

**SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL**  
**AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**PRESENT**

Cllr M Turner (Chair), Cllr Hayward (Vice-Chair), Cllr D Evans, Cllr C Smith, Cllr I Smith, Cllr J Sparrow, and Cllr M Young.

Clerk to the Council, Mr R Cowley, was also present.

Cllr Turner opened the meeting at 7.00pm

**1 – APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllr M Barge, Cllr N Deller, and Cllr A Gibbons and from Cllr M Evemy (CDC) and Cllr L Spivey (GCC).

**2 – MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 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 had nothing to report that was not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**5 – POLICE REPORT**

**SUMMARY**

This report covers the period of **1<sup>st</sup> December to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

There were **4 crimes** to report this month.

**CRIME BREAKDOWN**

**Burglary Residential – 0**

**Burglary Business & Community – 0**

**Theft – 0**

**Criminal Damage – 0**

**Violence – 2 Assault without injury (both same address)**

**Public Order – 0**

**Concern for Welfare - 0**

**Fraud – 0**

**Sexual Offence – 0**

**Drugs – 0**

**Other Notifiable – 2**

**INFORMATION**

**There is 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](http://www.police.uk)

The South Cerney Policing Team can be contacted by telephoning the non-emergency number 101 or emailing [101@gloucestershire.police.uk](mailto: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](http://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:

- There had been a meeting with the consultant, Wendy Hopkins of Brodie Planning Associates that day.
- Wendy Hopkins would attend the next Parish Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February and introduce Neighbourhood Planning and answer any questions.
- He would place an article on the Neighbourhood Plan in the Village News.
- Steering group meetings would take place starting on 20<sup>th</sup> February, and then on the first Tuesday of the month.
- A good communicator was needed, along with others to fill various roles during the process.
- First stage would involve gathering information on the history of the village and how it had evolved to its present form.
- A page should be provided on the Parish Council Website for the Neighbourhood Plan.

## **7 – FLOODING MATTERS**

- All generally good at present despite recent heavy rain. The clearance work carried out by volunteers had made a significant difference.
- It was agreed that a description and map showing the water flows and problem areas be compiled. The Clerk would email Jan Bayley.
- It was also agreed to have a ditch clearance update on the agenda for September's meeting

**8 - OUTSTANDING & HIGHWAYS ISSUES LIST**

<u>HIGHWAYS ISSUES</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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. <b>22.12.23 – RG ordered new sign.</b></li> </ul>	25.08.16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flooding by old railway bridge on Ashton Road. Done. HE checking every 6 months. Monitor situation. Glos Highways drainage works Dec 2022.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rough parking area at Upper Siddington</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Footpath sign down on Coach Road opposite school. (GCC-11348847) 21.09.23 – RG chased with Gloucestershire PROW. The Clerk would chase again. <b>The Clerk chased again.</b></li> </ul>	05.01.22  Nov 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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. <b>Awaiting quote for repair (50/50 Community Offer).</b></li> </ul>	17.05.22

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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. <b>Awaiting quote for repair (50/50 Community Offer).</b></li> </ul>	17.05.22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 <b>19.12.23 – RG arranged simple removal of sign and capping of post.</b></li> </ul>	Oct 2023  Jan 2024
<u>OTHER ISSUES</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	Sep 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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. <b>10.01.24 – Cllr Spivey reported via email that the path had been improved, but not to high standard, which would not be possible without major expensive work. The Clerk would take photos and email Cllr Spivey and Gloucestershire PROW. It was noted that the path serves the school, Spire View, and Severells Field.</b></li> </ul>	Sep 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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. <b>22.12.23 – RG reported that resources had run out. RG added to list again.</b></li> </ul>	Oct 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding on Parkway corner. <b>22.12.23 – RG arranging CCTV and exploratory investigations.</b></li> </ul>	Nov 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding on Parkway at old railway bridge by entrance to The Twenties. <b>22.12.23 – RG added to CCTV list for next financial year.</b></li> </ul>	Nov 2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign down at entrance to Church Avenue.</li> </ul>	Nov 2022
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Cllr Evans would arrange for the school governors to write to the Parish Council to request Highways look into the possibility of applying a 20mph speed limit on the Coach Road for the safety of children going to and from school.

