

GREAT SOMERFORD (INCORPORATING STARTLEY) PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 3rd July 2024 Community Room@ 7.30 pm

Present Cllr T Barker Cllr H Gravell
Cllr M Griffiths (Chair) Cllr T Harrison
Cllr H Evans Cllr T Sturgis

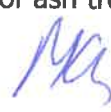
In attend'ce Clerk: H Wallace 3 members of the public
Wiltshire Cllr E Threlfall

PQT A member of the public mentioned that they were there particularly in relation to a planning application to extend their home. This was discussed more fully under Planning. Another member of the public raised that a child hit their head on concrete in the footings of the bench at Winkins Lane playground. **Action:** Cllr Griffiths will look at a solution for covering it. Additionally, concrete around the swings should be covered by chippings which need to be re-ordered.

WCR **Reports from Unitary Councillor and Council Representatives**
Wiltshire Cllr Threlfall reported that progress had been made with local roadworks but to keep reporting potholes on MyWilts APP <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>, and if needed via an email to her, so that she can follow up with Wiltshire Council.
It was discussed that Cllr Threlfall will chase the West St investigation into the two areas of blocked drainage. After the investigation has taken place, the road will be re-surfaced. There are also discussions with the appropriate local councils about the drainage in Seagry Road, just outside Upper Seagry and facilitating access and egress via that road. Lyneham Banks work has started and should be complete by the end of first quarter next year. It is hoped to be a permanent solution with stronger reinforcement and improved drainage. There will be a presentation event in Bradenstoke on Monday 15 July and more information is available here [B4069 Lyneham Banks - Wiltshire Council](#).

INTRO **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr J Harper
Cllr D Todd

Declarations of Interest
Cllr Griffiths and Cllr Gravell said that they would not comment on the planning application on Hollow St, since Cllr Griffiths is a neighbour and Cllr Gravell owns adjacent land.
Cllr Sturgis said that since the PC wouldn't be meeting until September, he wanted to note that pending receipt of the licence, there would be felling of ash trees in the parish, due to the airborne virus affecting them.



Cllrs considered and approved the appointment of new Parish Cllr, Tim Phillips, whose application had been received and reviewed by Cllrs via email prior to the meeting. **Proposed:** Cllr Griffiths, **Seconded:** Cllr Barker. **Action:** Clerk to send induction paperwork.

Minutes and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 5 June were **approved** and **signed** by the Chair as a true record. **Proposed:** Cllr Evans, **Seconded:** Cllr Griffiths

Action Register – Cllrs were asked to please send contacts and relevant documents to the Clerk when resigning as Cllrs. Before the meeting, Cllr Harper had recommended that the PC agreed to a 3-year Insurance Policy with Clear Insurance (specific to Parish Councils) as this would be less expensive than 1 year, no change had been made to the supplier (where best value had previously been carried out) and the PC wished to be covered as quickly as possible. **Proposed:** Cllr Barker, **Seconded:** Cllr Griffiths and all agreed. **Action:** Clerk to renew with Clear Insurance at £1,185.25 per year for 3 years and to note on the Action Register for best value to be undertaken in 2.5 years.

3. CIL Projects

As an update regarding creating a kick-about area on the Glebe field, Cllr Sturgis reported that he had agreed with the landowner's agent Savills to ask for a licence for the installation of a temporary fixture as a goal post, along with an area of rolled grass. Cllr Sturgis was willing to mow and roll area and erect temporary goal post. Cllr Sturgis recommended that the PC go ahead with this once he also has agreement from the landowner, the Diocese of Bristol. The PC asked that a risk assessment be put together. **Action:** Cllr Sturgis to talk with Lea PC regarding their kick-about area and to share a risk assessment document with Cllrs.

Cllr Gravell has sought multiple quotes for Grit Bins for the Parish as the one at the Volunteer Inn is damaged and has caused the grit to solidify and the one at Frog Lane is tatty. Cllrs reviewed the information via email prior to the meeting and agreed to the purchase under CIL expenditure of two bins at £154.95 each. **Proposed:** Cllr Gravell, **Seconded:** Cllr Griffiths.

Cllr Evans had found multiple quotes for different signs to prevent parking on the grass outside the school gate. Cllrs discussed and agreed to five wooden posts at around £100 in total. **Proposed:** Cllr Evans, **Seconded:** Cllr Gravell.

