MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on 14th May 2019 at Sparkwell Parish Hall

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

Dawn Johnson (Clerk)

**In attendance**: Cllr Hart (DCC), Cllr Baldry (SHDC), x1 member of the public

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

**Annual Parish Council Meeting**

**070/19 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 Lee and with no further nominations Cllr May was duly elected unopposed.

The Chair invited nominations for the position of Vice Chairman.

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

which was seconded by Cllr Lee and with no further nominations Cllr Taylor was elected unopposed.

**071/19 Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interests by all elected Parish Councillors**

Declarations signed and witnessed by the Clerk. Graham Millford and Glen Peacham are yet to sign.

**Resolved** that all Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms must be completed by 21st May 2019

Register of Interest forms were submitted by those present. The Clerk informed the PC that the forms had to now be uploaded on to our website.

**072/19 Apologies for Absence**

Glen Peacham, Graham Milford, Cllr John Hart (DCC) who is attending the Cornwood meeting but hopes to attend SPC later, Cllr Dan Thomas (SHDC), PCSO Di Summers,

**Resolved** that the apologies be noted.

**Parish Council Meeting**

**073/19 Agreement of the Agenda between Parts I and II.**

Councillors noted that two items of business would be considered in Part II of the meeting.

**074/19 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**075/19 Police Business**

1. The Clerk had received communication from PC Dingley to say that she was leaving the local team. She passed on her thanks for support and stated that establishing key contacts in the community is essential to every Neighbourhood Beat Manager.
2. PCSCO Summers had provided a report which the Clerk read out (attached).

**076/19 District Councillors Business**

Cllr Baldry reported:

1. He congratulated Cllrs May and Taylor on their appointment. He appreciated those who stood to be parish councillors and who put their time in for the community.
2. The new council at South Hams is very different; there are 31 district councillors, 16 Conservative, 10 Liberal Democrats, 3 Green Party and 2 Independents, no Labour. Appointments to committees and executive will be on Thursday 16th.
3. Cllr Thomas and Cllr Baldry will work well together and one of them will be present at every meeting and will submit a joint report.

**077/19 Open Forum**

1. Sparkwell Parish Hall representative was in attendance. She said that the hall is in a very bad situation with regards to membership. They are not quorate at most meetings and although they have a very good hall manager, they had difficulties with others willing to take responsibilities. The situation was discussed at the AGM where there was a lot of animosity. They had sought advice from the head of community, Martin Rich, at Devon Communities Together who attended a meeting last week. They have asked him to take on the hall and make some moves to broaden the scope of the committee to bring it in to line. He has suggested a community meeting in July which he will facilitate to try to rekindle the enthusiasm of the community. He has suggested that they speak to the Parish Council, as custodian trustees of the hall, and encourage them to be active and enthusiastic about the hall.

The accounts are being finalised and over the year they break even on the revenue account but do not have enough money to put money aside for large repairs that need doing.

Cllr May said that he is quite happy to assist and take up the role of interim Chairman.

Cllr Small said that Rowe Hall takes away from the Parish Hall but it was stated that the hall has a good working relationship with Rowe Hall and it is not believed that they do take away from the Parish Hall.

There was a discussion about people not wanting to get involved with community; the fact that there are vacancies on the Parish Council is also evidence of this.

Cllr Taylor also offered to take on assisting the Hall and assured the representative that the PC supported the hall.

1. Wolf Update – The land owner had contacted Cllr Taylor this afternoon to inform him that the wet waste tip has dried out and there have been sheets of dust blowing over Shaugh Prior. There are photographs of this. A specialist company is visiting the site tomorrow to come up with a proposal on how to reduce the dust. He will contact the land owner and say that the PC wanted to visit the site. It is not thought to be dangerous but it is a nuisance.

***Action –*** *Clerk to contact DCC for an update of the current situation*

**078/19 Matters** **Arising**

* 1. 058/19 – Broadband – The DCC Officer responsible for the project will be attending the Parish meeting in June.

**079/19 Minutes**

Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting on the 9th April 2019

**Resolved** **unanimously** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th April 2019 be approved.

Cllr Taylor commented:

1. Minute 064/19 (b) Planning Application Ref: : 0653/19/FUL

Description: Change of use from B1 Office to C3 dwellinghouse

Address: Liberty House Ashleigh Way Smithaleigh Plymouth PL7 5AX

The PC did not object.

