MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on 12th March 2019 at Sparkwell Parish Hall

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

Dawn Johnson (Clerk)

**In attendance**: Cllr Hart (DCC)

**Part 1** (Open to the Public)

**034/19 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Hughes, Cllr Ashley, Cllr Small, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Blackler, Cllr Baldry and PC Dingley

**Resolved** that the apologies be noted.

**035/19 Agreement of the Agenda between Parts I and II.**

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

**036/19 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**037/19 Police Business**

Apologies had been received but a report had been supplied which the Clerk read out – see attached.

**038/19 District Councillors Business**

Reports had been provided in the annual meeting.

**039/19 County Councillors Business**

Cllr Hart reported:

1. The trees at Lee Mill have been cut back
2. He accepted the fact that there is no easy answer to the parking problems in Lee Mill. The County Council has bought the land for a new entrance road into Lee Mill which will alleviate the parking problem, however the scheme will take time to work up.
3. Various roads in the parish will be tarmaced
4. He had been told that Venton Bridge had been cleared but the PC confirmed that this was not the case so he will go back to Highways
5. There are works on the bridge at Lee Mill and he had been asked to protect the signs that are in situ
6. Wolf Minerals – The PC wrote to Development Management at DCC and had received a response. The Official Receiver has come to the conclusion that there is no future for the mine. On that basis the OR is now looking at the restoration bond which should be £12.2M. On that basis, some form of relationship with others has to be formed to reinstate the mine in such a way that it protects the run off for the polluted water from the mine. Once the mine is finally closed the chances of it re-opening again would be remote.

Cllr May said that the Planning permission will remain until 2036; it is important at the moment to protect against the polluted water.

Cllr Peacham said there was an opportunity to work together on the planning application which should come up in about 6 months. He had asked about reinstating the local liaison group with the land owner attending; the PC wants to get involved at this stage with regard to access/footpaths. There is concern that the land owners will be looking to spend the minimum amount on reinstatement.

Cllr Pearson-Bunt asked how plans for Holland Road were progressing. He said that yellow lines will be put right along the road.

Cllr Pearson-Bunt asked about the review of the Re-use Credit Scheme which proposed taking money away from existing schemes such as Refurnish. She asked why this was being done? Cllr Hart said that he would need to check this but suspects that it is about County retendering for large waste and as a result it is now less cost effective. Cllr Pearson-Bunt said that existing arrangements work really well to protect the environment by encouraging re-use and recycling of valuable raw materials. This reuse and recycling provide an important service to less affluent members of our community by providing access to safe and cheap furniture and domestic appliances and this service is much valued within the local community. Any threat to the economic viability of the RCS service would lead directly to an increase in fly-tipping around the community with associated nuisance and disproportionately high costs for clearing up, more than wiping out any potential short-term savings and would be morally wrong.

Cllr Hart encouraged the PC to respond to the consultation.

Cllr Hart left the meeting at 7.42pm

**040/19 Open Forum**

1. Wolf Update – The Clerk had circulated an email received from DCC.

This was discussed as part of the County Councillor’s report.

**041/19 Minutes**

Councillors considered the minutes of the previous meeting.

**Resolved unanimously** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th February be approved.

**042/19 Annual Parish Residents Meeting**

No issues raised.

**043/19 Reuse Credit Scheme Consultation**

The Clerk had received and circulated an email from SHDC regarding consultation on ongoing funding – discussed above.

**Resolved** The PC should put in a response.

***Action*** *– Cllr Pearson-Bunt will prepare a draft response.*

**044/19 Dementia Friendly Communities**

The Clerk reported that she had attended the meeting on the 5th March of the Four Rivers Dementia Alliance who promote dementia friendly communities. She had also contacted the church as she was aware that they were looking to start up a Dementia/Memory Café and a representative of that group also attended the meeting. The main points are:

* Four Rivers Alliance are working with Gary Streeter to become the first dementia friendly constituency
* SHDC are working on becoming dementia friendly
* Encouraging Parish Councils to take the lead on dementia friendly communities
* Encourage PCs to appoint a dementia champion – the Clerk said that she would be happy to take on the role although she would not be able to attend every meeting but could circulate information
* We could invite them in to talk to the PC and/or provide training

**Resolved** that the Clerk take on the role of dementia champion.

**045/19 Newnham Solar Fund**

The Clerk had circulated the press release from the fund. Councillors are encouraged to spread the word about the fund.

**046/19 Review of Policies**

Councillors considered Policies:

* 1. Health & Safety Policy (review)
	2. Standing Orders (new version based on NALC)
	3. Finance Regulations (review)
	4. Statement of Internal Control (review)

**Resolved** that the Standing Orders, Finance Regulations and Statement of Internal Control be adopted by the Parish Council. The H&S policy will be looked at by a H&S consultant.

**047/19 Planning**

1. Planning Application Ref: 0214/19/HHO

Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs Jay and Amy Fox

Description: Householder application for a two-storey extension with associated alterations to the existing home

Address: 2 Moor View Cottages Venton PL7 5DR

**Resolved** to await Cllr Taylor’s return to advise.

**Action** add to agenda for April meeting

1. Planning Reference DCC/4038/2018 Devon County Council

Planning Application at SX 595, 552, Challonsleigh Farm, Smithaleigh, PL7 5AX

Consultation expiry – 27 April 2019

**Resolved** to await Cllr Taylor’s return to advise.

**Action** add to agenda for April meeting

1. Planning Application Ref: 0394/19/FUL

Description: Erection of four terraced dwellings with associated parking

Address: Quay West Studios Old Newnham Plympton PL7 5BH

Cllr Peacham had been to inspect this site. The four houses will be three stories high with the ground floor being the garage and have copper roofs. While it is outside of the development area, it is next to Grade II listed barns and not far from a Grade I house. The townhouse style in the countryside which is very odd. The site is the car park for half of the studios so if they were developed in the future then it would impact on parking.

