MINUTES OF SPARKWELL ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

FOLLOWED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on 8th May 2018 at Sparkwell Parish Hall

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Present**: Cllrs May, Taylor, Milford, Small, Lee, Pearson-Bunt, Peacham

Dawn Johnson (Clerk)

**In attendance**: Cllr Blackler (SHDC), Cllr Keith Baldry (SHDC), Elaine Budd (Wolf Minerals)

**Apologies for Absence**: Cllr Ashley, Cllr Hart (DCC), PC Dingley

**47/18 Declaration of Acceptance of Office by all elected Parish Councillors**

Declarations were signed by all Councillors present and witnessed by the Clerk

**48/18 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

The Clerk invited nominations for the position of Chairman.

Cllr Taylor nominated Cllr May for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council which was

seconded by Cllr Peacham and with no further nominations Cllr May was duly elected unopposed.

The Chair invited nominations for the position of Vice Chairman.

Cllr Peacham nominated Cllr Taylor for the position of Vice Chairman of the Parish Council

which was seconded by Cllr Pearson-Bunt and with no further nominations Cllr Taylor was elected unopposed.

**49/18 Appointment of Representatives to outside organisations: -**

* 1. Parish Cluster Meetings – Cllrs Small and Ashley
  2. Hemerdon Village Hall – Cllr Taylor
  3. Langage Power Station – Cllr Small
  4. Sparkwell Parish Hall & Playground Trust – Cllr Small
  5. Parish Tree Warden – Cllr May
  6. Drakelands Mine Liaison Group – Cllrs May and Peacham
  7. Imerys – Cllrs Small and Taylor
  8. Lee Mill Community Association – Cllr Lee
  9. Newnham Solar Park – Cllr Pearson-Bunt

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**50/18 Police Business**

Apologies have been received and a report had been supplied. The Clerk read out the report (attached).

**51/18 District Councillors Business**

Cllr Baldry congratulated the Chairman and Vice Chairman on their appointment and reported:

1. Regarding the application for a double extension at 24 Holly Berry Road, the PC had objected based on parking and on that same basis Cllr Baldry could not agree delegated approval and asked that the application go before the Planning Committee which will be on the 6th June. Cllr Baldry wants a Parish Councillor representative at that meeting (Cllr Taylor is not available).

There was a discussion on whether the objection based on Highways was valid and - it is believed to be so.

***Action*** *– Clerk/Cllr May to notify Cllr Baldry by next Monday who will be attending on behalf of the PC*

1. The major planning application for the 110 houses in Lee Mill had now been made to SHDC; Cllr Baldry will be opposing it as the Highways issues are not acceptable. He is aware that another public meeting was being arranged.

The Application had been received by Cllr Taylor on Saturday. At his request Cllr Baldry approached SHDC planning to extend commenting until after the June Parish Meeting and this had been agreed.

Cllr Baldry then left the meeting.

1. Cllr Blackler delivered the key messages for April from the Leader of SHDC:

* Waste Procurement agreed to continue to the next stage of the competitive dialogue process for waste collection, recycling and cleansing services
* Totnes Leisure Centre – Investment arrangements changed from Tadpole to Fusion
* Procurement of pay on entry equipment for named public toilets with an estimated income of £16,000 this year and £36,000 next year. Continuing to engage with third parties for additional contributions. Closures remain a very last resort
* Leaders annual report, performance for 2017/18
  + 2.5M individual household waste collections
  + 1,200 play park inspections
  + 630 food inspections
  + 92 events supported
  + 18,000 tonnes household recycling collected
  + 590 planning enforcement investigations
  + 45,000 online transactions
  + 145,500 calls handled
  + £502,900 disabled facility grants awarded
  + 134 affordable homes delivered in partnership
  + 170 Listed building consents issued
  + 850 fly tips collected#68,250 people registered to vote
  + 80 abandoned vehicles investigated
  + 334 households where homelessness was prevented
  + 330 tree inspections
  + 350,000 passengers and vehicles carried on Dartmouth Lower Ferry
  + 2,500 parking permits issued
  + Housing Benefit claims processing times 4 days faster than the national average
  + Online transactions increased by 120%
  + Missed waste collections equate to 179 in every 100,000
  + 94% non-major planning determinations delivered on time
* Air Quality consultations 20 April to 20 June
* Devon Building Control Partnership launches new website