1. Minute 064/19 (c) Planning Application Ref: 0632/19/FUL

Applicant Name: Mrs C Serpell

Description: Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of 2 storey house

Address: Moor Cottage Venton Sparkwell PL7 5DU

Cllrs Taylors and Peacham inspected the site and believed it was a good project that had no impact on anyone else; The PC had no objection

1. Minute 064/19 (d) Planning Application Ref: 0794/19/FUL

Applicant Name: Mrs Norman - Cowslip Developments Ltd

Description: Conversion of 4 bed property back to original configuration of two 2 bed properties

Address: Briar Cottage Plymouth Road Lee Mill Bridge Lee Mill PL21 9DY

The PC had no objection.

There was a discussion about the proposed development at Challonsleigh and the PC’s objection to it. Cllr Baldry confirmed that Yealmpton Parish Council are also objecting.

Cllr Hart arrived at the meeting at 7.57pm

**080/19 County Councillors Business** – (Agenda order revised)

Cllr Hart reported:

1. He will check the situation with regard to the Challonsleigh application.
2. Hemerdon Mine – there may be a liaison meeting in the foreseeable future. Plans have been drawn up for restoration and once confirmed, there will be a liaison meeting. He attended Shaugh Prior Parish Council meeting last week and concerns were expressed about houses being sold off at Hemerdon. He confirmed that one house has been sold, but no other houses were on the market. No-one is coming forward to take the mine on as it is not feasible. There is £12M in the bond, but those looking at the restoration will need their fees to be paid from it; DCC is not responsible for the financing.

Cllr May asked at what point are they going to start restoration? Cllr Hart stated that the plans are being drawn up for restoration on the assumption that nobody will come forward. However if someone does come forward at the last minute, they will need to prove that they have the resources needed to get the mine going. The restoration plan is to ensure that the run off is not polluting as well as attempts to tidy up the site. The Bond will be financing the those coming on site tomorrow regarding the dust. Cllr May said that if anyone takes over the site then the LFN issue needs to be resolved before any other work.

1. DCC has a balanced budget again although there is an overspend of £9.5M on Children’s Services as there are more young people needing support.
2. They have set aside £250,000 to prepare for climate change. The Chief Executive has been speaking to other organisations in Devon including District Councils, Police, Fire and the Met Office. Devon is miniscule in comparison to China, America, Russia and India but we must do something for ourselves and show others what can be done. We are recycling and the waste plant is generating electricity with the Devonport plant feeding steam into the Dockyard.
3. DCC has 77000 street lights which are being changed to LED bulbs and will switch off between midnight and 5.30am. They have invested £2.5M and have another £8M to go. They are saving close to £800,000 in electricity and 1000 tonnes of carbon a year by switching off.
4. They are investigating use of solar panels including putting shelters over car parks and solar panels on them.
5. DCC did well out of the one year business rates project and is putting £4.5M in to supporting children and families in the hope of reducing the number of young people going into care.

Cllr May referred to the last meeting and asked what was happening at Beech Farm, Lee Mill which is fenced off. It is believed it is being made secure.

There was a discussion about the travellers at Holland Road. Cllr Hart confirmed that there will be yellow lines put right through the area and that is when they will have to go.

Cllr May said that the visibility on the corner near the bus shelter in Lee Mill is poor because of trees and hedgerow. Issues have been raised by residents and there are concerns over the safety of people crossing the road.

The junction on the new road to Hemerdon is overgrown again reducing visibility.

Cllr Hart will take these matters up.

Cllr Small raised concerns about speeding traffic in Sparkwell which was an ongoing problem. Cllr Hart asked whether there had been monitoring and suggested that we liaise with the Police and encourage them to work with the school to monitor speed.

***Action*** *– Clerk to contact the Neighbourhood Policing and raise the issue.*

Cllr Hart left the meeting at 8.25pm

Cllr Small left the meeting temporarily.

**081/19 Planning**

1. Request for a TPO - Ref: 1076881

South Hams District Council Parish of Sparkwell No. 982 Tree Preservation Order 2019

Quay West Studios Old Newnham Plympton

**Resolved** to support the application.

1. Planning Application Ref: 0719/19/FUL

Applicant Name: Mr M Stephens

Description: Proposed Ménage

Address: Ford Farm Plympton PL7 5AU

**Resolved** to support the application.

1. Planning Application Ref: 3543/18/FUL

Applicant Name: Mr M Stephens The Ford Farm Partnership

Description: Provision of a new agricultural livestock building (Application 1 of 4)

