



**Minutes of the MEETING of SOPLEY PARISH COUNCIL
held at Sopley Parish Hall on Monday, 15th April 2024 – 7.30pm**

MINUTES

In attendance: - Chairman Shutler, Cllr, Dunn, Cllr Adaway, Cllr Partridge, Cllr McDonnell, Cllr Allen, Katie Hughes (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

The Clerk confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

1. PARISHIONER PARTICIPATION.

- A Parishioner mentioned the Annual Newsletter and it was decided that the next one will be published in Spring 2025 in time for the litter pick and all the Spring/Summer events and not in the Autumn of 2024 as last year. (this was due to lack of articles for the Spring edition).
- The gate in Anna Lane was mentioned as needing adjusting. **ACTION: Chairman Shutler will attend and adjust as necessary.**

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received from Cllr Neil Millington and Cllr Vines.

3. Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation were received by the Clerk from the following for these planning applications:- Cllr Partridge (24/10228), Cllr Allen (24/10264) and Cllr Dunn (CONS/24/0171)

4. The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2024 were confirmed as a true record and were RESOLVED by all Council members and signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING from Minutes:

Additional details were received from a Heatherstone Grange resident. The members decided they did not need to be included in the Minutes as it is a private matter between HG and their Management Company. It was decided a copy of the details received would be included in the Minutes pack for 21st March 2024 for future reference.

5. CURRENT ISSUES & FORWARD PLANNING:

- ACTION LIST UPDATE – Chairman Shutler ran through the current Action List.
- The kissing gates are still ongoing and Cllr McDonnell has stated if Chair Shutler gives him the what3words location of the stiles to be sorted then he is happy to liaise with The Ground Management Company and get sorted. **ACTION: Chair and Cllr McDonnell.**

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- It was raised that could a step be installed on the high stile by the “Stainers” cottage in Derritt Lane please. **ACTION: Chair.**
- Cllr Dunn would like to start a Parish Maintenance Task List for “Monty” who has now begun as the “Lengthsman” for SPC. **ACTION: Cllr Dunn to complete list and Clerk to instruct Monty direct.**
- Cllr Allen confirmed he is going to start a proposal for a “hoggin” path with one of the HG residents. He will provide plans, measurements and costings in due course. **ACTION: Cllr Allen to project manage a proposal.**
- No update on Speed watch Scheme or Data from Speed Indicator Device as Cllr Vines not present. **ACTION: Clerk to ask Cllr Vines for updates on both and get the scheme moving and the handheld device in action.**
- The Clerk has circulated by email a number of new and updated policies for review by Council members and for adoption at the ACM meeting on 23rd May 2024. **ACTION: Members to review and adopt and a sheet will be provided for Member signature to confirm they have read and reviewed and this is to be kept in the Members HR documents for future reference.**
- Flooding update (BM) no change really from last month. HH have stated the flooding is not their responsibility and it’s down to landowners. There is to be an EA meeting at the Parish hall in 3 or 4 weeks’ time for discussions re Flood Resilience schemes in Ripley/Sopley. Flap works have begun in Ripley by HH.

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

- The following schedule of payments had been circulated by email and were **authorised and approved by all Council Members for payment.**

15/04/2024		Amount
Supplier to be paid	Invoice no:	
TLC (Oct 23 to March 24)	2431	£240.00
HALC Affiate fees	6552	£405.00
Outdoor Designs	4888	£420.00
Staples (Banner Group)	1485974	£84.84
April PAYE	-	£978.00
	Total:	£2,127.84
Supplier already paid		
Giff Gaff		£6.00
Water Cemetery		£7.15
		£13.15
To pay out:		£2,127.14
Paid out:		£13.15
VAT received: £286.61		
Funds available:		£30,244.77
Current Account		£27,459.05
Deposit account		£50.36
Allotments account		£3,238.33

Allotments account 2		£42.58
Parish Hall Account		£1,581.59
	Total:	£32,371.91
Lengthsman Scheme		£1,916.00
Section 137 per elector £9.93	739 electors	£7,338.27

- The Bank Balances and Reconciliation had been circulated to all members as at 11th April 2024 **these were checked and approved and duly signed by the Chairman.**
- D day ideas for the 80th anniversary celebrations;-

Councillors expressed their disappointment that the Hall Committee did not want to plan an event for the D-Day Anniversary celebrations.

It was decided that a Bring your own picnic be held at Smugglers on 8th June 2024 at 2pm.

Parking will be available at Meadowbrook, Ringwood Road.

A Parishioner offered the bunting for the day.

The Clerk is to ask her son to design a leaflet/poster and distribution would be done by the members when they are ready.

It was decided to have a meeting on 22nd April 2024 at 7.30pm at the Woolpack to make further arrangements.

