

Sibford Ferris Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Tuesday 21st March 2023** at **7pm** at Sibford School

Present: Cllrs Katherine Roussel, Ginny Bennett, John Wass, Clerk.

In attendance: 3 members of the public.

82. Apologies for absence – Apologies received – Cllrs Andrew Meyler, and Michael Gordon. Apologies accepted – None.

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

84. Consideration of how the Parish Council (PC) can encourage more 'green/environmentally friendly' activity in the parish – Sir Stephen Gomersall and Stewart Roussel have met with Cllr Wass to discuss ways in which the PC can encourage more environmentally friendly activity in the parish. Some suggestions were encouraging electric vehicle use, improving insulation, moving away from gas boilers and towards the use of solar energy and other technology such as air source heat pumps etc. It was suggested that some people may be interested in making their homes more eco friendly but are concerned about costs, how well it be working a few years down the line, and who would install it. It was suggested that some parishioners who have already had work done could write case studies to be shared with parishioners to give some feedback on how things have gone. There is currently a scheme in Hook Norton where they have 5 or 6 electric cars that people who are members of the car club can have use of one of the cars for a minimal fee which can help those who would like to reduce the number of cars in their household but occasionally need the use of a car. **Cllr Wass, Stewart, and Stephen will look at establishing a community group and bring info back to next meeting.**

2 members of the public left the meeting at 7:22pm.

85. Public participation session – None.

86. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 17th January 2023 – The minutes were proposed, agreed, and duly signed.

87. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings

- i) Update on Defibrillator and CPR Training – Sessions are planned for 4th April and 11th May. At the moment only 2 people have signed up to the session on 4th April and no one has signed up to the session on 11th May. Cllr Wass will put an article in the Sibford Scene to try to get more signups. **Cllr Wass to put some posters on the noticeboard and in other places around the village. Clerk to readvertise on the website.**

1 member of the public left the meeting at 7:29pm.

- ii) Litter picking – It was agreed to encourage parishioners to take part in the Big Help Out on Monday 8th May. **Clerk to put out notice to parishioners to encourage them to take part in the Big Help Out by litter picking in the village.**

88. Planning applications received

23/00359/TCA - Stables Cottage, Main Street, Sibford Ferris. T1 x Acer - Crown reduction up to 3 metres. T2 x Cherry - Crown reduction up to 3 metres. T3 x Hazel - Crown reduction up to 2 metres and removal of dead branches. **No objection.** (Response made using delegated powers).

89. Update re Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 – The plan consultation (regulation 18) was paused by the Council's Executive to allow them to consider comments made by the overview and scrutiny committee. This has been put back to a future date which is yet to be decided.

90. Play area (Cllr Bennett/Clerk)

- i) Update re progress of replacement fencing around the play area – The new fence has now been installed. The plan was to take out the play house but the contractor advised this could leave big holes in the ground that would need filling so it was agreed to leave it where it is for now.
- ii) Update re quotes for new play equipment – The seat for baby swing hasn't yet been replaced. **Cllr Bennett to get prices for a replacement swing seat.**

- iii) Update re actions in response to the professional play equipment inspection report – Cllr Bennett is having problems with getting photos of the dampers sent over to the play equipment provider in order for them to provide replacements. **Cllr Bennett to check if the adult exercise equipment is regularly being checked with the inspections of the Cotswold Close play equipment and to try to get the replacement dampers ordered asap.**

91. Coronation Celebrations

- i) Proposal to delegate authority to the Clerk to authorise expenditure and make payments up to the total value of £750 plus any amounts received from grants for items/services required for the Coronation Celebrations – Proposed and agreed.
- ii) Proposal to delegate authority to the Clerk to submit a grant application to CDC up to the amount allocated for Sibford Ferris for items required for the Coronation Celebrations – Proposed and agreed.

92. County Councillor Report – None.

93. District Councillor Report – None.

94. To confirm completion of a quarterly asset safety check and agree any actions required – Cllr Roussel confirmed that the check has taken place and the only issue appears to be a slat on the bench on Lanes End which has broken although is not currently causing a safety issue. Clerk to contact Adrian Lamb to ask him if he can repair the slat.

95. Finance

- iii) Confirmation of the bank balance as at 15.03.23 of £18,068.11 – Cllr Bennett confirmed the balance stated is correct.
- iv) Update re changing the bank account provider to Lloyds Bank – The account is now open and all funds are in the Lloyds account. Cllr Bennett has still not been added as a signatory so the Clerk has completed a new mandate which will be sent off next week when Cllr Meyler or Cllr Gordon have signed the mandate.
- v) Proposal to open an interest bearing account with Lloyds to hold the majority of PC funds until the funds are needed to make payments when they will be transferred back to the treasurers account - Proposed and agreed. **Clerk to open a savings account.**
- vi) Request from Sibford School for the PC to fund some child pads for the defibrillator at a cost of up to £100 – Cllr Wass sought advice from St John Ambulance and they advised that this is not necessary as adult pads can be used on young children with one pad placed on their front and one on their back which creates a smaller shock. Given that young children are least likely to need a defibrillator and the environmental factor that the pads expire and need to be replaced every 2 years so become waste products it was agreed that the PC will not fund child pads. The PC would be happy for any staff from the school to join the CPR and defib training arranged for April so they can receive the training showing what they should do should a young child need the defibrillator. **Clerk to advise the school of the PC’s decision and invite them to attend the training.**
- vii) Confirmation of payments made since the last meeting using delegated powers: Proposed and agreed.

27.01.23	Thomas Fox Landscaping	Mowing of play area 01.12.22	£25.24
27.01.23	Kirsty Buttle	Ink cartridge	£39.04
27.01.23	Zen	Domain name - thesibfords.org.uk	£14.39
27.01.23	Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office Jan	£195.50
27.01.23	HMRC	Tax Jan	£46.00
01.03.23	Zen	Annual website charge	£151.06
01.03.23	Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office Feb	£195.70
01.03.23	HMRC	Tax Feb	£45.80
01.03.23	SW Services	50% deposit for works to play area	£2,499.00
01.03.23	OALC	Annual subscription	£156.00

- viii) To note the following receipts: Noted.

27.01.23	Sibford Gower PC	Burial Ground shared income	£105.38
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ix) To approve payment of the following invoices: Proposed and agreed.

Kirsty Buttle	Salary, office, and expenses March	£208.00
HMRC	Tax March	£46.00

x) Proposal for the PC contribution to the Clerk’s pension to be set at 5% rather than a fixed amount (as agreed at the last meeting) due to the way the pension system is set up which does not allow for a set amount – Proposed and agreed.

96. Planning decisions received

23/00060/F - Woodway Farm, Woodway Road, Sibford Ferris. Construction of two storey rear extension.
Approved.

97. Planning appeal decisions received

APP/C3105/W/22/3298098 - Land to the south of Faraday House, Woodway Road, Sibford Ferris. **Appeal dismissed.**

98. To agree plans for the Annual Parish Meeting – 6:45pm – 7pm. Short meeting with report from Katherine.

99. Information exchange – Sibford School contacted the PC to find out if they knew who had planted the tree on the verge near one of the school entrances. The PC advised that the tree was planted by Highways and they should contact Highways directly if they feel it is impacting the visibility for traffic. Speedwatch – 8 parishioners have volunteered to take part in the Speedwatch scheme. **Clerk to find out from the police what the minimum number of volunteers is and how they enrol on the relevant training and provide the information to the volunteers.**

Date of next meeting – *Please note the next meeting date has been changed to 17th May 2023*

Meeting closed @ 8:46pm

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