**Minutes of the Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council 3rd October 2022**

**7.30pm - Held In the Village Hall**

Present: Cllr R. Elsey (RE)Acting as Chair, Cllr G. Valentine (GV), Cllr M. Hastie-Oldland (M.H-O),Cllr A. Stradling (AS), Cllr M. Keegan(MK) District Cllr T. Berry (TB),

Also present:: Clerk K. Josey (KJ), and 2 members of the public

**1.Apologies:** - Cllr J. Whitwell (JW), Cllr M. Rigby (MR), Cllr L. Spivey

**2.Declaration of interest:** None

**3.Public Session**

Member of the public no1 requested that the PC contact a local landowner with regards to the fencing that has been installed along the Thames Path. The PC will report this observation to the landowner.

Member of the public no2 requested that 2 of her statements from the previous meetings minutes were inaccurate and be removed from the September minutes.

**4.Report from Cllr L.Spivey**

Cllr Spivey was unable to attend due to a Cabinet Meeting

**5.Report from Cllr T.Berry**

Cllr T. Berry updated the PC on the Trinity Road Offices and their renovation due to water leaks. TB also stated that CDC are in talks regarding funding towards Warm Spaces and the cost of living crisis and will update as necessary. TB confirmed that fly-tipping action is on-going.

**6.Approval of Minutes** of the meeting held on 7th September – 2 comments to be redacted. Proposed G.V Seconded R.E

**7. To receive the Clerks Report**

KJ informed the PC that the Parish Field Lease has completed and Tanners Solicitors will be paid tomorrow. Waterland had paid their portion of the legal fees as agreed.

KJ reported that the Defibrilator Trainer has given a date of 31st October – KJ will email out to parishioners in due course.

KJ reported that Way Markers have been placed to indicate where the footpath continues past the finger-post. Frank Dorrington-Ward (FDW) also confirmed that the handrail has been repaired.

KJ reported that the damaged Water Lane road sign has been reported.

**8.Planning Items**

Updates on outstanding planning applications

**22/02515/FUL** - Removal of Conditions 03 (samples) and 04 (use) and variation of condition 05 (lighting) relating to planning permission 21/04062/FUL

at Land Parcel known as The Lane Garden Ewen Road Somerford Keynes – Cllr M.Hastie-Oldland to complete a site visit on 16th October 2022

**9. Village Lake Report** – received from M.Wilding.

**REPORT FOR OCTOBER PC MEETING:**

**1.  WATER LEVELS: The water level in the Lake is still very low being approximately 87.10 m above mean sea level at the last reading.**

**2. MOWING: With the dry weather, little mowing of the path has been required over the summer, but with the return of rainfall, mowing has recommenced, and the path was last mowed on 22 September**

**3. VOLUNTEER MORNINGS will restart early October, probably Sat 15th and/or 22nd, as there is quite a bit of clearance of the open vista areas and copses to be done, together with maintenance of the wildflower areas. These dates will be published by the usual flyer circulated by Kristy, the Village Lake section of the SK website and the Village WhatsApp group**

**4.  LAKE COMMITTEE MEETING: The September meeting has been postponed until October, due to unavailability of some committee members during September. Expenditure of the small amount of Calor grant money still left and the remainder of our SKPC budget for 22/23 will be planned out**

**5.  ANTI SLIP STRIPS:  Costs have been obtained for completing the anti slip strips on the boardwalk as requested by SKPC (see separate details)**

**6.  PLAQUE: The plaque marking the buried time capsule, beside the south path has been delivered, and currently a small timber mount is being made for it. It is expected to be fixed sometime in October and a short unveiling ceremony will be held.  Who might be a suitable person to do the unveiling ?**

**7. DOG BIN EMPTYING:  At the time of writing, the dog poo bin at the Lake Entrance is overflowing and had not been emptied for some time. The appropriate CDC form was completed online on 23 Sept, and an acknowledgement received the same day, stating it would be attended to ASAP.  Bags of other rubbish have appeared from time to time during the summer, beside the bin and these have been removed by committee to their own home black bins**

**COSTS FOR ANTI SLIP STRIPS ON BOARDWALK**

Taking delivery, moving round to the boardwalk from Mill Lane to the boardwalk and distributing boxes of strips along the boardwalk                    No charge as this will be done by volunteers

Supply of 170 anti slip strips and delivery (Safetread of Ipswich)  :                                                                                                                             £1187.96            + VAT which we can recover

Delivery to Mill Lane:                                                                                                                                                                                                       £ 31.41            + VAT which we can recover

Unpacking, placing in position and screwing down ( James Harris Contracting)                                                                                                           £180.00           No VAT

*(James built our pond dipping platform for us)*                                                                                                                                                           \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Notes:  In October 19 (pre Covid) we obtained a price for the whole boardwalk (every board instead of alternate, which pro rata'd down to the quantity now required would have been around £1400 supply and fix (3 yrs inflation to go on that 2019 price, of course)

            Similar quality strips to Safetread, are available from other suppliers but are more expensive eg Mafson at £1870 supply only

            Inferior quality (roofing felt type thickness) are available at lower supply only prices, but they would not last anywhere near as long and be subject to possible curling up in time. possibly giving rise to a trip hazard.

If SKPC decides we need the whole boardwalk covered now then I would recommend the **Safetread** strips (to match what we have fitted already), fitted by James Harris. As we have said before, the potentially dampest part of the boardwalk is now covered, and we have had no slipping accidents. The **Safetead** strips will last as long as the boardwalk timbers which were cleaned and coated with preservative two years ago. Clearly there would not be enough money in this year's Lake budget, so separate funds would need to come from SKPC if this option were to be taken.

**10. Warm Spaces -**The PC discussed the possible need for a Warm Space for members of the public in the upcoming difficult times due to the Cost of Living Crisis. It was agreed that the village hall would be the most suitable venue**. Action** - Cllr A. Stradling to contact the Village Hall Committee.

**11**.**VAS Scheme Update**. – Cllr J.Whitwell had met with Mathew Parker from the scheme. This proved useful and will require further information. **Action**- Cllr Hastie-Oldland to continue to investigate.

**12.** **Green Corridor** - The PC agreed to check the condition/health of the large trees within the Water Lane Green Corridor. **Action**- RE to contact tree surgeon.

**13.** **Correspondence** – The PC has been questioned regarding their offer to fund the materials for the rotten post on the Kissing Gate on the PROW alongside the Thames Path. A parishioner has donated this money in order for the work to go ahead. The PC has received an email from a member of the public that the yellow lines on Water Lane and Spratsgate Lane have been repainted.

**14.** The PC agreed to fund the anti-slip strips for the Village Lake Boardwalk from CIL money - Proposed M.K Seconded A.S. **Action**- KJ to inform M.Wilding

**15**. **Financial Matters -** Ink £35.75, Tanners Solicitors £770.40

**16. Any other business for discussion, not requiring a decision, subject to the Chairman’s approval.** Cllr Valentine suggested that the new LME manager attend next Months Meeting – **Action** – KJ to send invitation. It was noted that the yellow lines on Water Lane and Spratsgate Lane have been repainted. Cllr A.Stradling and Cllr M.Hastie-Oldland reported their attendance at the opening of the new Play Area at Neigh Bridge. The PC feel that it is excellent to have a facility for the young children and families within the area.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 7th November 7.30pm