
GREAT SOMERFORD (INCORPORATING STARTLEY) PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting - DRAFT 11 Jan 2023 Community Room@ 7.30 pm

Present Cllr T Barker Cllr A Lennox Cllr T Sturgis
Cllr M Griffiths (Chair) Cllr H Lennox (Vice Chair) Cllr I Vout
Cllr J Harper Cllr F Miles

In attendance Cllr E Threlfall, Wiltshire
PQT

Public Questions

There were three members of the public present.

A query was put forward concerning the drainage of rain and surface water from West Street, given that there is frequent pooling of water which is slow to clear from this area. There is a concern that piecemeal digging up of the roads by utilities companies may have damaged the drainage pipes in this area, and that the village is now not on a scheduled maintenance programme for gully clearance but is now on request. It was agreed that Wiltshire Council should be requested to put us back on scheduled rounds for clearance.

Action: Councillor H. Lennox

WCR

Reports from Unitary Councillor and Council Representatives

Wiltshire Cllr Threlfall provided an update as follows:

Potholes - These are currently being prioritised by Wiltshire Council and the Parish Stewards are tasked with concentrating on them, using grade 1 temporary fillings. The public are requested to report any outstanding potholes, or gullies that require cleaning to enable surface water to be drained, by using the MyWilts app (<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>) and online reporting. This will be advertised in the Signpost magazine to increase awareness.

Action: Councillor Barker

Buses - Wiltshire Council are trialling a price fixing service for all buses across the county until 30th March, whereby the maximum amount payable for any single journey, of any length, will be capped at £2.00 in order to promote public transport and try to reduce the number of car journeys.

Strategic Planning Meeting - Councillor Threlfall has asked Wiltshire Council for a complaint to be raised due to the time taken to inform the Parish Council of the Appeal for the Planning Application for Broadfield Farm, which gave the Parish Council limited time to work on a response over the Christmas holiday period.

Surface water run-off on Dauntsey Road, at Demainbray Close - Following a survey which was completed recently, Wiltshire Council are still considering the details and as yet no further action is being taken. The Parish Council will be updated by Councillor Threlfall when this information becomes available.

1. Intro

Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest

a) Apologies for absence: Helen Wallace, Clerk.

b) Declarations of Interest: None.

2. Minutes

Minutes and Matters Arising

a) The Minutes of the previous meeting held 2 Nov 2022 and the Extraordinary Meeting held 14 Dec 2022 were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed.

Proposed: Councillor A. Lennox

Seconded: Councillor Harper

b) There were no urgent outstanding actions from the Action Register; it was agreed that all other actions would be covered in the rest of the meeting.

3. CIL Projects **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Projects**

Dog waste bins. This is being looked into by Councillor Barker, who advised that the company providing them currently has none in stock. It was agreed to chase this up in February.

Action: Councillor Barker

Councillor A. Lennox put forward a proposal to engage the school for the children to create posters highlighting the need for dog owners to collect waste from their dogs, as suggested by a member of the public who had seen this work well in another village. It was agreed to approach the school regarding this.

Action: Councillor A. Lennox

A suggestion was made by Councillor Threlfall that free dog waste bags could be made available adjacent to all dog waste bins. It was agreed to consider this going forward.

Speed Indicator Devices. A response was received from Wiltshire Highways in December confirming that no official permission was required to install posts on privately owned land, for the purpose of erecting SID's. Suitable sites are being investigated on Park Lane, Dauntsey Road and the north end of Startley, the roads do not support this activity on West Street or Seagry Road. It was advised that each SID would cost in the region of £3,500.00.

Councillor Threlfall advised that Wiltshire Constabulary are running a pilot scheme at present using the data from Auto Speed Watch and Community Speed Watch devices.

Action: Councillor A. Lennox

4. Planning

a) Current Parish Planning Applications

Planning Applications Received Since Last Meeting.

PL/2022/08459 Proposed works to trees in a conservation area. 22 Hollow Street. T1/T2/T3 3 cherry trees reduce by 3m height, 1.8m laterals.

PL/2022/08453 Proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Avon Villa, Dauntsey Road. T1 hawthorn to be removed. T2 horse chestnut reduce by 1.0m laterals, 2.5m height. T3 malus reduce by 3m height, 1.2m laterals. T4 malus reduce by 3m height, 1.2m laterals.

PL/2022/09065 2 Broadfield Farm. Alterations to house – new porch and windows, remove/alter existing windows and doors. Alterations to kerb line to additional parking space and alterations to patio at rear to enable works to proceed.

PL/2023/00114 Proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Mills Farm, Top Street. T1 oak 30% reduction to crown. T2 ash 30% reduction to crown.

