clerk to send these completed notes to NFDC (Richard Natt and Claire Upton-Brown) for their response.

**6. BURIAL BOARD REPORT.** (Clerk, Cllr Shutler and Cllr Brake) It was agreed that cemetery should be brought back its best and maintained going forward. **It was agreed by Council Members** to ask Outdoor Designs to do a clean up as soon as possible, Cllr Brake to project manage.

An initial 2 days of "clear up" was agreed at a cost of £350 per day for 2 people to attend. Before and after pictures will be obtained.

Cllr Brake reported that it had now been 10 years since the gravel boarding on the main pathway had been installed.

It is now beginning to fall into disrepair in places and will need replacement plans put in place. This and ongoing maintenance plans will be taken up by Cllr Brake for Project Management.

## 7. PARISH HALL COMMITTEE REPORT (Cllr. Eccles)

- Bookings are now beginning to be taken.
- Fire alarms and extinguisher servicing taking place on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021.
- Maintenance and cleaning is ongoing and regular.
- The Parish Hall committee have agreed there will be no Sopley Festival in 2021 due to COVID.

#### **8. PARISH FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES:** (Cllr. Shutler)

Four kissing gates delivered to be installed in March 2021.

#### **9. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES:** (Cllr Rawstron/Shutler)

Highways improvement proposal ongoing. Will be shared when complete before sending to Hampshire Highways.

**Litter pick** was raised due to the current Covid pandemic and will not go ahead at the beginning of April this year. It was suggested that when people are on the 1 hour exercise they should take a bag and we will run a "Show us your bags campaign" If people can be invited to share photos of this and there will be a prize. People should also be encouraged to share photos of their "most unusual find".

Cllr Allen agreed to litter pick West Road down to Heatherstone Grange and Cllr Hacker will litter pick Heatherstone Grange down Derritt Lane.

Clerk to place campaign on Facebook and on the SPC website.

Triangle at bottom of Priest Lane – BRM have now completed work and will meet Cllr Brake to discuss restoration of the memorial site to its previous stage. Cllr Brake to contact a Parishioner in Ripley regarding the appropriate wording for a memorial plaque to mark the site.

**Date of next full council meeting Thursday 20th May 2021**