

SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2023

PRESENT

Cllr M Turner (Chair), Cllr Hayward (Vice-Chair), Cllr M Barge, Cllr N Deller, Cllr D Evans, Cllr I Smith (until 7.55pm), Cllr J Sparrow, and Cllr M Young. Cllr M Evemy (CDC)(until 7.55pm), Clerk to the Council, Mr R Cowley, and Kirsty Peploe (Bathurst Estate) were also present.

Cllr Turner opened the meeting at 7.00pm

1 – APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr A Gibbons and Cllr C Smith, and from Cllr L Spivey (GCC).

2 – MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2023

The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were unanimously approved as being a true record.

3 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

4 – CHAIR’S REPORT

Cllr Turner welcomed Kirsty Peploe of Bathurst Estate and invited her to update the Council on several matters.

- **Graveyard extension** – the alternative area in part of Talland suggested by the Parish Council would not be available. However, the Council was invited to suggest alternatives.
- **Trim Trail** – the proposed location was acceptable to the Bathurst Estate. The Clerk would request written confirmation.
- **Defibrillator** – the proposed location was acceptable to the Bathurst Estate, along with routing an electricity supply from the clubhouse. The Clerk would request written confirmation.
- **Spire View footpath** – it was agreed that arrangements could be made for a volunteer to have access to land adjoining the footpath for the purpose of clearing overgrowing brambles. The Clerk would forward the volunteer’s email to Kirsty.

It was noted that should the playing field land ever revert to the Bathurst Estate, it may be required to remove the defibrillator and the trim trail. Cllr Hayward also advised Kirsty that the Parish Council would be commencing the Neighbourhood Plan very shortly.

Cllr Turner thanked Kirsty for updating the Parish Council, and she then left the meeting.

5 – POLICE REPORT

SUMMARY

This report covers the period of **1st November to 30th November 2023**

There was **1 crime** to report this month.

CRIME BREAKDOWN**Burglary Residential – 0****Burglary Business & Community – 0****Theft – 0****Criminal Damage – 1 (suspected arson)****Violence – 0****Public Order – 0****Concern for Welfare - 0****Fraud – 0****Sexual Offence – 0****Drugs – 0****Other Notifiable – 0****INFORMATION**

There are continuing trends of online banking frauds. Please look up on the Gloucestershire Website or please report any incidents to Action Fraud- [Reporting fraud and cyber-crime | Action Fraud](#) or by calling the number below.

You can also report any concerns or incidents by calling **0300 123 2040** Monday to Friday 8am - 8pm. If you are calling from abroad, please call +44 300 123 2040.

For further information concerning the crime figures please go to the police website www.police.uk. The South Cerney Policing Team can be contacted by telephoning the non-emergency number 101 or emailing 101@gloucestershire.police.uk. Information can also be passed via Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111. We are also contactable on line either via the Constabulary website www.gloucestershire.police.uk and follow the links from the Neighbourhood Policing section on the left of the page.

Many thanks

PC Christopher Pritchard (Area Beat Manager)

PCSO Beverley Rowe

6 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Cllr Hayward reported that:

- Two consultants had been interviewed.
- On the recommendation of Cllr Hayward, it was agreed to engage the services of Brodie Planning Associates.
- It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan committee should expand its membership.

7 – FLOODING MATTERS

All generally good at present despite recent heavy rain.