1. The Sherford Vale School will be open in September
2. Electric points are to be installed in certain car parks
3. Enforcements are improving considerably; another two enforcement officers have been appointed
4. Pay to enter toilets (20p charge) is the most popular option rather than closing facilities
5. SHDC is fighting the closure of Boringdon Camp. Grants of £6/7,000 per year have been paid by English Heritage and these funds are not going to SHDC but to the person who looks after the land.
6. The Interim report on the joint local plan be ready mid-June. The six-week consultation will be July/August.
7. SHDC has recovered 98% of the debt from the Icelandic Bank, just £25,000 remains owing.

Cllr Lee asked about the plans for electric cars. Cllr Blacker explained that several car parks throughout the South Hams will have power points. There was discussion around who installs the points and it was thought that it might be Electric Highway.

Cllr Pearson-Bunt asked about the charging model for pay to enter toilets. It is thought that it would generate approximately £30K income across a number of toilets but she questioned whether this would even cover staffing costs, the costs of cleaning and capital costs of installing the pay system? There was discussion around whether this was an out of date system and whether there was more up to date technology available? Cllr Blackler said that it was still to be approved by Council.

**52/18 County Councillors Business**

Cllr Hart had sent his apologies, no report.

**53/18 Open Forum:**

1. Wolf Update – Elaine Budd (EB) handed out a prepared report (attached).

Cllr May referred to the second paragraph of the report regarding the noise targets, is this the reason for the delay? EB explained that there were two companies working in tandem and each had to be happy with the solution. They had finalised the design for one section and all others have been modelled so it is hoped that this will now proceed.

Cllr Milford referred to the figures for people asking for directions, who was this? EB explained that it is lorry drivers; the quarries suffer the same problem and it appears to be because of cheap satnavs that are blindly followed. EB is trying to raise the profile on Google maps to counteract this. More people are using Google to find the mine and hopefully satnavs will be updated in time.

EB has had discussions with Royal Mail about changing the postcode but this would not help.

Cllr Peacham suggested that a height barrier with a sensor and alarm might be a solution? EB will investigate.

Cllr Milford said that last month a lorry turned in the car park at Hemerdon and took part of the wall down. Cllr Peacham commented that another had ripped out a wall (Wolf knew about this and the wall had been fixed). Wolf have put in place alternative turning facilities.

Cllr Small said there was a loud blast this afternoon, heard by other Cllrs.

Cllr May said there had been a particularly bad blast last week. EB said they are going into harder rock now and the blasts were still being monitored.

Cllr Lee asked about whether there could be several smaller blasts rather than one large one? This had previously been discussed with the PC and Wolf and there were issues around the economics of more blasts. EB said it was also the delay timing between the blasts. She will however investigate whether this was still the case.

Cllr Peacham asked what was happening about the plan to extend the southern boundary of the mine. EB said that she did not have any information on this.

The Chair thanked EB for her attendance at the Parish meetings.

EB and Cllr Blacker left the meeting.

**54/18 Declarations of Interest**

None

**55/18 Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th April 2018 were approved by all present, with a correction in paragraph 36/18 (a). Signed by the Chairman.

**56/18 Data Protection**

1. The Clerk informed the Council that she had attended training provided by DALC. There is a lot of work to be done and the starting point is the Action Plan which had been circulated to Councillors.

*There was unanimous approval of the Action Plan.*

There had been an amendment to the Bill so that Parish Councils will not have to appoint a Data Protection Officer but will have to comply with everything else.

SHDC had contacted Clerks and pointed us to the Local Council Public Advisory Service (LCPAS) who have produced a kit with a low initial cost of £30 which includes checklists and template documents. The Clerk sought approval to purchase the kit.

*There was unanimous approval.*

**57/18 Planning**

1. The official application from Place Land for the development of 110 homes at Lee Mill had now been made. The date for submission of the PC comments had been extended.

