**Minutes of the Meeting of Somerford Keynes Parish Council 7th November 2022**

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

Present: Cllr J. Whitwell (JW) Cllr R. Elsey (RE) Cllr, Cllr M. Hastie-Oldland (M.H-O), Cllr A. Stradling (AS), Cllr M. Keegan (MK) District Cllr T. Berry (TB), Cllr M. Rigby (MR)

Also present: Clerk K. Josey (KJ), and 4 members of the public

**1.Apologies:** - Cllr G. Valentine (GV), Cllr L. Spivey (LS)

**2.Declaration of interest:** Cllr M. Hastie-Oldland (Community Energy Champion)

**3.Public Session**

Member of the public No1 (Mike McKeown) took the opportunity to update the Parish Councillors on the progress of the Community Energy Scheme. For details and information mikesmckeown@gmail.com

Member of the public No2 introduced himself as Robert Squizzoni the newly appointed Estates Manager for LME who kindly attended to meet the Parish Councillors.

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

**November 2022 Report**

**Homes For Ukraine**

So far a total of 1734 people have applied for visas through the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, of which 331 people are registered in the Cotswolds. 96% of those applications have been processed and 266 people have arrived in the UK.

A total of 787 properties have been checked in the County with 141 in the Cotswolds. There have also been a significant number of checks, visits and DBS checks carried out to ensure that those arriving are being well looked after.

There have been some guests requiring re-matching, but there are systems in place to ensure that happens quickly.

Local schools have made space for a total of 366 children.

There are still a large number of people applying and we have a good working group to help support those arriving.

**Cost of Living Help**

Help can be accessed via the webpage:

[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/support-hub/](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/support-hub/)

The County is working in partnership with the Boroughs and Districts to signpost help. Several libraries are being set up as “warm banks”.

**Roads**

In recent canvassing, a couple of local issues keep coming up and these are areas I know the PC is aware of, and I hope will support in future campaigning.

The 2 main issues are:

1. Speeding on the Spine Road and speed limits
2. Pedestrian Crossing/s to improve pedestrian safety

I know that these issues have been looked at in recent years with no positive changes, but I think that there is a real case to re-look at matters given the increased number of homes at Lower Mill Estate and impact that has on the surrounding area with pedestrians and cyclists.

I would like to set up a meeting with the GCC Highways Authority, District Council and Parish Council to discuss options.

I hope you would support this.

I will continue to campaign on improvements on the general road conditions and use my local highways budget to plug any small gaps in maintenance.

**Discussion**

The PC are very much in favour of reducing the speed limit on Spine Road West. It was also agreed to recommend that a roundabout at the North End cross road would reduce the danger there considerably.

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

Cllr T. Berry reported that the plans for the cycleway to Neigh Bridge is progressing well, final designs are being approved, and build is planned for early 2023. C.D.C Planning Department has appointed a new manager and things are improving. Booking for the recycling center is now available on the day rather than in advance. There have been 4 penalty notices issued for fly-tipping within the area. C.D.C continue to consider funding for the Cost of Living Crisis.

**6.Approval of Minutes** of the meeting held on 3rd October Proposed AS Seconded RE

**7. To receive the Clerks Report**

KJ reported that the Defibrilator Training went ahead, and was well attended and extremely useful and informative.

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

KJ reported that the Cotswold Country Park and Beach manager had confirmed the overflowing dog waste bin has been emptied.

KJ reported that the Parish council have received CIL monies which will be in the upcoming budget.

Cllr R. Elsey reported that he is awaiting the tree surgeon regarding the inspection of the tress on Water Lane.

Cllr J. Whitwell reported that he had contacted Frank Dorrington-Ward regarding the recent parishioner concerns regarding the barbed wire on the Thames Path fencing, and all requirements were met. Cllr Whitwell confirmed no further action.

**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 completed a site visit on 16th October 2022 – no objections.

LME

**22/03342/FUL** - Application for Variation of condition 2 (Plans) and 4 (Occupancy) of application ref:

11/03126/FUL - Erection of 296 holiday units and lake with estate roads, parking provision,

storage barns, play space, electricity sub station (in accordance with approved outline

planning permissions) of Plot. 13 to change permitted unit type and siting and removal of

the temporary restrictions condition at 13 Lakeshore Reserve Lower Mill Estate – no objection

**22/03423/FUL** - Full Application for Change from 2 units to 1, erection of new boat store, car port, provision of new landscaping including terracing at 69/70 Minety Lake Lower Mill Estate Somerford Keynes Cirencester Gloucestershire – no objection

Compliance of condition 3 (Surface water drainage) of permission 22/01884/FUL - Additional temporary 5 year siting of new and existing cabins (for office, ancillary administration and welfare uses) and containers (for materials and equipment storage), parking, maneuvering and retained infrastructure (retrospective) at Lake 63 Somerford Keynes Gloucestershire – no objection

**22/03727/FUL** - Application for Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) of permission 21/02705/FUL -The erection of 17 detached holiday units within Minety Lake South West (also referred to as Barberry Lake); the erection of three detached holiday units within Lakeshore Reserve West; amendments to the water's edge of Minety Lake South West; ancillary buildings, provision for new landscaping and revised ecological areas, visitor parking and vehicular access at Minety Lake South West Lower Mill Estate Somerford Keynes Gloucestershire – no objection

