

MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 10th October 2023 at Sparkwell Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Hartley, May, Webb, Hutton-Fellowes, Serpell Denman, Sophie Jones (Clerk)
In attendance: Cllr Edie (SHDC)

Part 1 (Open to the Public)

102/23 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Lee, Cllr Thomas (SHDC), Cllr Hart (DCC)

103/23 Agreement of the Agenda between Parts I and II

All agreed. Councillors noted that one item of business would be considered in Part II of the meeting.

104/23 Declarations of Interest

None

105/23 County Councillor's Report

Cllr Hart was unable to attend the meeting, but emailed a report which was read out by the Clerk;

County Council are looking at next year's budget and at our property holding. With less people coming into an office there is scope for rationalisation of our property, this will be discussed tomorrow at Cabinet. The Devolution discussions with Government are ongoing. The County finances this year are steady - contrary to the story that was featured in one of the National newspapers a few weeks ago. When the County Council defended our position, the paper dropped Devon out of the follow up article.

106/23 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Edie provided the update from SHDC;

Members, SLT and officers have been in Ivybridge and Totnes this week speaking to communities about our aims and ambitions for South Hams. In order to give residents and partners the maximum opportunity to engage with the consultation, we'll be extending it until 30th November 2023. This extension will be updated on the online system. Residents are encouraged to share their views online via the SHDC website.

In just 9 days, rather than the 5 allotted weeks, waste containers have been rolled out to the 8,000 homes in the South Hams.

Cllr Webb asked Cllr Edie if all the recycling from Sparkwell is going into Plymouth. Cllr Edie said yes for the moment, but that is hoped to change by the 2024 New Year.

Cllr Edie also notes that a planning issue raised by an MOP at the September 2023 meeting has been resolved and Enforcement are now involved.

107/23 Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

108/23 Hemerdon Mine

There were no representatives from Tungsten West/Hemerdon Mine present.

109/23 Planning

DCC/4365/2023 – Cllr May updated the council regarding the recent planning application from Tungsten West. The ‘comments by’ deadline is Friday 13th October 2023, however, Sue Penaluna has reassured any comments received prior to the determination date in December 2023 will still be taken on board. Cllrs Hartley and May will read through the planning application and surmise it for parishioners to gain an overview. It was also noted that TW originally informed SPC there would be a consultation once all comments are received.

ACTION – Clerk to contact TW regarding a possible consultation.

ACTION – Clerk to update Facebook page with update for the parishioners.

110/23 Minutes

Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12th September 2023

RESOLVED – unanimously that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 12th September 2023 be approved and signed.

111/23 Climate Change and Biodiversity

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes informed the council that another Silver Birch tree has been lost to vandalism, despite being staked and protected. Therefore, nothing else will be planted for the time being. She also noted that the laurel needs to be cut back.

Cllr Hartley said there is tree in Lee Mill that is still overhanging a garage.

ACTION – Clerk to contact clerks of other parishes regarding tree surgeons and someone licensed to cut back laurel.

Cllr Edie left the meeting at 19.39

112/23 Road & Snow Warden

The grit bins are full and ready for colder weather.

113/23 Tree Warden

Access to the woods in Lee Mill have been shut due to severe amounts of Ash Dieback.

114/23 Parish Assets (Bus Shelters, Benches, etc)

CLlr Hartley is organising solar panels to be installed on top of the bus shelter in Lee Mill.

115/23 Chairman’s Business

CLlr Hartley will email PC Wills to arrange a visit to Lee Mill regarding the road. He will also approach Sir Gary Streeter MP and his successor.

116/23 Correspondence

Clerk updated the council on an email from a Community Ranger regarding Cann Woods. The dog bins may have to be removed due to funding issues/change in collection service.

ACTION – Clerk to advise Ranger to install general waste bins.

There was also an update regarding Welbeck Manor. They said the road has been adopted by DCC.

ACTION – Clerk to speak to SHDC/DCC regarding the road.

Remembrance Day is fast approaching.

ACTION – Clerk to order 2 poppy wreathes for Lee Mill and Sparkwell.

117/23 Finance

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for October 2023.

118/23 Payments and Receipts

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments for October 2023.

119/23 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7pm on **Tuesday 14th November 2023** at **Hemerdon Village Hall**.

Meeting closed at 20.10

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name Date