



**MINUTES OF MEETING of SOPLEY PARISH COUNCIL meeting
held at Sopley Parish Hall on Thursday, 16th November 2023 – 7.30pm**

MINUTES

In attendance: Chairman Shutler, Cllr Allen, Cllr Dunn, Cllr Vines, Cllr McDonnell, Cllr Adaway and Katie Hughes (Clerk) and 9 members of the public.

The Clerk confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

1. PARISHIONER PARTICIPATION:

- Concerns were raised by a parishioner from Heatherstone Grange regarding the possible removal of the Dog Waste bin at Shirley Common.
ACTION: The clerk advised she would negotiate the emptying of the bin from twice weekly to possibly monthly and report back the costs for SPC to keep the bin on Shirley Common.
- Thanks were received by a parishioner for the repair of the bench in Avon opposite The New Queen public house.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received from Cllr Partridge (illness) and Cllr Linford (prior engagement) by the Clerk.

3. Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation: None were received by the Clerk.

4. The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2023: These were ratified as a correct record and signed by Chairman Shutler.

5. CURRENT ISSUES & FORWARD PLANNING: (All Council Members for discussion/approval)

Flooding – Derritt Lane, Avon, etc.

- Cllr McDonnell addressed the room and shared a document highlighting the reporting process relating to flooding.
- He said that Parishioners should be mindful that ongoing flooding issues should be remedied and not ignored.
- He reiterated that if you report to the Clerk of the Council then she will be able to officially raise a traceable report and keep the Council updated. All issues will be reported to the EA and Hampshire Highways as appropriate.
- A previous Bransgore Councillor then addressed the room to acknowledge the recent flooding also. He reported the actions he had taken (with Government guidance adhered too). He had cleared part of the Clockhouse stream using his own equipment and also had taken remedial action which instantly reduced the flooding in Derritt Lane.

Cont:-

- He also reported he had spoken with all the landowners responsible for the ditches in Derritt Lane and had advised of their actions required.
- He recommended that perhaps a working group should be established in the future with members, parishioners and landowners being involved to heighten the banks, clear weeds and ditches regularly; this would aid future flooding issues and most importantly request help and advice from the EA. He added that he has the machinery and would be happy to get involved or lend it to any groups that have been set up.
- The clerk was asked to set up an Action list for rivers and any findings should be reported and kept on a log. **ACTION: Clerk to create and maintain an action list for rivers.**

ACTION LIST UPDATE – (DS)

The following updates are to be noted with regard to the SPC ongoing Action List:

- Cllr Vines' gardener is going to provide a quote for maintenance of the hedges and verges in the village.
- The welcome gates have been sanded but not painted due to the weather.
- The telephone box book exchange and lost property point has now been completed with shelving and is ready for use. The weeds have also been addressed around the area.
- Cllr Dunn reported that most of the Springtime bulbs have now been planted.
- Vatchers Common was decided to be left as is until the Commoners Rights have been fully investigated by Cllr Partridge (absent tonight). There is no liability to SPC in any case.

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

- Payments to be made to be authorised by all Council Members were circulated to all members before the meeting. **Approved by all Council members.**
- The Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 14th November was circulated. **Approved by all members and checked by the Chair and duly signed.**

Payments:		Amount
Supplier to be paid		
Outdoor Designs	Inv 4772	£420.00
BM Telephone box bits	rec	£14.68
BM Telephone box bits	rec	£37.16
Giff gaff Clerk		£6.00
	Total:	£477.84
Supplier already paid		
Vistaprint (KH) Coronation printing		£38.18
Pennon - water cemetery		£6.89
Clerk November 2023		£944.20
Clerk Pay scale increase April 23 - Nov 23		£342.00
Scribe cemetery software package		£558.00
		£1,889.27
To pay out:		£477.84
Paid:		£1,889.27

To pay in:	<i>VAT to reclaim</i>	£105.56
Funds available:		
Current Account		£35,325.22
Deposit account		£0.21
Allotments account		£3,220.86
Allotments account 2		£42.59
Parish Hall Account		£1,581.59
	Total:	£40,170.47

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

Reminders had been received regarding the bidding on the Wyatt Homes Cil fund from NFDC

- No proposals had been received by the Clerk to bid for funding for the extra Cil payment fund before the meeting.
- If further bids are required for pavements, pathways, solar panels for the hall etc then these should be investigated by Council members. It was decided that further discussions will be held before the 8th December bidding window deadline.
- The clerk was asked to confirm with Tim Guymmer that SPC automatically receive Cil funding as the planning development (Land South of Derritt Lane, Wyatt Homes) is in Sopley Parish.
ACTION: Clerk to contact NFDC for clarification.