There was a discussion on the plans and the proposed s106 Heads of Terms.

It was noted that there was no report from Highways.

The Parish Council is steadfastly against this application and will work on its objections.

*Action: Clerk to ascertain the date of public meeting, circulate and publicise. Include in the Agenda for the next Parish Meeting on 12th June.*

*Cllr Taylor will contact Cllr Hart to ask about the Highways Report.*

1. Cllr Taylor had submitted objections to the Dorton Group Application at Smithaleigh.

Cllr Taylor left the room.

1. Cllr Peacham had sent a letter objecting to the planning application for four houses in Hemerdon; the Highways Officer had strongly recommended refusal. The visibility splay had now been increased in the plan, however this is where the cars will be parked so it would not solve the problem.

Cllr Taylor re-entered the room.

**58/18 Road & Snow Warden**

1. TAP fund - 3 people in the Parish have completed the chainsaw training and are certified. If a tree falls over the road we can now legally clear, chop up and also cut down small trees. PPE will be needed, and Cllr Peacham will arrange this.
2. The final instalment of the upgrade of the storm drains in Hemerdon is now in place.

**59/18 Chairman’s Business**

None

**60/18 Correspondence**

* 1. It had been pointed out at the last meeting when discussing the problems with parking on New Park Road, that the Marquis Caravans site in Lee Mill has been included in the brownfield land register. It was believed that the site could offer the opportunity to try and resolve some of the highway/parking issues. Cllr Blackler has confirmed that he believed that there were proposals to develop the site.
  2. DCC Notice -Temporary Prohibition of through traffic and parking 19-26 June 2018. Voss Cross to Choakford Cross, Plympton. Alternative route via New Park Road Ref: TTRO1824187

**61/18 Finance**

The Clerk reported that the internal audit papers had been submitted and were being collected on the 9th May.

There had been changes to reporting on external audit for authorities with gross income and expenditure of less than £25,000 meaning they were an “Exempt Authority”.

SPC must submit a Certificate and Annual Return Part 2 which has to be approved by the Council, so the deadline for this has been extended until 18th June. The return and certificate will be put before Council for approval at the June Parish Meeting.

Cllr May confirmed that x11 hours overtime has been agreed for Clerk to be paid in May. This extra work in April was due to Year end accounts, GDPR and Audit.

1. Budget Analysis and Summary April 2018 (attached)
2. Draft End of Year Accounts 2017/18 (attached)
3. End of Year Bank Reconciliation 2017/18 (attached)

Cllr Taylor proposed that we move the £1,685.82 TAP Grant (pre-2013) to the repair and maintenance budget as we have two very poor Parish noticeboards in Smithaleigh and Venton. The boards in Hemerdon and Sparkwell also needed work as well as the bus shelter in Hemerdon.

Cllr May seconded – unanimously approved.

**62/18 Payments and Receipts**

1. A Kohler - £119 (approval Cllr Taylor 13 April 2018)
2. Clerk Salary - £206.02
3. Clerk expenses - £85.04
4. Payroll4Business - £10
5. Insurance Renewal - BHIB Premium £602.05
6. DALC Membership - £290.69
7. Drakelands Mine Grant – Sparkwell Parish Hall and Playground Trust - £500
8. DALC – GDPR training course - £48

**63/18 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 12th June 2018 at 7pm at Sparkwell Parish Hall commencing at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting

Signed ……………………………………………………………….

Name ……………………………………………………………….. Date ………………………………………………………



**SPARKWELL PARISH POLICE CRIME REPORT**

**April 2018**

**Crimes;** 5

1. 1st April a Domestic Assault at Elfordleigh Hotel. No complaint from victim and safeguarding implement. Filed.
2. 8th April two vacant cottages owned by the mine have been broken into. Two suspects were arrested, interviewed and released whilst the investigation continues.
3. 12th April in Sparkwell a postman was bitten by a dog. Under investigation.
4. 29th April a burglary to Welbeck Manor whereby a safe was stolen from the property. This is under investigation.