8 - OUTSTANDING & HIGHWAYS ISSUES LIST

| <u>HIGHWAYS ISSUES</u> | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faded weight limit sign at Park Way / Ashton Rd junction – (GCC-11244507) Clerk chased Jan 2019. RG (Highways) chasing. Clerk chased Jan 2020 and Sep 2022. 21.09.23. RG reported – “When this has been reported I have forwarded onto the contractor’s safety inspection team for inspection. My system tells me that the weight limit signs were replaced but at the time of inspection the “except for access” plate was legible and not in need of being replaced. I can arrange another inspection now and if required arrange for a new plate to be installed.” 14.11.23 - The Clerk would chase again. | 25.08.16 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding by old railway bridge on Ashton Road. Done. HE checking every 6 months. Monitor situation. Glos Highways drainage works Dec 2022. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rough parking area at Upper Siddington | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footpath sign down on Coach Road opposite school. (GCC-11348847) 21.09.23 – RG chased with Gloucestershire PROW. The Clerk would chase again. The Clerk chased again. | 05.01.22 Nov 2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30mph sign on Siddington Rd from north - and posts damaged on gateway sign. (GCC-11365464). Chased Sep 2022. Chased Mar 2023. Clerk to chase again (Jun 2023), and also hidden in hedge foliage. 21.09.23. RG reported – “there has been some confusion with respect as to where the maintenance liability lies for gateways and gateways which incorporate the speed limit termination/start points. I have now received clarification which is the community offer 50/50. I understand that Gill has now explained this and she is seeking a quote for you. Once in we can process an application for repairs etc. Also, I have had a look at this and it would appear that the foliage is growing from a third-party boundary hedge. This would be the responsibility of the adjoining landowner. We have already approach Bathurst whom we believe to be the owners, as a fall back and without prejudice when I next have the community gang, I will get some local trimming undertaken.” 14.11.23 – Sign now totally demolished. Clerk would chase again. Awaiting quote for repair (50/50 Community Offer). | 17.05.22 |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing 30mph gateway sign on Ashton Road. (GCC-11365467) 26.05.22 – job raised for replacement. 29.07.22 – awaiting work. Chased Sep 2022. Chased Mar 2023. 21.09.23. RG reported – “there has been some confusion with respect as to where the maintenance liability lies for gateways and gateways which incorporate the speed limit termination/start points. I have now received clarification which is the community offer 50/50. I understand that Gill has now explained this and she is seeking a quote for you. Once in we can process an application for repairs etc.” 14.11.23 – Clerk would chase again. Awaiting quote. | 17.05.22 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of defunct VAS sign on Ashton Road. Clerk requested removal by Highways. 14.11.23 – RG of Highways would provide a quote for removal. Quote received - £1,248.90 | Oct 2023 |
| <u>OTHER ISSUES</u> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropped kerb on Siddington Road opposite Church Avenue. RC meeting RG 14.10.22. Possible 2023-24 under 50/50 Community Offer. Clerk to chase again (Jun 2023). Progress paused to await Bathurst plans for Talland. | Sep 2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven surface of path from Pound Close to School. RC emailed Glos PROW – looking at 10.10.22 Worked to be carried out over October 2023 half-term. 14.11.23 – Work done, but not to the expected standard as still uneven around tree roots. Cllr Spivey to investigate. | Sep 2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessive foliage along east side of road between Preston Toll Bar and junction with South Cerney Road (close to Siddington Mill). 21.09.23. RG reported – “This was added to our flailing list for when resources are available.” 14.11.23 – Clerk to chase again. | Oct 2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding on Parkway corner. | Nov 2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding on Parkway at old railway bridge by entrance to The Twenties. | Nov 2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign down at entrance to Church Avenue. | Nov 2022 |

The Clerk would chase all items monthly with Highways and copy in Cllr Spivey (GCC).

Cllr Spivey was querying with Highways the apparent excessive cost of removing the defunct VAS sign on Ashton Road.

At the suggestion of Cllr Evans, it was agreed to ask Highways about the possibility of applying a 20mph speed limit on the Coach Road for the safety of children going to and from school. Cllr Evans would arrange for the school governors to write to the Parish Council to request this.

9 – HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS

- Defibrillator provision for Upper Siddington - Cllr Hayward and the Clerk would continue to liaise on taking this forward, and obtain quotes for the work in spring when the weather would be better.
- It was noted that the damaged gas cover previously to Wales & West Utilities had still to be dealt with.
- The Clerk would forward photos of potential grit bin locations on Spire View to Richard Gray at Highways.

