
GREAT SOMERFORD (INCORPORATING STARTLEY) PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 1 Mar 2023 Community Room@ 7.30 pm

Present Cllr T Barker Cllr T Sturgis
Cllr H Lennox (as Chair) Cllr D Todd
Cllr I Vout

In attendance Cllr E Threlfall, Wiltshire
Clerk, H Wallace
PQT **Public Questions**

WCR None
Reports from Unitary Councillor and Council Representatives
Wiltshire Cllr Threlfall provided an update as follows:

Recycling - Wiltshire Council are running a campaign to encourage more recycling and a reminder about the correct items to recycle.

Police – There is a new Chief Constable and a new local Inspector for Wiltshire and they are looking to increase engagement with the local communities. Cllr Threlfall has asked the local PCSO if she would attend a coffee morning in Great Somerford and this will be arranged.

Potholes – please go on reporting them. A councillor reported that the parish steward said that they aren't on their normal rotation yet but are getting there.

It was raised that the two new dog-waste bins purchased by the Parish Council are on a different emptying contract. Cllr Threlfall explained that it is likely to be the ending period for one contract and the start of another so it is hoped that when the new contract comes in all will be emptied by the same organisation.

1. Intro **Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest**
a) Apologies for absence: Cllr M Griffiths, Cllr J Harper, Cllr A Lennox, Cllr F Miles
Cllr Sturgis informed that he would need to leave early.
b) Declarations of Interest: Cllr Griffiths had declared an interest in planning application PL/2023/00712, which was noted, whilst Cllr Griffiths was not present.

2. Minutes **Minutes and Matters Arising**
a) The Minutes of the previous meeting held 1 February were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed.
Proposed: Councillor Barker
Seconded: Councillor Sturgis
b) The new format for the Action Register was noted and with no items in red, updates would be sought during the meeting

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

The recreation working group met last Friday, 24 February and a meeting will be held with the Diocese in the next month, to discuss the idea of the small kick-about area. Cllr Barker recommended that repairs to the far gate of the Glebe Field should be included in the discussions. An update will be given at the next meeting.

The community room heater has been installed at a cost of £162.54 + VAT (£195.05 in total).

Bookings will no longer be taken by Tammy Butcher so the PC have considered an online booking system but it was decided to try to find a volunteer in the community if possible. The PC considered



that a key safe would simplify the process and a police approved one has been found for £62.90. The PC decided to purchase the key safe and to advertise for a volunteer to take the bookings.

Proposed: Cllr Sturgis

Seconded: Cllr Todd

Action to purchase key safe: Cllr H Lennox

Action to advertise: Cllr Barker

All Councillors have had opportunity to comment on the choices for a new noticeboard for Startley Cemetery so it was decided that the powder coated metal option would be purchased (at £525 + VAT).

Proposed: Cllr Sturgis

Seconded Cllr Vout

Action: Cllr H Lennox

Cllr A Lennox was not present but had submitted a written report to Councillors, as follows:

CIL – Speed cameras – three potential SID sites have been put forward to the Highways team for consideration/checking as two sites are on highways controlled land; we are awaiting confirmation back from them.

Ashford homes have been sent the pole specification for the site on Dauntsey road and Lee Dutton from Ashford Homes is liaising directly with me for an install date.

On the condition that Highways approve the site placements, I am obtaining quotes for installation of additional poles.

I have had an updated quote for a 2nd SID to complement the existing SID rotating around the four live sites we will then have. (£2700 inc VAT)

Dog litter campaign – I have yet to have an answer back from the school as to whether they wanted to get involved with a poster campaign around the village. I have followed up with them again but to date not had a response.

Speedwatch

Metro count surveys have been conducted on Startley road and outside Honeyacre farm. Results have yet to be forward to me but I have requested them so help in our assessments of hotspots. Residents have raised further concerns regarding speeds of vehicles on Winkins lane. Whilst this has been previously reviewed and discounted for CIL expenditure I will be reviewing with Highways to explore 20mph zones on Winkins lane and Dauntsey road (past the school) before putting it to wider consultation.

4. Planning

a) Current Parish Planning Applications

Planning Applications Received Since Last Meeting

PL/2023/00712 Land west of Longacre, Hollow Street: Remove 5 ash trees

The PC discussed that removing the five trees would not have any impact on the belt of trees or surrounding area but will make a difference to light levels going into the house. No objection

PL/2023/00878 Radcliffe House, Dauntsey Road: Tree works, reduction in height of silver birch and hornbeam. No objection

PL/2023/01495 1 Paddock House: Convert 2 x 1 bed flats to 1 x 3 bed dwelling. It was discussed that when reviewing the Neighbourhood Plan, a stronger call for mixed sized housing should be stated.

No objection with a comment

Planning Applications Determined Since Last Meeting

PL/2022/05714 The Close, Top Street: Internal alterations and replacement windows.

Approve with conditions



PL/2023/20453 The Old Maltings, Park Lane: Remove swamp cypress. No objection
PL/2023/00246 The Close, Top Street: Fell 1 silver birch. No objection
PL/2023 00114 Mills Farm, Top Street: Tree works pruning and reduction. No objection

PL/2023/00451 Carlyon, Frog Lane: Tree works pruning and reduction. No objection

PL/2022/08011 The Hawthorns was discussed last time and it is still pending.

The PC discussed that as quite a few trees were being felled, perhaps a planting should be considered.

b) Housing Developments

Not all houses are occupied but nearly. All the affordable housing has been resolved and there are only two left to sell on the Dauntsey road development. The builders will be out within a week.

c) Neighbourhood plan

No updates this time. Cllr Sturgis offered to arrange a meeting with Mike Kilminster, Wiltshire Neighbourhood Planning Manager. **Action: Cllr Sturgis**

Cllr Sturgis left at 8.20pm

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.

It was discussed that it would be sensible to move some funds into savings for higher interest rates. The PC discussed that as Cllr Harper was absent it would be agreed in principal with the information to be shared by Cllr Harper. **Proposed: Cllr Barker**
Seconded: Cllr Todd

Donations – The Signpost have asked for £800 due to the bigger distribution with new housing. It has been agreed that we can offer this donation as it is also within budget. **Proposed Cllr Vout**
Seconded: Cllr Todd

Freegardens have requested £200 same as last year. Cllr Harper had submitted the request as follows: *The Gardens has had some unexpected tree surgery carried out this year and will face rising maintenance costs next year as a result of general cost of living increases. Such a donation would help to keep the income and expenditure levels in balance, as the Free Gardens has very limited means of raising income outside the yield from its investment fund.* **Proposed: Cllr Barker**
Seconded Cllr Vout

6. Managed Facilities Winkins Lane playground. All in working order and new play bark has been put on the ground.

7. Environment There were no items raised for the parish steward.

8. Standing Items Defibrillator – still waiting for an update regarding the box closing mechanism. Cllr Barker has submitted photos as requested and will follow up. It was agreed that it would be best to keep the box open as the moment as it is very difficult to open once closed and that when fixed, the code would be put on the outside. **Proposed: Cllr H Lennox**
Seconded: Cllr Barker
Action: Cllr Barker

9. Other The King's Coronation – there is going to be an event at the Showground with further details to be published locally.

- Notice There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.45pm
Dates for Future Meetings @ 7.30 pm – 5 April in the Community Room.
Apologies for the next meeting from Cllrs H and A Lennox.

Approved

Chair

Date ...5 Apr 2023.....