Actions: Cllrs Gravell and Evans to purchase agreed items and re-claim from Clerk. Clerk to purchase remaining approved Admin/IT items and re-claim.

4. Planning Applications received since the last meeting.

PL/2024/02770

47 Dauntsey Road, Great Somerford. Proposal: Side and rear two storey extension
Issued Decision: Approve with Conditions

PL/2024/04146

Coppins, Hollow Street, Great Somerford. Proposal: 3 semi-mature Leyland cypress trees approx. 8-10m in height. These have been suppressed by their more dominant broadleaf neighbours and are to be removed. A Hawthorn tree that is due to be removed at it is growing beneath a power line and is located in an old ditch that needs reinstating.
Issued Decision: No objection

New applications since the last meeting

PL/2024/06062

FYVIE, HOLLOW STREET, GREAT SOMERFORD

Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area

T1 Horse Chestnut - Lower canopy pruned to leave a 2 metre clearance of the overhead cables. T2 Sycamore - Remove to ground level. T3 Beech tree - Reduce all over by up to 3 metres. G4 Trees located on the side boundary are to be lightly pruned to remove the lower epicormic growth. T5 Cherry - Reduce all over by up to 1.8 metres. T6 Beech tree - Lightly prune to remove the lower epicormic growth and lower canopy edge.

Decision: No objection

PL/2024/05765

Site Address

Willow Cottage, Great Somerford. Proposal 2 storey side and rear extension, internal reconfiguration

Decision: There was concern the application did not consider Core Policies 57 and 58 or whether the site was a non-designated heritage asset.(NDHA) The council advised the applicant to check whether it would be considered as a NDHA.

Housing Developments

Broadfield Farm agents who have mowed their ditch between their land between Broadfield Farm fences and the Free Gardens have knocked over about 6 posts **Action:** Cllr Griffiths to ask Cllr Todd to talk to developers.

Neighbourhood Plan

No update this time.

5. Finance

a) Monthly Finance Report

The Finance report was received. The Parish Council ratified & approved and the accounts were reconciled to 30 June. This was confirmed and signed by Cllr Barker, a non-signatory of the bank accounts. **Proposed:** Cllr Gravell, **Seconded:** Cllr Evans.

The bank balances on 30 June were:

Treasurers Account 29,457.52, Deposit Account 10,580.06, Fixed Term Deposit Account 70,000.00

Combined total 110,037.58

6. Policies

The following policies will be distributed to Cllrs for review and for ratification at the July meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

Equal Opportunities – Cllr Todd
Reserves – Cllr Harper
Freedom of Information – Cllr Harrison
PIE – Cllr Griffiths
Standing Orders – Cllr Barker
Privacy – Cllr Gravell

The Risk Register will be assessed at the September PC meeting.

7. Managed Winkins Lane playground will be taken on as a responsibility by Cllr Phillips. **Actions:**
Facilities Clerk to send information about ordering bark to Cllr Phillips. Cllrs Griffiths and Phillips will assess the last ROSPA report for any actions. Cllr Evans will talk with the police about vandalism in the area.

Community Room

Cllr Evans shared a quote for a new boiler for the school, which was discussed. Action: Cllr Evans to ask a number of questions raised by the PC before this can be further assessed.

7. Environment No update this time.

8. Standing To discuss any updates regarding:
Items Startley Cemetery; Communications; Gt Somerford and Startley Defibrillators; Book Exchange; Emergency Plan; School's Liaison; War Memorial; Website.

Action: Cllr Sturgis to fix or follow up for the Glebe Field gate to be fixed.

Startley Cemetery - the gate needs repair and re-setting in concrete. **Action:** Cllrs Griffiths and Harrison will look to get quotes and to opening the noticeboard so that it can be used.

Defibrillators - no issues reported

Emergency Plan – **Action:** Cllr Sturgis to provide information on drainage.

War Memorial – new plants have been watered thanks to former Cllr Blount. 50% has been paid for the ironwork and Cllr Griffiths to update on progress.

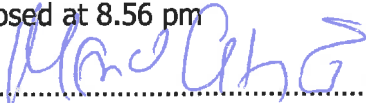
Action: Cllr Phillips to review the PC website and make comments on possible updates.

Notice

Dates for Future Meetings @ 7.30 pm Wednesday 4 September Parish Council Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.56 pm

Approved



Chair

Date

4/9/24