

SPARSHOLT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Memorial Hall, Sparsholt on Thursday 21 January 2016

Member:

Cllr Sue Wood (Chairman)	P
Cllr Stewart Wooles (Vice Chairman)	P
Cllr S Annesley	P
Cllr Katy Cobbold	
Cllr John Little	P
Cllr Andrew Osmond	P
Cllr Richard Summerfield	P
Cllr Nigel Reid	P

P = present at the meeting

In Attendance:

Mrs J Judge (Clerk)
Cllr Horrill
Cllr Bailey

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Katy Cobbold

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Session

A member of the public attended to outline a planning application. The application had been submitted post the preparation of the agenda and would be discussed at the February meeting.

The centenary albums had been traced and were in the care of Mr Geoffrey Beanland who joined the meeting showing councillors both these and similar albums for the church.

Cllr Horrill would confirm if all albums appeared on the PCC asset register and notify the clerk. There was discussion about potentially scanning the albums to enable on line viewing.

4. Minutes of Meeting held on 17 December 2015

Minutes of the meeting held on 17 December which had previously been circulated were agreed, and duly signed as a true record.

5. Matters arising from meeting held on 19 November 2015 which are not on the agenda

Item 5: At December's meeting priority footpaths for cutting had been identified and the clerk had notified the Area Countryside Access Manager.

Item 11: The Clerk reported that the Certificate in Local Council Administration training course that she was due to attend had been cancelled by HALC and that she was awaiting details of new dates.

6. Vacancy for a co-opted Councillor

The clerk confirmed that The Returning Officer had received no requests for a by election to fill the casual vacancy for a councillor and that Sparsholt Parish Council was able to fill the vacancy by co-option.

An item would be placed in the newsletter.

7. County and City Councillor's Report

City Councillor

Cllr Horrill highlighted the Mayor of Winchester's Community Awards 2015/16, new boundary arrangements, consultation on South Western Rail Franchise, flood warning and Devolution. Details are in her report accompanying these minutes.

Cllr Horrill left the meeting to attend another engagement

County Councillor

Cllr Bailey also spoke about boundary changes. He specifically highlighted the financial challenge of the reduction of Hampshire's County Council's revenue support grant from £129m to £81m in 2016/17 to nil support in 2019/20. The public consultation on the Draft Strategy to 2020 for the future of the Library Service had closed and responses were being analysed.

Cllr Wooles Highways Report stressed the ongoing problem of flooding by The Plough and requested that village roads be swept at the end of the winter. Cllr Bailey agreed to investigate both.

The closing date for County Councillor grants was 28 February for specific projects for parish councillors.

8. Portfolio Reports

Highways – Cllr Wooles had provided a report (Annex E)

Footpaths – (Annex E)

Playground – Cllr Reid had provided a report (Annex E) – ref agenda item 14 for playground rope quotes

Sparsholt Memorial Hall – Cllr Summerfield had provided a report (Annex E)

Sparsholt School – Cllr Cobbold had provided a report (Annex E)

Security and Transport – Cllr Osmond nothing specific to report

Sparsholt Shop – Cllr Reid had provided a report (Annex E).

Communication – Cllr Little nothing specific to report (Annex E)

Police Liaison – PC Croutear, who was unable to attend the meeting, had provided a report

9. Annual Parish Clean Up

A date was set for 19th March.

10. To consider a report from the Anaerobic Digester Working Group

The application from Sparsholt College was awaited.

11. Developing a Parish Plan – update from Cllr Annesley

The Housing Survey had been distributed and it was planned that the next questionnaire would be distributed in March.

The Parish Plan group had met with Steve Lincoln, Community Planning Manager, who had provided helpful advice and funding of £500 to aid the project.

12. Planning

The following decisions were noted:

- 15/02585/FUL Downs Cottage Woodman Lane - First floor front extension and car port and two-storey side and rear extension - REFUSED

Decisions were awaited for:

- 15/01678/FUL Balldown Business Centre – Extension of existing external storage areas and distribution roads
- 15/02312/FUL Land At Junction of Woodlands Lane and Church Farm Lane - Improvements to existing access from Woodman Lane to Church Farm Lane, including alterations to visibility splays

New applications:

- 15/02734/TPC Corner Cottage Woodman Lane Fell 1 no. Apple suffering from canker, fell 1 no. Norway Maple at risk of falling, trees to be replaced.
- 15/02922/FUL 1 Lambourne Close One and half storey extension to front and side, recladding to existing conservatory and associated alterations.

It was agreed to support this application noting changes to the previous application (15/01959/FUL).

Action: Clerk

- 15/02876/LDP Meadowview Hillside Road (CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS) Internal alterations to convert 3 no. studio flats to 2 no. 1-bedroom flats on the ground floor of an existing two storey building. It was agreed to support this application

Action: Clerk

13. Finance

a) To consider a report of the finance group

Cllr Wooles reported that the finance group had met on 7 January 2016 and

- Confirmed Precept requirement £15,506 together with Council Tax Support Allocation £822.48

- Reviewed effectiveness of internal audit, internal controls and risk assessments, the audit plan and terms of reference for the internal auditor.
- Reviewed new arrangements for the accountability and audit of local public bodies in England. Ahead of further clarification the finance group had concluded that it was minded to “opt” out of the external audit arrangements that Smaller Authorities’ Audit Appointments Limited (SAAA) was putting in place. These new arrangements would be applicable from 1 April 2017 with a deadline for making a decision to opt out of 31 March. The clerk would continue to monitor the situation with this an agenda item until final decision. **Action: Clerk**

b) Current Financial Statement

The Financial Statement had previously been circulated and payments PV54 to PV61 were approved

c) Budget update

The budget for 2015-16 had previously been circulated. This was noted.

14. Quotes for consideration and approval – Playground replacement ropes

Three quotes had been received for the replacement of playground ropes. It was agreed to accept the quote of £1237 from Playsafe Playgrounds Limited subject to further clarification. **Action: NWR**

The clerk would investigate the possibility of a councillor grant. **Action: Clerk**

15. Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 20 April - discuss

It was agreed that the clerk would ask county and city councillors and village groups to save the date ahead of further discussion of exact format of meeting. **Action: Clerk**

Signed..... Date.....