- All Members confirmed that they were happy to be re-elected for SPC at the ACM in May.
- Chair Shutler requested to stay on council but to resign as Chair. Cllr Partridge and Cllr McDonnell were happy to stand as Chair. As Cllr Vines is current Vice-chair and was not present the Clerk was asked to see if he wished to stand for Chair. **ACTION: Clerk**
- Broadband update (BM) Cllr McDonnell had attended the meeting at the hall and confirmed there would be no digging up of roads and it was a Government backed Scheme. 100 meg is their minimum / cheapest starting level. A range of faster speed packages are also being offered at varying prices.
- The Clerk confirmed that the SPC Grant funding window was open until 17th May 2024 for applications.
- The Clerk confirmed that the Kings Charles portrait had been received. No decision for placement was made and would be addressed at a future date.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- Offer of Grant from District Cllr Millington £150-200 funding ideas. It was decided to ask for the funds to help with the D-Day 80th celebrations on 8th June 2024.
- Cllr Allen reported he had attended the Community resilience meeting and found it interesting with regard to flooding, electricity and pandemic plans that are in place with NFDC. An article will be placed in the Annual Newsletter in 2025.

- Cllr Allen reported that Hampshire Forest Partnership have a number elm trees to be planted in the Parish and further details would follow.
- The Clerk confirmed that the Thorney Hill update had been circulated to all Council members as a matter of interest only.

8. PLANNING:

15/04/2024	CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS			
App No	Address	Applicant	Application	Current Status
CONS/24/0171	Smugglers, 8 Sopley, Christchurch, BH23 7AY	Cllr Dunn	Willow x 2 fell, willow x 2 reduce, horse chestnut x 1 fell and Lime x 1 reduce.	09/04/2024 sent to Cllrs for comment by 7th May 2024.
24/10264 28th April 2024	OAKWOOD HOUSE, WEST ROAD, BRANSGORE BH23 8BD	Mrs & Mrs Quick & Iles	Subdivide the existing dwelling into two separate units through internal alterations to create x2no. 3 bed semi- detached dwellings; new window to front elevation; external site alterations to allow for parking, bin and cycle stores and bin presentation point.	28/03/2024 sent to Cllrs comments by 26 April 2024 11/04/2024 any further comments not Cllr JA
24/10228	BROOKSIDE, RINGWOOD ROAD, SOPLEY BH23 7BB	Mr Watts	Ground floor extension to rear and demolish existing rear conservatory and adjacent outbuilding	26/03/2024 app received, sent to Cllrs comments by 19th April 2024.

23/10751	LITTLE NUTLEY, RINGWOOD ROAD, SOPLEY BH23 7BB	Mr & Mrs West	Full planning permisssion reate new access to dwelling; dropped kerb; gate; remove short section of wall and fencing.	22/03/2024 awaiting decision.
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	22/03/2024 ongoing.
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)	16/01/2024 Cllrs Allen, Dunn and McDonnell visited and approval given to NFNPA. 22/03/2024 awaiting decision.
24/10082	FERNHILLS,	Mr and Mrs Bryant	dormer to rear elevation	28/03/2024 Granted
TPO/24/0108	Tyrells Ford Hotel, Tyrrells Park, Ringwood Road, Avon, Christchurch, BH23 7BQ		Various Trees - Fell/prune as per submitted schedule	04/03/2024 comments by 1st April 2024 awaiting decision.
24/10163	COURT FARM, RINGWOOD ROAD, AVON, SOPLEY BH23 7BG	Mr Manners - Avon Tyrrell Estate	Variation of condition 2 of application 22/10127 to allow revised window and door openings	22/03/2024 awaiting decision.
24/10173	Land adj HILL VIEW, RINGWOOD ROAD, SOPLEY BH23 7BE	Mrs Mitchell	Construction of dwelling (Outline application - access layout and scale only)	22/03/2024 SPC Par 1 submitted.

24/10198	11 ARNWOOD DRIVE, BRANSGORE, SOPLEY BH23 8FH	Mr Nibbs	Loft conversion including rear dormer with juliette balcony and front rooflights.	12/03/2024 request comments by 5th April 22/03/2024 awaiting Cllr comments
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The Clerk was asked to submit the comments tomorrow regarding 11 Arnwood Drive, Heatherstone Grange. **ACTION: Clerk**

The Clerk was asked to contact Enforcement re Costrells Yard (23/10940) for an update as the deadline has passed. **ACTION: Clerk.**

9. HEATHERSTONE GRANGE ALLOTMENTS: - (Clerk) – Nothing to update.

10. BURIAL BOARD REPORT. (Chairman Shutler/Clerk): - Nothing to update.

11. PARISH HALL COMMITTEE REPORT (KH)

- The Clerk gave an Update on the Section 143 Notice – an email had been received yesterday confirming a solicitor has been instructed.
- Opening Nat West bank balance on 1st March = £17284.59
Total income = £2118.15
Total expenditure = £1494.61
Surplus = £623.54
Closing bank balance on 27th March = £17908.13
- Précis of SPH Committee Meeting minutes held on 8th April 2024
Annual income from events and hall users increased by 26.4%
Financial expenditure on floor, fire alarm and door release systems have contributed to the safety of hall users
Building maintenance issues on car park, damp and glass washer were discussed and action plans agreed.
Future events include, skittles (26th April), bingo (31st May) village fete (13th July)
Health and safety issues regarding a recent local incident (not related to the hall) discussed and an action plan agreed. Rosie Ward.

12. PARISH FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES: (Cllr. Partridge) - Nothing to report.

13. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES: (Cllr. Vines) – Nothing to report.

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

15. COUNCILLOR REPORT (Cllr Linford/Millington) – None received.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Date of next full council meeting Thursday, 23rd May 2024 at 7.00 pm
Annual Council Meeting and Parish Assembly.