**22/03731/FUL** - Variation of condition 6 (flood risk assessment) of permission21/03027/FUL - Conversion and extensions of existing garage with new link, alteredvehicular access and new detached garage at The Old Bakery Water Lane Somerford Keynes Cirencester Gloucestershire – no objection

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

**A Volunteer morning** was held on 8th October. Only a small number responded and these were:Andy Clark (shed painting), Clare Baker, Chris Isherwood, Jane and Florence Hayman (all on sapling clearance from vista areas). Also Nick Hunt did some work in his own time. The Volunteer Morning was advertised on Village WhatsApp group as well as SKPC flyer. Records are kept of attendance, work done and any training necessary in the use of tools and equipment. Next volunteer morning will be the annual bonfire in late Nov/early December

2 **The Lake Committee** met on Friday 14 October with full attendance. The agenda included

* Use of the remaining £400 Calor grant money
* Entrance gate posts replacement
* Expenditure of Lake budget of £1050 for 2022/23
* Maintenance of wildflower areas
* Lake monthly inspections by committee which includes water level gauge observations

3 **The QEII Jubilee plaque** is now mounted on a timber frame, beside the south (Spine Rd side) footpath, and was unveiled by Florence & Violet Hayman in the rain!

4 **Delivery of the anti-slip strips** from Safe Tread will be during w/c 7 November, when they will be moved round to the boardwalk by volunteers, ready to be fixed by James Harris Contracting during November.  This will necessitate the closure of the boardwalk for a day, which will be appropriately signed

**Bills will be put in your post box, Kristy for the following:**

Oak for timber mount to QEII stone plaque:                          ebay    no VAT                  £49.68      (payable to myself)

Carpentry for oak timber mount for plaque

Electrics check on malfuncting camera in owl box                Alan Tresadern  no VAT   £155.00     (paid cash by myself, so reimbursment required to myself)

Naturising minature English  Narcissus bulbs                       Peter Nyssen  (inc VAT)     £12.75      (paid by myself)

**Total**                                                                                                                             **£217.43**

**10. Report from Parish Charities**

**Somerford Keynes Parish Charities**

Formed 9th June 1967 from:

1. Charity of George Soley Foyle – 5th December 1839
2. Charity of Joseph Mill – 13th May 1857
3. Charities of Georges Foyle and William Coomb – 22nd September 1882
4. Charity of John Bowley for the Poor – 18 January 1912
5. Charity known as Gordon Macmillan Memorial Trust. – October 1967?

Under the Charities Act 1960, regulated by Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, we have 5 competent Trustees, **one ex-officio**, generally the vicar**, two Nominative, appointed by the Parish Council** and **two Co-optative**, residents or carrying on business in the Parish.

The Charter, attached, states that any Trustee (Nominative) who communicates in writing a wish to resign shall cease there upon to be a Trustee.

Having acted as Scribe for the last 19 years and being 91, the other Trustees and I feel it would be appropriate for me to be replaced. We all thought, with his approval, that Graham Shearn would be ideal so pass his name forward for your consideration as one of the two Nominative Trustees (the other is John Hayward due for renewal Aug.2024). We have our Trustees Meeting on 6th December so his appointment would operate thereafter hoping for your approval at your November Meeting.

Also, if anyone knows of deserving parishioners for this charity, please could they inform Rev.David Austin in confidence ([davidreaustin@hotmail.com](mailto:davidreaustin@hotmail.com)) before the 6th December.

Judy Monger.

**Parish Council Resolution**

The PC would like to thank Judy Monger for all the work she has done regarding the Somerford Keynes Parish Charities and unanimously agree with the proposed appointment of Mr G Shearn as a Nominative Trustee.

**11**.**Warm Spaces Update –** Cllr A Stradlinghas contacted the Village Hall Committee regarding use of the Village Hall as a warm space. The Committee agreed; however, this would require volunteers to run the scheme. It was proposed to include this in the upcoming Newsletter.

**12.** **VAS Update** – Cllr M.Hastie-Oldland has investigated the next stage for this scheme and the PC agreed that it will take the application process further, and enquire if SK could have 2 VAS cameras, one in Water Lane and one near Church Lane.

**13.** **Rural England Prosperity Bid –** Cllr M.Hastie-Oldland has submitted a proposal based on support for upgrading power supplies for businesses in SK and Shorncote. A formal process will now commence.

**14.** The PC agreed that a Newsletter will be written and distributed.

**15**.**Parish Field –** Cllr M. Rigby confirmed that the new 5 year lease has been completed and that the signed lease is held by the Parish Clerk.

**16. Correspondence** - The PC received a note of thanks from His Majesty King Charles for the letter of condolence following the passing of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

**17**. **Financial Matters -** Defib Training £210.00, Boardwalk Strips £1463.24, V.Lake Oak, for plaque and mounting, electric work on owl box camera, bulbs £217.43

**18. Any other business for discussion, not requiring a decision, subject to the Chairman’s approval.**

Cllr M-Hastie-Oldland asked that the PC may wish to conside a bench at Neigh Bridge for parents to sit on while their children use the new play area.

Cllr Haste-Oldland also highlighted concerns of parents walking to the play area as there is no footpath towards Neigh Bridge.

Cllr M.Rigby informed the PC that she will not be putting herself forward for re-election in 2023 as she will have given 8years service to the Parish Council. The Parish Council will be seeking applicants for Councillor vacancies as there may be more than one vacancy.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 5th December 7.30pm