

MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 14th May 2024 at Hemerdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Hartley, May, Nicholson, Hutton-Fellowes, Webb, Lee, Serpell Denman, Sophie Jones (Clerk)

In attendance: Cllr Edie (SHDC), 1 MOP

Part 1 (Open to the Public)

Annual Parish Meeting

076/24 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Cllr Nicholson nominated Cllr Hartley for Chair, this was seconded by Cllr Hutton-Fellowes.
Cllr Nicholson nominated Cllr May for Vice Chair, this was seconded by Cllr Hutton-Fellowes.

077/24 Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chair

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chair was signed by Cllr Hartley in the presence of the Clerk.

078/24 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Hart

Parish Council Meeting

079/24 Agreement of the Agenda between Parts I and II

All agreed. Councillors noted that one item of business would be considered in Part II of the meeting.

080/24 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

081/24 County Councillor's Report

Cllr Hart was not present at the meeting but sent a short report via email;
I have little to report affecting the parish other than there is likely to be some road repairs in the Langage industrial estate later this year. However, County wide, Devon and Torbay had agreed to work with the Government on drawing down more responsibilities to Local Government. The County has now agreed with Government a safety valve support for our Special Education service of £95million. We have managed to put another £12million into highway repairs and we have balanced our books for another year 2023/24. Unlike a number of our neighbour Authorities.

As you may well have read in the paper, I am standing down as Leader of Devon County Council to shortly become the Chairman for my last year as a County Councillor. I will not be

standing again in 2025. I have been on DCC since 1989 and directly involved in running a department or the County since 2001. The family feel it time I retire and come home. Not sure they quite know what they are going to do with me but there is a time to retire and for me this is the right time.

I would thank you and the people of Sparkwell for your support over the time I have been representing you and again apologise for missing your meeting on Tuesday.

The Cllrs of SPC would like to wish Cllr Hart a happy retirement.

082/24 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Edie emailed a monthly update (as shown below), which the Clerk circulated.

PCC election results;

SOSA HERNANDEZ, Alison Selina, Conservative - 6,995

LODGE, Stephen Robert, Lib Dem - 3,945

STEEL, Daniel John Labour - 4,804

The number of ballots rejected was as follows:

The total number of verified ballot papers available -15,902

The total number of rejected ballot papers: 158

The total number of valid votes - 15,744

Community Safety Partnership update:

The end of the financial year is always a busy time for the CSP team, as it is for so many people. At the beginning of March, we hold our annual priority setting meeting, where we get together with our lead members and partners from a number of agencies to Take a look at the intelligence we have and agree what the priorities of the CSP should be for the coming year. These priorities include a mix of statutory duties such as the Domestic Homicide reviews, along with additional local priorities. Sadly the intelligence shows us Devon has seen a rise in suicides. As a result of this, suicide prevention and awareness will be one of our priorities for the coming year.

You will also see we have recently been publicising the need to be aware of rogue traders. This has been as a result of some recent incidents in Devon and we will also be looking at carrying out more awareness work around rogue traders and the online space.

Our overarching priorities for the coming year are domestic violence and sexual abuse, violence prevention and violence against women and girls, problem drinking and drug use, exploitation and hate crime, changing youth culture and anti-social behaviour.

If anyone would like to know more about the work we are doing to address these priorities, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In addition to the priority setting meeting, we held our annual forum. For the first time in many years this was a hybrid option so was a great opportunity to network with our partners face to face.

The forum gives an overview of some of the work carried out by the CSP and its partners over the year. We are looking at the possibility of holding it face to face again next year. Preventing exploitation session for professionals South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership are hosting a FREE online session for professionals on Thursday 16 May,

focused on preventing exploitation. Attendees will hear from speakers from a variety of agencies including Devon and Cornwall Police and Devon County Council and will cover topics such as radicalisation, criminal exploitation, sexual exploitation, preventing exploitation in adolescents and supporting parents along with how to report any concerns. There will also be 15 minutes at the end where speakers will be happy to take any questions.

Please help spread the word and anyone interested can book a space by registering online.

Cllr Edie left the meeting at 19.11

083/24 Public Forum

1 Member of Public (MOP) attended regarding concerns over Hemerdon Mine. No representative from Tungsten West was present, therefore Cllr May gave a brief overview of the current situation.

ACTION – Clerk/Chair to ask TW to let us know if they aren't planning to attend in the future.

084/24 Hemerdon Mine

Tungsten West sent their apologies as they could not attend. There is no update this month. It was noted that there was new documentation added to Citizen Space regarding the Mine.

ACTION – SPC will ask for an extension to the end of June 2024 to allow adequate time to ensure awareness of the new information.

085/24 Planning

- a. 1008/24/HHO – SPC have concerns with the parking.
- b. 0990/24/FUL – Approve
- c. 1274/24/CLE - Reject
- d. 1260/24/CLE – No comment
- e. 0996/27/FUL – No comment
- f. Appeal 3621/23/PDM – The original comments from SPC still stand

086/24 Minutes

- a. Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 16th April 2024

RESOLVED – unanimously that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 16th April 2024 be approved and signed.

087/24 Climate Change and Biodiversity

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes has asked for a note to be added to Facebook regarding SPC no longer involved in Smuggler's Copse.

ACTION – Clerk to add note to Facebook regarding the above.

088/24 Parish Spring Clean

Cllr Nicholson suggested a community clean up within the parish to do some litter picking. Cllr Hartley has a contact who we hope will supply bags/litter pickers. Cllr Hutton-Fellowes asked if the village halls can provide refreshments. She also said the Beavers/Scouts will be involved.

ACTION – Clerk/Chair to research and get back to the council at the June meeting.

089/24 Road & Snow Warden

Cllr Hartley noted that the roads aren't great within the parish, with potholes seemingly everywhere. He will be compiling a map of the affected roads within the parish. Cllr Hutton-Fellowes asked if a flashing speed sign can be provided.

ACTION – Chair to speak to Nick Colton regarding plans for coming year for the Highways and the speed sign for the parish.

ACTION – Chair to contact Police regarding speeding within area.

090/24 Tree Warden

No update from Cllr May.

ACTION – Chair to contact Cllr Hart regarding the trees within Lee Mill which need to be removed due to causing a visibility hazard.

091/24 Parish Assets (Bus Shelters, Benches, etc)

i. Asset of Community Value

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes is currently completing the paperwork for The Treby Arms. The next step is funding to buy the asset, so the application will most likely be withdrawn.

Cllr Webb said the paperwork for The Miners Arms hasn't been sent as the community hope the pub will be purchased by another party.

092/24 Chairman's Business

Nothing further from Cllr Hartley.

ACTION – Clerk to inform parishioners via website and Facebook of the Tungsten West application extension.

Cllr Serpell Denman asked if there is a Deer Warden, as there have been a lot of incidents of deer being caught in wire, etc and killed or injured.

ACTION – Clerk to investigate.

093/24 Correspondence

All correspondence has been circulated via email prior to the meeting.

094/24 Finance

Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for May 2024.

095/24 Payments and Receipts

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments for May 2024.

096/24 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **7pm** on **Tuesday 11th June 2024** at **Sparkwell Parish Hall**.

Meeting closed at 21.00

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name Date