## **9 – HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS**

- Defibrillator provision for Upper Siddington – no update until weather improves in the spring.

## **10 – PLANNING**

### **Planning applications received at Cotswold District Council to 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

- **23/04007/AGFO**

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

Proposal: Prior notification for a storage shed to store materials associated with running the plant nursery at land at Severells Field E402487 N199836, Parkway, Siddington

Consultation expiry date: N/A

The Council agreed to object to this application as the proposed shed location is actually within 90m of an attenuation pond according to plans submitted, despite the application form stating the contrary. The Council felt that prior approval should be sought.

OBJECTION

- **24/00002/TPO**

Applicant: Pocock, c/o agent Mr Benjamin King, King's Tree Services Ltd, 25 Quail Meadows, Tetbury, GL8 8PQ

Proposal: T1 - very large Willow tree that has recently had a major limb failure that has torn off at the main lowest union. The remaining canopy to be reduced/pollard at approx. 12/14 meters retained height and the lateral limbs brought back in proportionately at 4 The close, Siddington, GL7 6HQ

Consultation expiry date: 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024

NO OBJECTION

### **Update on Severells Field development**

There was no update.

### **Update on Anesco Solar Farm development**

There was no update.

It was agreed to add an update on the school development as standing agenda item.

## **11 - PLAYING FIELD / FOOTBALL CLUB / CRICKET CLUB**

### **Trim Trail**

Lottery grant application forms had been received. The Clerk would chase up a letter from Bathurst Estate granting permission for the installation of the trim trail.

## **12 – GRAVEYARD EXTENSION**

The Clerk would write to Bathurst Estate with the suggestion of land to the south of Church Avenue as an alternative to the earlier proposal, which included part of Talland.

**13 – FINANCE**

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

The amounts noted for January were:

£50.00 – Siddington Village News – donation (December)

£36.00 – Siddington Village Hall – room hire

£27.02 – R Cowley – expenses (mileage, stationery & phone)

**Budget & Precept 2024/25**

The proposed budget and precept requirement had been circulated to members before the meeting. A budget of £29,450 was proposed. This was an increase of £3,050 on the current year. However, due to the increase in the council's tax base, this would mean a precept requirement of £51.05 for a band D dwelling – an increase of just 0.21% or only 11p for the year. The increase would allow the Council to install an additional defibrillator at the playing field; and add to the reserves for the playing field, graveyard extension, and the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Hayward proposed that the Council approve the budget and precept. This was seconded by Cllr C Smith, and the Council was all in favour.

**14 – POTENTIAL CLOSURE TO TRAFFIC OF GREEN LANE - UPDATE**

- Cllr Hayward reported that he was drafting instructions to counsel.
- The Council noted that Cllr Evemy was making further enquiries with CDC officers regarding a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

**15 – CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1 Update from Richard Gray of Highways advising that, as Spire View is not yet adopted highway, he is unable to provide a grit bin at that location.
- 2 Update from Richard Gray of Highways on removal of the old VAS sign on Ashton Road. The Council noted that, as suggested, the sign had been removed and the pole left in situ, at no cost to the Parish Council.
- 3 Notification of closure of Canal Lane on 23<sup>rd</sup> January for new aerial electrical cable installation work by Scottish & Southern Electric.
- 4 Update from Richard Gray of Highways on various highways issues (included in the Outstanding & Highways Issues List)
- 5 GPFA Annual Report.
- 6 Report from a resident of further fly-tipping on Green Lane (resident already reported to CDC).

**16 – COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

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

**17 - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

**18 – NEXT MEETING**

The Chair thanked members for attending, and the meeting closed at 8.11pm. The next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.00pm in the Committee Room at the Village Hall.

Chair