

GREAT SOMERFORD
(INCORPORATING STARTLEY) PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting - DRAFT
5 April 2023
Community Room@ 7.30 pm

Present Cllr T Barker Cllr T Sturgis
Cllr M Griffiths Cllr D Todd
Cllr J Harper Cllr I Vout

In attendance Cllr E Threlfall, Wiltshire 1 member of the public
Clerk, H Wallace
PQT Public Questions
None

WCR Reports from Unitary Councillor and Council Representatives
Wiltshire Cllr Threlfall provided an update as follows:

Malmesbury Primary School has been offered £6 million by the Dyson foundation to build seven new classrooms. A consultation and planning process will ensue. Whilst primary spaces are currently in demand, there is a slight concern of there being enough primary school children to fill the school by 2027, even with the new housing coming into the area, which could then have a detrimental impact on other local primary schools in the future.

Cllr Thelfall and Cllr Sturgis attended a virtual meeting regarding the poor state of the road surface on Dauntsey Road. It was reported that it isn't the new surface that is causing the problem. Wiltshire Council will do more work on clearing the gulleys and will look at the surface holes to see if they are in tolerance and work on the gulley on the east. They will also be looking to divert some of the water that is landing on pavements next to the road.

Cllr Thelfall attended coffee morning at the church and 2 'Coffee Pots' meetings. The horse chestnut tree that has been discussed by the PC in the past was raised by parishioners at one of the coffee mornings. There is still a call for a bin to be provided specifically for leaf-fall from this tree. The PC discussed various options and will include it on the June Agenda to try to reach a solution. In the meantime, the Parish Steward will be asked if he could sweep the nearby drains of the leaves. It was noted that the Parish Steward is working mostly on potholes but it will be raised. The location of the specific drains to be passed to the Parish Steward. **Action: Cllr Threlfall/ Cllr Vout**

Parishioners also spoke with Cllr Thelfall about the lack of bus service to Malmesbury and it was agreed that a local bus user would be asked if they could speak with the bus company to see if there is a users' forum or write to buses at Wiltshire Council. **Action: Cllr Threlfall**

Improvements and an extension to the West Street footpath was also raised. The extension of the footpath to Manor Park was originally considered as a potential CIL project. Wiltshire Council's CATG unit previously quoted for this but, not only was the cost extremely high, but the timescales that they discussed with GSPC meant that the work was unlikely to meet the CIL money spending deadlines. The PC will consider ways to find a solution and again, this will be on the June Agenda.

The Ash Tree on Hollow St has been assessed before but now appears to be suffering more clearly from ash die back and will be looked at again by a Divisional Surveyor.

1. Intro

Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest

a) Apologies for absence: Cllr A Lennox, Cllr H Lennox, Cllr F Miles

b) Declarations of Interest: Cllr Griffiths had declared an interest in request for donation for Coronation mugs as she is a Trustee of the GSCF.

2. Minutes

Minutes and Matters Arising

a) The Minutes of the previous meeting held 1 March were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed.
Proposed: Cllr Sturgis
Seconded: Cllr Barker

b) The new format for the Action Register was noted and with no items in red, updates would be sought during the meeting

3. CIL Projects

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Projects

Cllr Sturgis reported on behalf of the Recreation Area Working Group that he and a Diocese representative had walked around the Glebe Field and discussed the possibilities of leasing the entire field and apportioning a small kick-about area in one of the middle sections. There are steps to take to see how a lease could look. A Public Consultation would be held prior to making any decisions.

Cllr Vout has been contacted by Somerbrook residents to look at a small patch of land at the far side for a kick-about area. It needs to be measured out to see if there is enough space, given the requirement for a 15metre buffer from the adjacent high voltage transmission wires and consider how it could be made safe for play.
Action Ian Vout

Cllr A Lennox was not present but had submitted a written report which was read at the meeting to Councillors, with précis as follows:

The 85th %ile traffic speed on the Sutton Benger Road was recorded at 40.7mph. Reducing the stated speed limit from 60mph to 40mph would not therefore provide any real reduction in speed as the nature of the road prevents excessive speed for the majority of vehicles.

The 85th %ile traffic speed on the Startley main road was recorded at 38.4mph – even with the SID in place at the south end of the village. LHFIG have been requested to review funding for Speed Bumps (similar to those on Malmesbury High Street) and this query has been referred to Steve Hind. Cllr Thelfall reported that this was done with Steve Hind, who could see the issue but that speed bumps are difficult unless there is considerable street lighting. Cllr Thelfall recommended placing the SIDs and monitoring improvements. Police have also increased their presence and in issue speeding tickets.

The PC is awaiting feedback from Highways regarding the placement locations of additional SID sites and Cllr A Lennox requested to use CIL monies to purchase one additional SID based on the quote provided at the previous meeting. Cllrs voted to purchase an additional SID, to be initially located in Dauntsey Road.

Proposed: Cllr Griffiths

Seconded: Cllr Todd

Another proposed CIL project is to consider putting a path in the church cemetery in Great Somerford. It is a flat area at the back area of the church. The Diocese does not have funding for this and it should qualify under the CIL parameters. The church should put forward a cost to PC.

