



**Minutes of meeting of SOPLEY PARISH COUNCIL
held at Sopley Parish Hall on
Thursday, 16th March 2023 at 7.30pm**

Present: Chairman D Shutler, Cllr Allen, Cllr Vines, Cllr Partridge and Mrs K Hughes (Clerk) and 4 members of the public. Co-opted Cllr Dunn and Cllr McDonnell (item 2).

The clerk confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

1. Parishioner participation.

- Thanks were received from a Parishioner to the Council for repairs to the parish board at Ripley and for the removal of the bush obscuring the traffic leaving the cemetery layby.
- The stiles and kissing gate were also noted as to not have been replaced currently. **ACTION: Chair/Clerk.**
- A Parishioner requested an update on speedwatch. This was reported as ongoing. **ACTION: Cllr Vines.**
- It was reported that bollards were still missing around the one way system in Sopley Village. Hampshire Highways to be contacted. The base plates are still in place. **ACTION: Cllr Vines.**
- Public bench at Avon opposite the New Queen pub is still in place but the slats on the bench are broken and need replacing. **ACTION: Clerk.**

A parishioner asked for it to be minuted the ongoing help with the Vernon Dene appeal. Thanks was given by SPC to Mr Picksley, Mr Emmel and Cllr Allen for the help in this matter.

2. Apologies for absence. These were received from Cllr Langford/Cllr Allen.

- **Mrs Dee Dunn and Mr Barry McDonnell were co-opted to Sopley Parish Council.** They signed their Acceptance forms and Members Interest forms during the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation received by the Clerk. There were none.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES: The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th February 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising from these minutes.

5. ACTION LIST UPDATE.

- Telephone box refurbishment still ongoing. Cllr McDonnell offered to take a look and provide a quote for the refurbishment. Cllr Vines was requested to send previous quotes to the Clerk. **ACTION: Cllr Vines/Cllr McDonnell.**
- Speed Indicator Device (SID) update. Quotes for purchase still being sought/received. **ACTION: Cllr Vines.** The Clerk was asked to Agenda approval for SID at 17th April SPC meeting. **ACTION Clerk.**
- Footpaths around one way and up Mill Lane to Church update. Quotes/contractors being found. **ACTION: Clerk.**

6. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT: (Katie Hughes - Clerk)

- Payments to be made to be authorised by all Council Members.

Supplier to be paid		
Tree management	4330	£269.10
ICCM	15868	£162.00
PWLB (sph Hall refurb repay)		£1,405.19
Clerk March		£918.00
Cemetery water		£3.60
		£2,757.89
Supplier already paid		
Clerk February	-	£918.00
ICO		£35.00
Outdoor Designs		£35.00
Clerk (defib plaque HG) Amazon		£8.99
South West Water (HG)		£166.55
Katie Giff Gaff		£6.00
DW Allen Elect (HG defib)		£474.00
Katie new Audit box		£29.97
ICCM Training (cemetery admin)		£162.00
Katie cemetery handbook		£39.99
Outdoor Designs	4527/Jan	£385.00
Cemetery water		£3.60
To pay out:		£2,757.89
Paid Out:		£2,264.10
To pay in:	<i>VAT reclaim</i>	£177.86
Current Account		£34,979.79
Deposit account		£0.21
Allotments account		£2,509.19
Allotments account 2		£42.58
Parish Hall Account		£2,995.84
	Total:	£40,527.61
<i>Thorney Hill Centre</i>		<i>£350.00</i>
<i>Lengthsman scheme</i>		<i>£380.00</i>

- Bank Balances and Reconciliation. **Approved and signed by Chair.**
- Grant application New Forest Disability Service – all documents received. **£50 grant approved by all Council members.**
- Grant application Victim Support, Chandlers Ford £50.00 – all documents received. **Grant refused due to not being a local concern by all Council members.**
- £150 to be donated to SPH for Coronation Party for King Charles. **Approved by all Council members.**
- Flower box with coronation theme was suggested to mark the Coronation. Clerk asked to Agenda for 17th April SPC meeting. **ACTION: Clerk.**

7. Correspondence received:

- SW Quadrant minutes 14th February 2023. (Cllr. Allen) – none received.
- Vernon Dene – Consultation fee was discussed and not required but maybe a purchase of a gift for Mr Picksley to say thank you. **ACTION: Clerk.**
- Newsletter 2023 deferred till the Autumn 2023 as lack of articles received. **ACTION: Clerk.**
- Complaints received regarding Illegal camp – Derritt Lane – Clerk to email landowner Lord Manners re storage facility and overnight campers. **ACTION: Clerk.**
- Cub planting flowers/trees at Shirley Common ongoing investigations regarding scientific interest - £200.00 received today from NFDC. Thanks were given to Cllr Ring who attended the meeting. **ACTION: Cllr Langford/Clerk.**

