

# Sibford Gower Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023** at **7pm** in Sibford Village Hall, Sibford Gower

Present: Cllr Alan Berks, Cllr Jackie Noquet (Chairman), Cllr Geoff Noquet, Cllr Andrew Downes.

In attendance: 2 members of the public, Clerk.

**72. Public participation session** – None.

## Business

**73. Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Garstin.

**74. Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda** – None.

**75. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022** – The minutes were proposed, agreed, and duly signed.

**76. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings** – It was noted that Cllr Downes has now completed the check on the final dog bin which was outstanding at the last meeting.

**77. Feedback from District/County Councillors** – None.

## Assets and services

### **78. Assets**

i) Update re bench on Acre Ditch reported as needing replacement at last meeting – Cllr Berks has checked the bench and advised that it is safe therefore no replacement is required at the moment. It was agreed that this should be monitored.

ii) Update re query on ownership of benches on the Burial Ground – The Rector has advised that he will ask the Churchwarden to contact the Clerk to discuss this.

**79. Burial Ground – Ongoing management including grass cutting, wildflower areas, and bulb planting** – Clerk to get a second quote before any decision is made. Clerk to apply for a grant for the project in the hope of getting it completed in time for coronation.

**80. To agree the grass cutting contracts for 2023** – It was proposed and agreed to remain with the current contractors on each area and accept the small price increases. **Clerk to instruct the contractors and obtain their public liability insurance certificates.**

## Finance

**81. Bank balances as at 12.01.23 - £134.73 and £17,940.41** – Cllr J Noquet confirmed the balances stated are correct.

**82. To confirm completion of the third quarterly (Oct to Dec) internal controls check (Cllr Garstin)** – Cllr Garstin has advised by e-mail that the check has taken place and all was found to be in order.

**83. Proposal to make the annual grant of £400 to Sibford Village Hall and £200 to the Sibford Scene** – Proposed and agreed.

**84. To note and approve the following payments and receipts since the last meeting:**

**Payments:** Proposed and agreed.

29.11.22	Sibford Village Hall	Hall hire 15th Nov	£15.00
22.12.22	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath donation	£25.00
22.12.22	Thomas Fox Landscaping	Mowing of Churchyard 03+24/11, Cut back trees etc	£1,015.24

11.01.23	W.C. & E.F. Lovesey & Son	Hedge Trimming Millennium Field	£840.00
22.12.22	Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office Dec	£287.20
22.12.22	HMRC	Tax Dec	£57.60

**Receipts:** Noted.

14.11.22	Banbury Memorials	Burial Ground Fee	£150.00
09.12.22	Lloyds	Interest	£4.58
09.01.23	Lloyds	Interest	£7.95

**85. To agree the budget and resulting precept for 2023-24** – It was proposed and agreed to set a budget of £14,316 resulting in a precept of £9,350 with the difference being funded by income in 2023-24 and reserves. **Clerk to submit precept demand.**

### Planning

#### **86. Planning applications received**

**22/02908/F - Mawles Farmhouse, Main Street, Sibford Gower.** Creation of a pedestrian gate within existing boundary wall and associated partial demolition (to form door opening) and hard landscaping. **No objection. (Response made using delegated powers). APPROVED.**

**22/03614/TCA - Leasowe House, Bonds End Lane, Sibford Gower.** T1 x Ginko – Fell. **No objection. (Response made using delegated powers). APPROVED.**

#### **87. Planning decisions received**

**22/02185/F - Glebe Farm, Main Street, Sibford Gower.** Installation of 24 ground-sited solar panels in field. **Approved.**

**88. Local Plan Review 2040** – The consultation was not released on 14<sup>th</sup> December as planned and it is now expected to come out towards the end of January. The draft plan suggests Sibford Gower will be recategorised as a small village therefore only small infill development will be allowed. It was proposed and agreed to delegate powers to the **Clerk to respond to the consultation on behalf of the PC** if the deadline for response is before the next meeting.

### Community Development

**89. Proposal to request double yellow lines at the crossroads on the Acre Ditch end of Main Street** – This proposal was made in response to the recent incident where a bus scraped the side of a car due to the parked car making it too narrow for the bus to get around the corner. The councillors noted that there may be some people who do not want double yellow lines in that area as it will reduce parking availability but it was felt that the health and safety issue poses the greater risk therefore it was proposed and agreed to make this request to Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) who can then review whether this would be a suitable location for double yellow lines or if there are any other possible solutions. **Clerk to submit request to OCC.**

**90. Community Speedwatch update** – The co-ordinator has stood down due to a lack of volunteers. In line with the agreement by Sibford Ferris Parish Council who own the speedwatch device it was agreed to try to relaunch the scheme in the spring with a note in the February Sibford Scene and on the parish website looking for volunteers. **Clerk to diarise a note to go out in February 2023.**

**91. Town Estates Charity (TEC) – Upcoming requirement for the PC to nominate a member** – It was agreed that the **Clerk should put a notice out on the parish website asking for applications from anyone who wishes to be nominated by the PC onto the TEC.** It was also agreed that one of the PC nominees on the TEC should attend the March and September parish council meetings in order to provide feedback from the TEC. **Cllr Berks and Cllr Downes to communicate this to the TEC members.**

- 92. **Arrangements for the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting (APM)** – It was agreed that the APM will take place immediately before the May parish Council Meeting at 6:30pm.
- 93. **Coronation Celebrations** – It was agreed that the **Clerk should put a note on the parish website asking for any volunteers willing to form a group to organise the Coronation Celebrations to contact the Clerk before 10<sup>th</sup> Feb** in order to try to arrange a first meeting towards the end of February.

Meeting closed @ 7:55pm

**Date of next meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

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

DRAFT