**Information;**

1. 28th April some ASB driving through Venton by trial bikes. Area search by units.
2. Holly Berry Road parking – my suggestion for double yellow lines is not for the whole of Holly Berry Road, but mainly for the entrance up to the first bend in the road as this seems to be where the main issues are. I do monitor this road frequently and all the vehicles that park at the entrance are not registered to local people, indicating this area is mainly used by car sharers.

[**Tamsyn.dingley@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk**](mailto:Tamsyn.dingley@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk) **OR 07595011193**

**Update for Sparkwell Parish Council**

8th May 2018

**Noise and Vibration Management Plan**

Previously circulated:

Both structural and acoustic engineering is progressing well and a final sign off is planned in mid-May. Work is expected to begin in earnest on site mid to late May with a team of 30 installers, with installation beginning on the north end of the process plant during the process plant’s regular day shift working hours.

The final negotiations in relation to the noise targets, due in part to the requirement for roof stiffening not factored into the original implementation timescale has meant that there has been a slight delay in commencement of physical works. It is hoped that this time can be made up during the summer months, contingent upon weather.

20 April 2018

Settlement Agreement on Hemerdon Project EPC Contract

Specialty metals producer, Wolf Minerals Limited (ASX: WLF, AIM: WLFE) (Wolf or the Company) is pleased to provide an update to its previous announcements made in relation to ongoing disputes with GR Engineering Services Limited (GNG.ASX) (GR Engineering) associated with the EPC contract for the Hemerdon tungsten and tin project in Devon, south west England (Contract).

Wolf confirms that it has entered into a settlement agreement with GR Engineering to fully and finally settle all claims in relation to the Contract, without admission of liability by either party.

Under the terms of the settlement, GR Engineering has agreed to contribute a settlement sum to Wolf to fully fund the expected cost of the noise and vibration management plan at no further cost to the Company. Upon receipt of the settlement sum, Wolf has agreed to return to GR Engineering all security it holds under or in connection with the Contract, including the £7.5 million Performance Bond.

The settlement is not expected to provide any change in the Company's operating performance or cashflows.

ENDS

Engineering decisions have determined the order of works and due to the nature of the agreed approach (e.g. replacing panel by panel) this should not result in increased noise levels. However, we have issued guidance to all contractors in terms of the requirement for mitigation of all environmental impacts (dust, noise, lighting etc.) and we will continually monitor additional impacts carefully. Visits can be arranged as soon as work commences.

**Traffic**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Google Maps**  **February**  7,292 people found Wolf on Google  235 asked for directions – up 20% from January 2018  15 people called Wolf  95 visited the web site | **March**  8,334 people found Wolf on Google  356 asked for directions – up 42% from February 2018  31 people called Wolf  108 visited the web site |
| **April**  Stats awaited |  |

**Community Involvement**

* A package of support has now been agreed with the Parish Hall Chair for improvements to the Hall to include new tables, chairs, contribution to new heating as well as signage.
* Support is being provided to the organiser of this year’s Sparkwell Fayre that includes funding of St. John’s Ambulance, a children’s workshops, raffle prizes etc. A rainy weather activity option is also being provided from Wolf in the form of a heavy plant simulator, that will be based in the Parish Hall.
* Similar support packages are being provided to the other two neighbouring parishes including sponsoring of Youth Cricket at Cornwood and sponsorship of the Annual Apple Celebration at Shaugh Prior.

**STEM Support Projects**

* The visit to MVV Devonport took place and provided much food for thought which is informing the development of educational resources which will be downloadable from a new web site that is currently in development. This will include the downloadable 360° Virtual Reality Film showing the process from ‘drilling to bagging’ which is currently in production; PowerPoint presentations; artists’ impressions of the Restoration Plan as well has simplified process descriptions. Discussions to continue with Cllr. Ashley in his role as Governor of City College Plymouth.
* A workshop was developed and implemented for secondary schoolchildren at Plympton Academy; therefore, now have workshops for both primary and secondary schools; development of additional workshops is continuing.

**Heritage Project – Book with Chris Robinson**

Continued good progress. Chris will provide an update in the next newsletter due for circulation in May.

Other support is being provided in the Cornwood and Shaugh Prior Parishes.

**Elaine Budd, Community Relations Manager**