8. PLANNING:

16/03/2023			
App No	Address	Application	Current Status
NFDC			
23/10126	Avondale Ringwood Road, Sopley	Ground/1st floor alterations, roof and dormers	Cllr comments submitted
23/10037	Avon Farm, Sopley, BH23 7BQ	Conversion of West Range Barn and stable to Annex.	Awaiting further Cllr Comments
23/10038	Avon Farm, Sopley, BH23 7BQ	Conversion of West Range Barn and stable to Annex.	Awaiting further Cllr Comments
23/10058	LAND OFF, DERRITT LANE, BRANSGORE, SOPLEY BH23 8A	Request for screening opinion in respect of installation and operation of ground mounted solar photovoltaic array with battery storage together with all associated works, equipment and infrastructure (Screening Opinion)	Decision made: EIA requested. (Environmental Impact Assessment)
NFNPA			
23/00083FULL	Land Off Burley Road, Alpha Dog Park	Change of use from agricultural land to doggy day care; alterations to existing nissan hut	Awaiting further Cllr comments
22/00955FULL	WHITE LODGE, BRAGGERS LANE, THORNEY HILL, BRANSGORE, CHRISTCHURCH, BH23 8ED	Roof alterations to include raising the ridge height, dormer windows, roof lights and chimney	No objections emailed to case officer

Letter received via Cllr Allen who asked the Clerk to read out the following in his absence regarding the planning application:

Case Number 23/00083FULL

I am writing in response to the above application to a change the use from agricultural land to doggy day care centre and alterations to existing nissan hut.

We strongly object to this on the following grounds:

20 dogs barking inside a non soundproofed corrugated hut is going to make an horrendous noise. We have already noticed the disappearance of nightjars since Alpha dogs started. Previously we have heard these for the 32 years we have lived here. This may be coincidence but dog noise will surely impact nesting birds and wildlife in the SSI adjacent.

We would also find this noise disturbing as it could be every day and spoil our enjoyment of our garden. The suggestion that the trees form an acoustic barrier is ridiculous as the Scots Pines here are very high mature trees with very little low growth.

We are also concerned that this change of use may open the door towards full time kennels or light industrial use.

From Ally and John Level

181 Burley Road

01425 672959

9. Heatherstone Grange - Allotments update. (TL) - Ceport received below from Cllr Langford in his absence.

Water supply

- Tap froze during cold period
- Dan Shutler attended and turned supply off
- Awaiting pipework repair then water supply to be reinstated

Lockable posts

- Two allotment holders have signed the agreement and been given keys for the lockable posts
- One of the posts no longer unlocks – **Clarification needed from Cllr Langford. ACTION: Clerk.**
- Will ask Dan Shutler to look at this when he repairs the water supply.

Heatherstone Grange – general

- Residents completed the tree planting which had been delayed due to bad weather
- New Forest DC have been very busy planting trees and general tidying up on the development

Defibrillator for HG

- Mrs Coates is very happy with the defibrillator.
- I have the plaque and will instal it soon.
- Training will be provided by Bransgore First Responders
Ideally this will be at Sopley Village Hall Sensible to have it when the defib machine is installed the Village Hall too. 31st March 1pm. Installing fee can we claim VAT back.

10. BURIAL BOARD REPORT. (Clerk)

- Rubbish disposal being placed at neighbours. Signage on order to respectfully ask that rubbish be taken home where possible. Although current Cemetery Maintenance company are contracted to dispose of rubbish as in maintenance schedule for 2022/2023.
- Internment of ashes Mrs Josephine Patricia Gash in late husbands grave – (4a a31 on 27/03/23 at 11 am).
- Memorial application for Barrow/Harwood grave 3f1 – existing grave. **Approval given and stonemasons notified.**

11. PARISH HALL COMMITTEE REPORT (KH)

Coronation picnic 7th May at Smugglers from 1pm was advertised to those present.

12. PARISH FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES: (Cllr. Shutler)

- Chair Shutler reported he had asked for access from Mrs JoH and she had refused.
- Clerk was asked to check the Vatchers contract with regard to access to the common. **ACTION: clerk.**
- Working party was set up to use Cllr Partridges brushcutter and council tools to clear the opening to the Avon Valley Footpath. 25th March at 9 am for anyone available. **ACTION: Council.**
- Woolpack to Fisherman's pub pathway needs clearing and overgrown hedgeway need attention. Contact Hampshire Countrywide Access team. **ACTION: Clerk.**
- Bottom of Priest Lane drainage/tarmac and roots still no repairs. To be chased. **ACTION: Cllr McDonnell.**
- Clerk asked to circulate maps received from Hampshire Highways roads/verges ownership recently received by clerk. **ACTION: Clerk to send to all Council members.**

13. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES: (Cllr. Vines)

Updates received in Parishioner Participation.

14. Cllr Michael Thierry County Councillor report. None received.

15. Cllr Tony Ring District Councillor report.

Cllr Ring addressed the room and spoke regarding the local elections and his hopes for the ongoing active support that the current Council are providing regarding the local infrastructure.

16. Confidential Item: That pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 that Members of the Public and Press be now excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that publicity may be prejudicial to the public interest or because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Clerk back pay.

There followed private discussions and agreements were made. It was agreed the Clerk would be paid the full amount owed as it was Contractually due and in accordance with advice sought from HALC. £3500 to be paid immediately in this financial year and the owing amount to be notified to the Council members and will be paid in the next Financial year (2023/2024).

Date of next full council meeting Monday, 17th April 2023 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.15.