Planning Applications Determined Since Last Meeting.

PL/2022/07620 Proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Coppins, Hollow Street. G1 hawthorn trees to be felled, including 1 laburnum and 1 privet. T2 fell 1 apple tree. G3 fell 6 conifers. T4 fell 1 cherry. No Objection.

PL/2022/08453 Avon Villa, Dauntsey Road. Proposed works to trees in conservation area. T1 hawthorn to be removed. T2 horse chestnut reduce to 1.0m laterals, 2.5m height. T3 malus reduce by 3m height, 1.2m laterals. T4 malus reduce by 3m height, 1.2m laterals. No Objection.

PL/2022/08459 22 Hollow Street. Proposed works to trees in a conservation area. T1/T2/T3 3 cherry trees reduce by 3m height, 1.8m laterals. No Objection.

PL/2022/07894 46, Dauntsey Road. Proposed single storey extension. Approve with Conditions

PL/2022/08276 1 The Paddock, Startley. Retrospective application for storage building in association with Travellers Site. Refuse.

PL/2022/05026 Manor House, West Street. Proposed new garage. Approve with Conditions

Ratification of Decisions Made Between Meetings

Covered in Extraordinary Meeting Wednesday 14th December 2022

21/01950/FUL Land at Broadfield Farm, proposed erection of 21 dwellings. Parish Council decision to refuse, appeal case still pending.

b) Housing Developments

CBroadfield Farm: 9 affordable homes are now occupied, 3 of which have been inhabited by people with village connections. However, it was noted that all 3 of these have moved within the village and not come in from outside.

Demainbray Close (Dauntsey Road development): 1 of these is now inhabited, the rest are nearing completion.

c) Neighbourhood plan

There are currently no updates, but it was suggested that we should consider and note when it was

last done, when it was last looked at and how long it will remain valid.

Action: Councillor A Lennox

5. Finance

a) the Finance Report was ratified and approved and duly signed off. The Treasurer account was reconciled and bank balances noted, and duly signed off.

b) It was agreed to defer the updates to the Financial Regulations document to February meeting.

6. Managed Facilities

a) Winkins Lane playground. Councillor Vout advised that he had identified a slightly loose upright on the swing and is waiting for contractors to respond, however it is deemed safe to use in the meantime.

Action: Councillor Vout

Playbark is required again to refill areas around some of the equipment.

Action: Councillor Vout

Purchase of new slide. There is currently a 16 week lead time and it is pencilled in for the end of February, it was suggested that we should keep an eye on ground conditions and perhaps look towards March to preserve the rest of the ground in the park.

The table football requires a new player as one of the defence line appears to be broken.

Action: Councillor Vout

b) Community room. This is currently being used by 3 groups regularly during the week, the Girl Guides, a Spanish class and a crafting class. Mrs Butcher has indicated that she is still happy to manage bookings, and in order to assist the rota of the cleaner it was agreed that we should ask the Spanish class if they would consider altering their timings. It was also suggested that we should look into charging the Free Gardens Trustees for their occasional use of the room.

Action: Councillor Miles

The Diocese Academy of Bristol (DBAT) offered to provide a managed services agreement for the Community Room but the fee sought is excessive. Discussions are ongoing.

Action: Councillor Griffiths

c) Use of school hall. DBAT withdrew their application for CIL money to introduce the necessary security and improvements to allow out of hours hire by the community, as the arrangement proved too complex to be feasible.

Action Councillor Griffith / Councillor Harper

7. Environment

a) The Parish Steward is currently engaged on pothole duty but has been requested to address the salt bins and try to loosen up the salt within. It was agreed to look into the availability of different types of salt bins to see if there are any which are less likely to freeze shut in inclement weather.

Action Councillor H Lennox

b) It was agreed to leave the Winkins Lane wildflower area till spring, and then look at what needs to be done to improve it.

8. Standing Items

a) Cemetery. Councillor H Lennox advised that the notice board inside the cemetery has reached the end of its life and requires replacing. It was agreed that this could be a CIL project and the Council requested 3 quotes for replacements that would suit the surroundings, with a view to longevity if a suitable alternative material could be found.

Action Councillor H Lennox

b) Communications. No updates.

c) Great Somerford and Startley Defibrillators. No updates.

d) Book Exchange. No updates.

e) Emergency Plan. No updates at present but being rewritten.

Action Councillor H Lennox

f) School Liaison. No updates.

g) War memorial. No updates.

h) Website. No updates.

Notice

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.45pm

Dates for Future Meetings @ 7.30 pm – 1 February in the Community Room.

Approved **Chair**

Date01 Feb 2023.....