



**Minutes of the MEETING of SOPLEY PARISH COUNCIL
held at Sopley Parish Hall on Thursday, 18th January 2024 – 7.30pm
By Mrs. K. Hughes Clerk – Sopley Parish Council**

MINUTES

In attendance: Chairman Shutler, Cllr Dunn, Cllr Vines, Cllr McDonnell, Cllr Partridge, Cllr Adaway and Katie Hughes (Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

The Clerk confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

1. PARISHIONER PARTICIPATION.

Lord Manners addressed the Council regarding planning application: 23/11078. He expressed his concern with Sopley Parish Council's objection to this application. He explained the steel framework was installed early. He then apologised for this but explained it was to enable the safe demolition of the old barn due to the dangerous condition of the barn.

He asked Council members to note that the "barn" is not in a conservation area and there were no legalities to be adhered to regarding bats or owls. The new barn will house bat and owl boxes and new planting schemes will be initiated. The outside of the barn will resemble the "old barn" and will be built to fit in to the local rural area. He hoped that the time extension to 18th February 2024 of the planning application would enable SPC to re-submit comments. He also offered an evening tour in the warmer weather to Council members of the Estate. To see firsthand plans that the Estate have for the future.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Apologies were received from Cllr Allen, Cllr Millington and Cllr Linford.

3. Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation received by the Clerk.

- None were received.

4. The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st December 2023 were confirmed as a true record and were approved by all Council members and signed by the Chair.

- There were no matters arising from these minutes.

5. CURRENT ISSUES & FORWARD PLANNING:

- **ACTION LIST UPDATE** – Chairman Shutler ran through the current Action list with all Members present. This had been previously circulated by email.
- **Dog waste bin (Shirley Common):**
It was decided unanimously that the "Dog Waste" bin should be removed from Shirley Common. Photographs by Cllr Allen had been circulated showing that it was not being utilised and access for Parishioners or NFDC workers was not possible, and access had not been made in recent weeks. **Proposed Cllr Dunn and seconded by Chairman Shutler it was resolved to have the bin removed by NFDC in April 2024.**

- **Updates on flooding in Parish. (Cllr McDonnell)**

- Cllr McDonnell reported that updates were available on facebook and on our website and checked regularly.
- He has visited the local risk areas and reported that Hampshire Highways had blasted through the drains through by number 64 and 65 Fish Street.
- He is due to meet with Jim Wigglesworth from Highways on his return to work after being on sick leave. He has also contacted Cllr Simon McCormach regarding flooding in Burley Road.
- It was noted that historical flooding on the B3347 at Avon on the bend had not been notice. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Bath family to see if indeed they have had any improvements completed to assist with the previous flooding.**

- **Hampshire Highways SID licence.**

The licence had been received by the Clerk but there were a few amendments to be addressed before signing. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways and get licence corrected.**

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

- The following payments are to be made and were **authorised by all Council Members.**

		Amount
Supplier to be paid		
Outdoor Designs	Inv 4840	£420.00
ICO - GDPR/annual renewal	-	£40.00
Tree Management Co (Shirley Common report)	Inv 5125	£165.00
	Total:	£625.00
Supplier already paid		
PAYE January 2024	01/01/2024	£992.00
Cemetery water	08/01/2024	£6.89
Janet Mitchell (table decs)	04/01/2024	£10.00
Clerk - stationery files	08/01/2024	£14.99
		£1,023.88
To pay out:		£658.00
Paid:		£1,023.88
To pay in:	<i>VAT to reclaim</i>	£33.00
Funds available:		
Current Account		£32,498.77
Deposit account		£50.21
Allotments account		£3,227.86
Allotments account 2		£42.58
Parish Hall Account		
	Total:	£35,819.42
Lengthsman Scheme		£1,916.00
Section 137 per elector £9.93	08/01/1902	£7,338.27

- The Bank Balances and Reconciliation were circulated to all members as at 17th January 2024 **and were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.**
- Data Protection and staffing policy are currently being updated from the Internal Auditor recommendation. The clerk will have these available for updating and adopting at 22nd February's meeting.
- The updated figures for Budget 2024/2025 were circulated and **approved by all Council members.**
- **The clerk confirmed that the Precept has been applied for £36,000 to NFDC.**

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- Update re Parish Hall flooding. – The clerk confirmed that no correspondence had been received as at today's date.