Action: Cllr Sturgis

Playground – Cllr Vout reported that the slide will be put in after the holidays -w/c 17 April.

4. Planning

a) Current Parish Planning Applications

PL/2023/01812 - Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area
THE MEAD, GREAT SOMERFORD, CHIPPENHAM, SN15 5JB

T1 - Norwegian Maple tree - 25% crown reduction. T2 & T4 - 2 x Apple trees - 25% crown reduction and thin. T3 - Conifer tree (dead) – remove Recommend: **No objection**

PL/2023/01809 - Householder Application

THE QUACKS, MANOR PARK, GREAT SOMERFORD, CHIPPENHAM, SN15 5EQ Single storey side extension Recommend: **No objection**



Planning Applications Determined Since Last Meeting

PL/2023/00878 - Proposed Works to Trees in a Conservation Area

RADCLIFFE HOUSE, DAUNTSEY ROAD, GREAT SOMERFORD, CHIPPENHAM, SN15 5HS

G1 3 Silver Birch are to be reduced in height by up to 3 metres. T1 Hornbeam is to be reduced all over by up to 2 metres. Decision: **No Objection**

PL/2022/08011 - Full Planning Permission

The Hawthorns, Startley, SN15 5HG

Erection of a Single Storey Red Brick Garage Decision:

Approve with Conditions

2 Broadfield Farm, Great Somerford, SN15 5EL

Alterations to existing facades and roof including new porch, new windows and removal / alteration of existing windows and doors and alterations to raised patio at rear to facilitate internal and external renovation of the house Decision: **Approve with Conditions**

Your Ref: 21/01950/FUL Our Ref: APP/Y3940/W/22/3296058

Site Address: Land at Broadfield Farm , Great Somerford , SN15 5EL

Decision: The appeal is allowed and planning permission is granted for 21 residential dwellings, vehicular access from Broadfield Farm, ancillary works and associated infrastructure at Land at Broadfield Farm, Broadfield Farm, Great Somerford SN15 5EL in accordance with the terms of application

Subject to Conditions

Cllr Sturgis commented on this that the Neighbourhood Plan called for low cost housing and there is a concern that the 21 house development is mostly 4 bedroom houses, and that it doesn't help the 5 year land supply. PC comments didn't appear to be noted. On the other hand, there are quite a number of conditions, which is positive. Councillors expressed concerns over access. Cllr Sturgis suggested that there should be a condition survey of the road and a case should be made to ensure access to the site is safe particularly in relation to local children. It would be good if local people could contact planning about the access. The PC will write with concerns over access and seek reassurance from the developers.

b) Housing Developments

Nothing further.

c) Neighbourhood plan

No updates this time.

5. Finance

a) the Finance Report was ratified and approved and duly signed off. The Treasurer account was reconciled and bank balances noted, and duly signed off.


b) Cllr Harper has started the application with Lloyds for a 6 month deposit account with the same signatories as the existing accounts.

c) Cllr Harper reported that the NJC had increased the Clerk pay point last November with a back-date to April. It was noted that this had been agreed and that this would mean going over budget but that next year an allocation would be made to accommodate the way NJC organise local government pay increases.

d) To discuss year end audit and appoint an internal auditor for 2023/24 – Councillors agreed to appoint Sarah Binstead again and noted that she had informed the Clerk that this would be okay.

e) Councillors discussed whether or not it may be possible to apply for exemption and whether CIL monies should be counted in receipts in the same way as other income. It was agreed that the Council could NOT apply for exemption as CIL monies are included and these have taken the PC over the £25,000 threshold.

f) Councillors discussed a request for a grant from GSCF for Coronation mugs at £5 ea and for approximately 50- 60 children. Email approval received from Cllr A Lennox. It was agreed that it can

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to be approved from miscellaneous funds but that the PC would donate between £150-£250 depending on other pledges received.

Proposed: Cllr Harper
Seconded: Cllr Vout

6. Managed Facilities

Nothing further to update about Winkins Playground.

Community room – There have been issues with the key which are being resolved. DBAT are going to decorate the door and window along with the school improvements at no charge. There was a H&S audit and we haven't heard so hoping that is good news. The new regime of cleaning and care-taking seems to be working well.

7. Environment

Parish steward – there was a flood outside Manor Stables in West Street caused by blocked pipes, which was resolved. Recent rainfall showed some other areas of draining issues at Frog Lane and near the Dauntsey boundary which will be raised to Highways. **Action: Cllr Sturgis**

8. Standing Items

Defibrillator – the C159X code is now in the phone booth next to the defibrillator and a sign has been put there to say that you have to lift the handle up. If anybody had to call the Emergency Services, they also have the code. Cllr Sturgis reported that the church defibrillator is going to be moved outside.

Booking of the Community Room is being moved over to David Todd and he will progress the actions to take it over. An update will be made for The Signpost and the GSPC Website. **Action Cllr Griffiths/Cllr Todd**

No other updates on standing items this time.

Dog waste bins have been emptied now but there are two contractors at the moment so the change-over is hindering things.

Notice

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.03pm

Dates for Future Meetings @ 6.30 pm – 3 May Annual Parish Meeting followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting in the Community Room.

Cllr Harper sends apologies

Approved



Chair

Date

3/5/2023