10 – PLANNING

Planning applications received at Cotswold District Council to 7th December 2023

- **23/02153/FUL**

Applicant: Mr Jonny Bruce, c/o agent Mr Nico Smith, Red Kite Design & Build Ltd, 12 Southerner's Croft, Winscombe, BS25 1JW

Proposal: Creation of access track to highway and other associated works at land parcel access to Orchard Fields (Severells Field), Parkway, Siddington

Consultation expiry date: 15th December 2023 NEW DETAILS

The Council agreed to maintain its objection and to fully support the objection comments submitted by Gloucestershire Highways.

OBJECTION

Planning decisions at Cotswold District Council to 7th December 2023

- **21/02416/FUL**

Erection of detached dwelling house on land east of Birch Cottage, Parkway, Siddington - Application refused.

- **23/02576/FUL**

Erection of single storey front extension to garage and alterations to existing garage roof at Old School Cottage, 5 The Close, Siddington, GL7 6HQ. Application permitted.

Update on Severells Field development

Cllr Turner reported that she had been advised that all properties would be finished by the end of the year. Cllr Turner also reported that the new footpath linking the estate to the Coach Road was now fully open.

Update on Anesco Solar Farm development

Cllr Hayward had requested an update from Anesco.

Prior to leaving the meeting Cllr Evemy (CDC) reported that

- he would seek advice again from officers regarding applying for a Public Space Protection Order for Green Lane. The Parish Council would also seek legal advice on ways forward.
- the fines for fly-tipping had been increased.

Cllr Evemy (CDC) and Cllr I Smith then left the meeting.

11 - PLAYING FIELD / FOOTBALL CLUB / CRICKET CLUB

Trim Trail

This item had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

12 – GRAVEYARD EXTENSION

This item had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

13 – FINANCE

The monthly schedule of payments for December had been circulated with the agenda, along with the monthly accounts statement and finance spreadsheet.

The amounts noted for December were:

£50.00 – Siddington Village News – donation (December)

£155.00 – R O W Berry – playground fence repairs

£35.80 – PATA(UK) – payroll services

£41.72 – SLCC – annual membership renewal

£16.12 – R Cowley – expenses (mileage & phone)

R Cowley – salary (December)

HMRC – PAYE & NI

The Council noted the implementation of the NALC staff salary award backdated to 1st April 2023.

14 – POTENTIAL CLOSURE TO TRAFFIC OF GREEN LANE - UPDATE

This item had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

15 – CORRESPONDENCE

- 1 Update from Stonewood regarding the opening and closing of the new footpath from Severells Field to the Coach Road.
- 2 Notification of temporary closure of Canal Lane on 13th February 2024 for new aerial electrical cable installation work by Scottish & Southern Electric.
- 3 Written reports received in advance of Cirencester flood meeting on 24th November.
- 4 CPRE newsletter.
- 5 GCC Councils Connected newsletter.
- 6 Information from GRCC regarding Community Infrastructure Grants for Village Halls & Community Buildings.
- 7 GRCC Newsbites newsletter.
- 8 CDC Business Matters newsletter.
- 9 Budget information for 2023/24 and precept information for 2024/25.
- 10 Quote from Highways for the removal of the defunct speed sign on Ashton Road, and email from Cllr Spivey regarding the cost quoted.
- 11 New NALC salary scales effective from 1st April 2023.
- 12 Email from Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP with response from Richard Gray of Highways regarding the proposal to close Green Lane to motor vehicle traffic.
- 13 Email correspondence with Kim Collins of Bromford regarding the Parkway car park barrier. Cllr Turner reported that the barrier was now permanently open.
- 14 Notification of temporary closure of Ashton Road from 26th February to 4th March 2024 for sewer repair work.
- 15 GAPTC newsletter.

16 – COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

Cllr Sparrow reported that the allotment holders would be meeting with Bathurst Estate in January.

17 - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

18 – NEXT MEETING

The Chair thanked members for attending, and the meeting closed at 9.15pm. The next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.00pm in the Committee Room at the Village Hall.

Chair