

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council 6th February 2012

Present: Cllr **K.Mogridge (Chair)** Cllrs J. Brailey, M.McKeown S.Powell, R Sleeman, and R.Munroe, CDC Councillors Bennett (who left at 8.30p.m.) Layton and 8 members of the public

Apologies: CDC Cllr Jenkins and Cllr de Bertodano

Declarations of Interest nil

The Village Agent for Somerford Keynes, Ms Sue Black introduced herself and outlined her role in the village. Leaflets were distributed for further reference.

1. **The Minutes** of the meeting held on 9th January 2012 were read, approved and signed. Prop RM, seconded JB
2. **Business remaining from last meeting.**

2.1 Lake 31. The letter from the joint Parishes was sent, a brief acknowledgement from D. Neudegg received and a response from Philippa Lowe, wishing to arrange firstly a meeting with SKPC, Watermark and the Planning department, and subsequently one with the other parishes as well. The meeting has now been arranged for February 9th. Councillors suggested asking if an initial meeting could take place in the Millennium building, prior to a site visit to discuss what is required to return Lake 31 to something of its former state.

2.2 Lake 99. Hanson has instructed its solicitor and Michael Gray of Willmotts to prepare documents for the transfer of Lake 99 to SKPC. It is anticipated this can be achieved fairly soon.

2.3 Village Plan. There is to be a Free Coffee Morning on 24th March in the Village Hall to begin 'initial conversations' about what residents would like to see happen in the future..

2.4 CWPJC Cllr Powell reported that she had attended a meeting of Parish reps to discuss operation after the end of March when it was likely CWPJC would be disbanded due to the cessation of funding. It was possible that Cotswold Parishes Liaison would spearhead future activities, with meetings possibly quarterly, of a small executive committee. CDC Cllr Nick Parsons would have this added to his portfolio. RS expressed the view that it was important to have some type of effective replacement body in place to cover the strategic future of the gravel resource area on both sides of the County boundary. Without such a body it could become a free for all to the detriment of all the local communities in the CWP.

2.5 GCC Highways mapping of watercourses The Clerk is to arrange a final meeting shortly, to check detail of drainage within the parish. It is hoped that several older villagers would be prepared to assist, using their varied knowledge. KM is to get a map of a slightly larger scale, though smaller than those provided originally by GCC Highways, to ensure everything is included.

2.6 Illegal parking on Spratsgate Lane Clerk to report illegal parking and ask for action next season, to combat it.

2.7 Footpaths. Cllr Sleeman reported that his meeting with Footpaths Officer Mike Barton had been postponed for 2 weeks due to illness of Mr Barton's parents. He hoped to co-ordinate possible extra paths with adjoining land holders.

GCC Cllr Parsons arrived at this point and was asked to provide an update on SKPC PRoW application. He said he had hoped for considerable progress by January 2012 but there were difficulties in deciding on the exact routes. Verbal agreement from Watermark has not yet translated in to written agreement either. He expected to be able to provide a more positive report by mid-March Clerk to send email to remind him of his commitment.

2.8 Go-by-Cycle. The application for the new sign was refused unanimously but an appeal procedure has been instigated. KM is to prepare a statement of SKPC's continued objections for the Inspector.

3. Correspondence

3.1 Newly revealed Documents concerning CWP/KCP. Councillor Sleeman reported on the newly released documents pertaining to the sub-lease of KCP to Watermark. These documents revealed that the leasing had wider implications in that the long term ambition was to have access through KCP into adjoining land for the development of holiday homes as well as other matters mainly to the benefit of

Watermark and not the CWPS nor the local communities. Three of these agreements were made concurrently with the known sub-lease in December 2007 but kept hidden even from the Board of the CWPS. The last agreement was signed as lately as February 2010 which removed even those remaining advantageous benefits in the favour of the CWPS to Watermark for the sum of £30,000. The Board of the CWPS only came to know of these agreements in July 2010 after Dennis Grant was arrested. It is only following pressure that these documents have at last come into the public domain (they can be read on www.cotswoldlakes.org or follow the link on the Village Website).

4. Planning applications:

11/05687/FUL Listed Building application Manor Farm Shorncote: New septic tank for 4 holiday cottages (Cottages permitted 09/09/09) No objection

Planning Decisions received: 11/04738 Head4Heights Changing shelter.

5. Questions

Flooding/Insurance. Some residents have been experiencing difficulties with their home insurance companies putting on large excesses. SP to check with her insurer, as some of those experiencing difficulties share her post code.

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. SKPC is to liaise with VH committee regarding events. Clerk to investigate whether Portaloos are viable to enable celebrations to be near Lake 99.

6. Financial Matters Nil

7. Questions

7.1 Cllr Powell asked how the Wiltshire Minerals Plan affected the Cotswold Community land

7.2 GCC Cllr Parsons was asked how the sale of the SCOEC lake was progressing. He said that as far as he was aware, negotiations were taking place between 2 parties, who were prepared to operate the lake as at present.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Monday March 5th 2012 in the Village Hall at 7.30p.m.