8. PLANNING:

17/01/2024	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, BRANSGORE, SOPLEY BH23 8AX	Avon Farms Tyrrell	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. 03/01/2024 notification of going to planning committee on 10th January 2024 at 9am. 10/01/2024 GRANTED stc.
23/11078	COURT FARM, RINGWOOD ROAD, AVON, SOPLEY BH23 7BG	Avon Farms Tyrrell	Erection of a new agricultural building	22/10/2023 sent to Cllrs for comment 17/11/2023 comments submitted to NFDC
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 tranformer 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 17/11/2023 comments submitted to NFDC.

23/11170	THE OLD CART SHED, COURT FARM, RINGWOOD ROAD, AVON, SOPLEY BH23 7BG	Avon Tyrrell Farms	Demolition of the existing barn; replacement with a new building to be used for commercial space (Class E (g) (retrospective)	27/11/2023 to cllrs for comment or meeting referral. 08/12/2023 refusal submitted to NFDC. 17/01/2024 extension for decision
23/11155	TYRRELLS FORD, RINGWOOD ROAD, AVON, SOPLEY BH23 7BQ	Mr & Mrs Bowley	Proposed single-storey 6 bay garage and carport for private car use; new courtyard wall & gates	29/11/2023 sent to cllrs for comment or meeting referral. 19/12/2023 Par 1 permission sent to NFDC. 17/01/2024 new plans submitted.
23/01567 FULL NFNPA	UK YOUTH ACTIVITY CENTRE, Avon Tyrrell Activity Centre, WHITEFIELD HILL, AVON TYRRELL, CHRISTCHURCH, BH23 8EE		New building for use as Experiential Learning & Sports Centre; parking; tracks (Demolition of existing storage building)	08/12/2023 sent to Councillors for comment by 15th January 2024, 16/01/2024 Cllrs Allen, Dunn and McDonnell visited and approval given to NFNPA.

The clerk was asked to resubmit comments regarding planning application 23/11170 – The Old Cart Barn. **ACTION: Clerk to resubmit comments.**

9. HEATHERSTONE GRANGE - Allotments update. (Clerk)

- The Clerk confirmed that a new tenant for allotment 9 had been found and their deposit of £50 and 2024 fees had already paid.

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

- The Clerk reported that there was an increase in charges for Burial Ground maintenance from 1st April 2024. This will increase from £420 to £465 per month. (£5580 in total pa) from Outdoor Designs. The clerk confirmed that the excess budget from Burial board water figure will be moved to Burial Board Maintenance to cover this increase not affecting the budget figures. **Approved and agreed by all Council members.**
- Take your rubbish home signs: Cllr McDonnell agreed to install these signs in the next month or so. He will also mend the Coronation Bridge sign fixings. **ACTION: cllr McDonnell to fix the signs at the cemetery and Coronation Bridge.**

The Clerk was asked to chase Highways and bridges regarding the mending of Coronation Bridge after a road traffic accident and the bridge in Derritt Lane. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways and Bridges.**

11. PARISH HALL COMMITTEE REPORT (KH)

The following events were announced to the meeting:-

- 19th January 2024 Bingo night.
- 9th February 2024 quiz night
- 18th March St Patricks hot food and band. The clerk asked for Volunteers to help with food.
- 26th April - Skittles

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

- The clerk was asked to request an update regarding the oil leak reported in Vatchers Common. **ACTION: Clerk to chase.**

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

14. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT (Cllr Thierry) – None were received.

COUNCILLOR REPORT. (Cllr Linford/Millington) - None were received.

Meeting closed at 20.37pm

Date of next full council meeting Thursday, 22nd February 2024 at 7.30pm