Address: Ford Farm Plympton PL7 5AU

**Resolved** to support the application.

1. Planning Application Ref: 3544/18/FUL

Applicant Name: Mr M Stephens The Ford Farm Partnership

Description: Provision of a new agricultural livestock building (Application 2 of 4)

**Resolved** to support the application.

1. Planning Application Ref: 3545/18/FUL

Applicant Name: Mr M Stephens The Ford Farm Partnership

Description: Provision of a new agricultural livestock building (Application 3 of 4)

Address: Ford Farm Plympton PL7 5AU

**Resolved** to support the application.

1. Planning Application Ref: 3546/18/FUL

Applicant Name: Mr M Stephens The Ford Farm Partnership

Description: Provision of a new agricultural livestock building (Application 4 of 4)

**Resolved** to support the application.

Cllr Small returned to the meeting.

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1. Planning Application Ref: 0004/19/OPA

Applicant Name: Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance

Description: Outline application with all matters reserved for proposed new dwelling

Address: All Saints Vicarage Sparkwell PL7 5DB

**Resolved** to support the application, subject to it not being within the minerals consultation area.

1. Planning Application Ref: 1144/19/HHO

Applicant Name: Mr & Mrs S Edwards

Description: Householder application for proposed single storey extension

Address: 8 Harris Way Lee Mill Lee Mill Bridge PL21 9EU

**Resolved** to support the application.

Cllr Baldry left the meeting at 8.43pm

**082/19 Councillor Responsibilities**– (Agenda order revised)

The Clerk had circulated the draft list of proposed Councillor responsibilities. There was a full discussion on the suggested headings, incorporating similar headings, assigning names to the groupings for confirmation at the next meeting.

***Action*** *– Clerk to revise and circulate for consideration*

Cllr Small left the meeting.

**083/19 Road & Snow Warden**

None

**084/19 Chairman’s Business**

1. Cllr May referred to footpaths and his wish to be responsible for this (Minute 082/19). He would like to put an article in the Parish Pump asking for residents to report any issues with footpaths.

***Action*** *– Cllr May to draft the wording and forward to the Clerk to send on to the Parish Pump*

**085/19 Correspondence**

1. A resident had sent a copy of his objection to the recent Challonsleigh application. He had cited the National Planning policy 2017 2.6, the South Hams Green infrastructure and Health and Safety.

**086/19 Finance** –

1. Annual Return – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

**RESOLVED** that that the Annual Governance Statement be signed by the Chair and minuted.

1. Annual Return – Approval of Accounting Statements for 2018/19

**RESOLVED** that Part 2 of the Annual Return be signed by the Chair and minuted.

1. Annual Return – Certificate for Exemption 2018/19

**RESOLVED** that the criteria for exemption is met

1. To consider budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for April 2019 (circulated)

**Resolved** **unanimously** that the reports be approved subject to the addition of the invoice to R Moysey which was received after the statements had been prepared.

**087/19 Payments and Receipts**

1. Payments list
2. Receipt £5,680.50 – SHDC Precept 1st payment

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

**088/19 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 11th June 2019 at 7pm at Hemerdon Village Hall

Cllr May left the meeting

**089/19**

Cllr Taylor explained that Cllr and Mrs May had consulted with him reference progressing an appeal against the refusal to prevent them building three houses in their field. The plan also included a footpath to be gifted to the Parish which would lead straight into the zoo.

Cllr May returned to the meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.32pm

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting

Signed ……………………………………………………………….

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

**SPARKWELL PARISH POLICE CRIME REPORT**

**March / April 2019**

**Crimes**

5 crimes recorded for March, no crimes in April

Use of threatening behaviour – road rage

Possess controlled drug – Detected

Send public communication offensive / abusive – undetected

Common Assault – no witness, no lines of enquiry

Drive motor vehicle above alcohol limit – Charged

**Information**

**Car Crime**

With the Summer months approaching the car parks around the Moors can become a target for Opportunist criminals.

Simple rules to enjoy your day out:-

* Secure your vehicle
* Do not leave items on view, even small change in the trays of the vehicle will be a target.
* Sat Navs, mobile phone chargers / leads put away in the glove box or boot.

**Dogs Die In Hot Cars**

**“not long” is too long….**

If you see a dog shut in a vehicle on a warm day and it seems in distress DIAL 999

Leaving a window open isn’t enough. If it’s 20 degrees outside it can reach 50 degrees inside the car in minutes. A dog will literally cook. Never leave them in the car even if you are popping into a shop it is not acceptable. On a hot day it is kinder to leave a dog at home.

**Contact**

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