8. **GRANT FUNDING:** No applications were received.

9. PLANNING:

16/11/2023	CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS			
App No	Address	Applicant	Application	Current Status
23/10751	LITTLE NUTLEY, RINGWOOD ROAD, SOPLEY BH23 7BB	Mr & Mrs West	Construct new pavement crossover to highways specification with full construction of pavement	03/08/2023 sent to Cllrs awaiting comments. 07/08/2023 No objection Par 1 submitted to NFDC.
23/10940	SOPLEY BARN, DERRITT LANE, BRANSORE, SOPLEY BH23 8AX	Avon Tyrrell Farms	Change of use of an existing agricultural barn and associated land to be used for B8 Storage (Retrospective)	31/08/2023 sent to Cllrs for comment. 19/09/2023 Refusal submitted.
23/10984	14 Marryatt Way, Sopley, BH23 *FG	Mr Fogg	Replace the existing side fence with a brick wall & a new wooden gate	06/10/2023 sent to Cllrs for comment - 24/10/2023 submitted Par 1 no issues to NFDC
23/11078	COURT FARM, RINGWOOD ROAD, AVON, SOPLEY BH23 7BG	Avon Tyrrell Farms	Erection of a new agricultural building	22/10/2023 sent to Cllrs for comment

23/10742	COURT FARM, RINGWOOD ROAD, AVON, SOPLEY BH23 7BG	Mr McCowen - Avon Tyrrell Estate	The installation of 3 rows of solar array panels; battery and transformer structures; access	22/10/2023 sent to Cllrs for comment 14/11/2023 closing date 17/11/23 will submit after Council meeting 16/11/23
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Proposal:

It was proposed that when each planning application is received, they will be assessed on their own merit and it would then be decided if a planning meeting is required. **Proposed by Cllr Dunn and seconded by Cllr Adaway.**

10. HEATHERSTONE GRANGE - Allotments update. (Clerk)

A new quote has been received for lopping of trees on boundary bordering the houses at the allotments for £650.00. It is SPC responsibility to maintain boundary of allotments. Not the plots themselves. The work was agreed and the clerk is to instruct the contractors. **Proposed Cllr Vines and seconded by Cllr McDonnell.**

11. BURIAL BOARD REPORT. (Chairman Shutler/Clerk)

- An enquiry has been received for a memorial bench for the Miles family. No further details at present.
- The Interment of Mr Clifford Collis was held on 14th November 2023 at 2pm.
- Incorrect interment of ashes has been noticed into plot 4aC14 instead of 4aC17. The Family have been contacted and agreed to transfer the Deed of Grant ownerships (still the same family and purchased by the same lady) The stonemasons have been approached to amend the plot reference on the tablet headstone. The fee will be approximately £200. This was administered when I was off sick. I have spoken to the grave digger and he confirmed that the wrong grave was marked. **The Payment in principle was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Adaway and seconded by Cllr Dunn.**

12. PARISH HALL COMMITTEE REPORT (KH)

- 17th November 2023 – Skittles 7.30pm
- 15th December 2023 – Christmas party 7.30pm Thanks were expressed to the Woolpack pub for sponsoring this event and a local contractor.

13. PARISH FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES: (Cllr. Partridge) No updates were received.

14. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES: (Cllr. Vines) – all previously discussed.

15. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT (Cllr Thierry) None received.

16. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT. (Cllr Linford/Millington) Apologies were received from Cllr Linford.

Meeting closed at 8.54pm

Date of next full council meeting Thursday, 21st December 2023 at 7pm

Mrs. K. Hughes Clerk – Sopley Parish Council