

MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 9th November 2021 at Hemerdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Peacham, Pearson-Bunt, Webb, Millford, Lee and May
Sophie Jones (Clerk)

In attendance: Cllr Baldry (SHDC), Alex Dawson (Tungsten West), Catherine Bookless-Browne, Paula Serpell Denman

Part 1 (Open to the Public)

165/21 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Thomas, Cllr Hart, Cllr McEwing, Cllr Harvey

166/21 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.

167/21 Declarations of Interest

None

168/21 County Councillor's Report

No update from Cllr Hart

169/21 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Baldry begins his update by addressing the issues in Larch Grove between the residents and YGS. He has been in contact with the Enforcement team that morning and they responded to say they are anticipating a revised certificate of lawfulness application imminently and will be advising parish council and neighbours once it has been submitted and validated. Cllr Baldry continues to say that any enforcement is on hold pending the assessment. He can understand that this is bad news so recommends the residents make a Statutory Nuisance report with an Environmental Health Officer. A log will be kept with the noise complaints and times. This may resolve the situation quicker.

Cllr Baldry also updates SPC on the waste collections. All residents have been sent a letter in the post detailing the reasons the contract with FCC is failing. Unfortunately, it's not getting better and there are too many failures to do assisted collections with particular roads and houses not being collected. Would need at least three months to set up an in-house waste collection team. Cllr Baldry's biggest regret is that he wasn't able to set up a final collection for garden waste but couldn't find anyone to do it.

Cllr Baldry left the meeting at 19.20.

170/21 Public Forum

No comments

171/21 Hemerdon Mine

Alex Dawson updates the Council on Tungsten West. They have recently changed from a Limited company to a Public Listed Company. The float on the stock exchange was successful to restart operations at Hemerdon. They are now starting to take steps to hire a team to facilitate the project, including hiring Senior Environmental Advisors, drawing tenders for dust management teams and appointing an engineer for design work. The mine restart is still planned for Q1 2023. Recently submitted two bespoke planning applications to the Environmental Agency, the public were consulted on these applications so all comments will be taken into account. The Section 73 variation is still ongoing, and the scoping opinion response is being considered. Additional work has been identified and the quality of hedgerows and flood risks are being looked into.

The increase of aggregate movements is being extended by 6 months, currently consulting with DCC and would like to consult with the public. The date for the public consultation will be announced in due course. They are currently addressing the width, quality and condition of the roads and assessing the pinch points which may need widening.

Cllr Peacham asked if there is a plan for the replanting of trees. Alex says that YGS will start to tackle it soon and will send SPC a plan. They are placing fencing in some areas and replanting in others as part of a phased approach, concentrating on public facing areas first and then public bridleways.

Alex Dawson left the meeting at 19.53

172/21 Community Fibre

Cllr Pearson-Bunt presents an update regarding community fibre. If any residents want to check if you can get community fibre then go on to the money supermarket website and see prices available to you, if you get offered a speed, then select the option/package. This means you have access to community fibre. There are nine houses which have been affected by the fallen tree. Once the tenants vacate the premises, the tree can be cleared and access granted. This will allow the cable to be fixed and community fibre connected. It's also worth noting that the addition of community fibre in the area has increased house prices by 5%.

173/21 Climate Change

- a. Clerk read out an update from Cllr McEwing;
There are five hedgehog signs nearing completion, just need to purchase stakes.
RESOLVED – unanimously that Cllr McEwing can purchase stakes for Hedgehog signs upto £50.
- b. Cllr Peacham would like to investigate the potential for a cycle track from Sparkwell.
ACTION – *Cllr Peacham to speak to Cllr Thomas regarding cycle path contacts and funding*

The Cllrs also discussed the possibility of EV Charging points and felt that the funding would be better suited in more urban areas such as Plympton, Plymouth, etc. Sparkwell are at least 5 years away from needing EV charging points. The SPC

want to prioritise home insulation over EV charging points, but will explore other options and discuss again at a future meeting.

174/21 Neighbourhood Planning

Nothing to report – will revisit at next meeting

175/21 Meeting Venue for 2022

Keep alternating meeting venue between Sparkwell Parish Hall and Hemerdon Village Hall

ACTION – Clerk to book alternate venues for next year

176/21 Newnham Solar CIC

Sparkwell Parish Clerk will also be working as the Grant Scheme Co-Ordinator for Newnham Solar CIC.

RESOLVED – Unanimously approved by Cllrs.

177/21 Minutes

Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting on the 12th October 2021

RESOLVED - unanimously that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 12th October 2021 be approved and signed

178/21 Planning

a. [Planning Application Ref: 3633/21/HHO](#) **Comments by 11th November 2021**

Applicant Name: Mr Graham Brown

Description: Householder application installation of replacement rain water soakaway (Retrospective)

Address: Ivy Cottage, Hemerdon PL7 5BU

RESOLVED – No Objections

b. [Planning Application Ref: 3673/21/FUL](#) **Comments by 18th November 2021**

Applicant Name: Mr Tom Donnachie – Custodian Reit

Description: Change of use from Class B2 (general industry) to a flexible use for Class B2 or B8 (storage or distribution)

Address: 2 Western Wood Way, Langage Business Park, Plympton PL7 5BG

RESOLVED – Agree

179/21 Road and Snow Warden

Nothing to update – well equipped if we have a bad winter

180/21 Chairman's Business

Cllr Peacham discussed the Community Energy Fund/Wind Farm. Reading the minutes from the last Community Wind Farm meeting, Cllr Peacham can see that they state some benefits come back to the community but won't define how much or how it's calculated. Community members would have to invest into wind farm by becoming a shareholder. Government has removed the ability to build wind farms on land (they must be in the sea) unless it's sponsored by the community or has community approval. The next stage will be a feasibility study.

RESOLVED - Sparkwell Parish Council are yet to be convinced that the Community Wind Farm project provides a real community benefit and are waiting for more evidence to be shown before encouraging participation.

Cllr Peacham also discusses a letter from Citizens Advice asking for donations.

RESOLVED – Unanimously agree to donate £250 to Citizens Advice

ACTION – Clerk to make the donation of £250 from SPC to Citizens Advice

Catherine Bookless-Browne requested streetlights near the park.

ACTION – Cllr Peacham to discuss with Nick Coulton. The community will be consulted in due course.

181/21 Correspondence

Ongoing issues in Larch Grove with YGS, have been noise complaints and damages. Cllr Baldry gave an update in his earlier brief (minute 169/21).

ACTION – Cllr Peacham to contact residents to discuss starting a Statutory Nuisance Report

182/21 Finance

- a. All approved.

183/21 Payments and Receipts

Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments for October 2021

184/21 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7pm on 14th December 2021 in Sparkwell Parish Hall

ACTION – To discuss changing the schedule to less meetings per year and move to alternate weekday from March 2022. Discuss at next council meeting.

Meeting closed at 21.10

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name Date