**Resolved** to provide PC feedback

***Action*** *– Cllr Peacham will prepare notes and send to the Clerk to send the response.*

**048/19 Road & Snow Warden**

Cllr Peacham has bought x3 push along salt spreaders. One to be kept in the telephone box in Hemerdon, another at the residential home in Sparkwell and there is a spare one. There is a network of people who will spread the salt in those areas.

He has added more potholes on the DCC website and said that they do get filled.

**049/19** **Chairman’s Business**

1. Devon County had previously sprayed and marked pavements for resurfacing, however the markings have worn off without work being done.

***Action*** *– The Clerk to contact DCC Highways.*

1. Cllr May attended the Parish Hall meeting in the absence of Cllr Small and will continue to attend the meetings.

**050/19 Correspondence**

The Clerk reported:

1. Sparkwell play park inspection report from SHDC which said that the gates need repairing as they do not close. We are waiting for an estimate.

**051/19 Finance**

1. to consider budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for February 2019 (circulated)

**Resolved** **unanimously** that the reports be approved

1. The Clerk informed the Council that the PC has been granted a VAT registration waiver. This means that we do not need to charge VAT on the annual invoice to the CIC for a one third contribution to equipment and stationery etc.
2. The order has been placed for the defibrillators and they will developed to the Clerk’s home address. Cllr Hart has awarded us a Locality Grant of £2,000 towards project. Cllr Baldry has said that he supports our project but that his Sustainable Community Locality Fund is spent for this year but he would like give us a grant in next financial year. Once the equipment is received then we arrange for fitting, training etc.
3. The Clerk asked if the PC would like to join the Ivybridge & District Association of Local Councils (IDALC) for £7 an annual subscription. This provides information and support.

**Resolved unanimously** that the PC joins IDALC

1. **Virements** – the Clerk explained that three invoices that would be coming in for payment in March mean that we need to make virements as those particular budgets were spent (Salary and Maintenance and repairs – gate and Venton noticeboard). As the account would be submitted to the auditor before the April meeting she asked for approval for the following virements:
	1. £350 from Insurance to Salary
	2. £400 from Insurance to Repairs and Maintenance
	3. £200 from Emergency Planning to Repairs and Maintenance
	4. £200 from Professional fees to Repairs and Maintenance

**Resolved unanimously** that the virements are approved.

**052/19 Payments and Receipts**

1. Payments list (circulated)
2. Receipt £227.85 refund of VAT

**Resolved** unanimously that this report be approved.

**053/19 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 9th April 2019 at 7pm at Hemerdon Parish Hall. Going forward the Parish meetings will alternate between Sparkwell Parish Hall and Hemerdon Village Hall.

***Action*** *– Clerk will book Hemerdon Hall, notify Sparkwell Hall and publish a schedule of meetings*

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting

Signed ……………………………………………………………….

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

**SPARKWELL PARISH POLICE CRIME REPORT**

**February 2019**

**Crimes;** 4

1. 12th March – Non-crime dog attack another dog on rural back lanes. Owner of dogs identified and WOA passed. Owner of injured dog happy with action.
2. 20th March – Sparkwell Zoo – abusive letters sent regarding online post involving Lion / Tug of war incident. Filed as writer of letter cannot be located.
3. 23rd March – dog worrying livestock near Cann Woods. Dog attacked sheep. No evidence to I/D dog owner. Filed.
4. 25th March – Sparkwell Zoo – abusive/racist comments on Facebook page of Zoo re Lion/Tug of war. Under Investigation.

**Information;**

**SCAMS** come in many forms, but often have a common characteristic: they offer something that looks too good to be true. There’s a reason for that…the latest that police are aware of are social media posts which promise quick cash to people who take part in a “mystery shopper” scheme. This is a scam. Victims end up having to pay for goods and contracts that they never receive and may be subject to further financial or identity theft.
Remember: If it looks too good to be true, it almost certainly is. Do not respond to social media posts or ads like this, and do not share them with your friends.

Report all scams and frauds to Action Fraud online at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/) or by calling 0300 123 2040.

**THEIVES** target trade vans parked overnight to steal tools. Here are some things trades people can do to keep their tools and livelihoods safe:

* Keep your vehicle locked and your keys secure
* Park in a well-lit area and in clear view of your property and by any CCTV cameras
* Park against a wall or fence so rear doors are inaccessible, side doors too if possible
* Unload as many tools as you can. It’s a chore but it’s better than not being able to work tomorrow
* Fit an independent alarm accredited by Thatcham
* Fit additional locks on your van doors as some manufacturer's locks can be picked
* Fit a quality tool chest in your van and secure it with a 'Sold Secure' padlock.
* Mark your tools so they can easily be identified as belonging to you. Keep an up-to-date list of your tools, including photographs and serial numbers, registered on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
* Call 999 immediately if you see a crime in progress or any suspicious activity around trade vans

More: [www.dc.police.uk/toolsatrisk](http://www.dc.police.uk/toolsatrisk)

**Social media messages-**

Have a question? Need an immediate response? Use: WebChat!

WebChat is an online service where you can talk directly to our contact centre staff; just the same as calling us.

WebChat allows you to ask us a question or receive updates on existing crime reports, all at your own convenience.

Simply visit [www.dc.police.uk](http://www.dc.police.uk) and click on the WebChat icon to begin chatting to a member of our call centre staff.

Why call when you don’t have to?

Thank You

Tamsyn

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