

**MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Sparkwell Parish Hall

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

**In attendance:** Cllr Edie (SHDC), Cllr Thomas (SHDC), 10 Members of Public (MOP)

**Part 1** (Open to the Public)

**135/24      Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Nicholson and Serpell Denman

**136/24      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.

**137/24      Declarations of Interest**

None

**138/24      County Councillor's Report**

No report provided.

**139/24      District Councillor's Report**

Cllr Edie emailed a monthly update which the Clerk circulated prior to the meeting. He noted that the National Planning Framework consultation was updated on Thursday. The uplift of housing targets was identified and will be the focus of the SHDC response. Cllr Edie will report back after briefing on 12<sup>th</sup> September. There is a Cost of Living Scam currently doing the rounds, so be aware of any text messages claiming you have not received "your annual living allowance". Also, Cllr Edie noted the Electric Marine Propulsion Survey, and encouraged residents to fill in the questionnaire.

Cllr Thomas reported that the current targets for the housing markets are fantastic, but there was no update regarding development for percentage of affordability on land (for example; 30%, 40% affordable, etc). Local Government is asked to be involved.

Cllr Hartley asked for an update on the new estate being built in Lee Mill. The land has been purchased and could potentially start to build in October 2024. Cllr Thomas said he objected to the proposal and it was taken to the Planning Committee.

Cllr Webb informed the District Cllrs that there are still issues with the recycling within Hemerdon. It appears stickers have been placed on everything. This has caused some upset and residents resorting to putting everything into general waste instead. She also noted that rats have been found near the waste bins. Cllr Thomas is concerned about this and will speak to the Head of Waste regarding good practice.

**140/24      Public Forum**

There were 10 MOP's present to discuss the traffic along New Park Road, Lee Mill. Residents showed great concern at the proposed developments and the affect it will have on traffic within the village. They feel the road is already dangerous, posing a risk to pedestrians and other vehicle users. The main concerns were speed, levels of traffic and safety for residents. Cllr Hartley is due to speak with Rebecca Smith and John Hart to run through the updated speed and traffic check. He encouraged residents to contact the council regarding speed control measures on New Park Road.

Cllr Thomas left the meeting at 19.35

Cllr Edie left the meeting at 19.49

All MOP's left the meeting at 19.54

#### **141/24 Hemerdon Mine**

There wasn't a Representative from Hemerdon Mine present.

Cllr May said the LLG meeting didn't happen last month. Potentially could be towards the end of September.

#### **142/24 Planning**

a. **2316/24/FUL** – SPC object to this planning application.

#### **143/24 Minutes**

a. Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**RESOLVED** – unanimously that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 be approved and signed.

#### **143/24 LLG Terms of Reference** – to discuss who can Chair an LLG meeting.

**ACTION** – Clerk to ask for Terms of Reference for the LLG meetings.

#### **144/24 Climate Change and Biodiversity**

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes attended the Yealm Estuary to Moor Working Group the evening prior to the meeting. It was noted that the SPC hasn't paid the money for the River Fly Survey.

**ACTION** – Clerk to arrange payment for the River Fly Survey as agreed in Minute 065/24 of April 2024 meeting.

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes explained the importance of the work the group are doing. There have been numerous pollution incidents in rivers around the parish of sewage and china clay. It was also noted water that was too warm was released into the river, which is disastrous for the wildlife living there.

Various footpaths around the parish have been reported due to be broken, overgrown, impassable.

**ACTION** – Clerk to research availability of 'Running Deer' signs to place around Parish.

**ACTION** – Clerk to research if SPC can potentially fund the repair of the broken gate on footpath 23.

**145/24 Road & Snow Warden**

No updates.

**146/24 Tree Warden**

It was noted that Lee Mill Woods are still closed.

**147/24 Chairman's Business**

Cllr Hartley updated the council on the possibility of SPC funding a lawnmower to cut the grass at Lee Mill Park. It was agreed 3 quotes would be obtained from contractors to cut the grass. This will be discussed in the October 2024 meeting and compared with the cost of SPC funding a lawn mower.

**148/24 Correspondence**

- i. It was noted by Cllrs that the 3 defibrillators within the parish have had new batteries and new pads installed, along with an extra set of replacement pads each.

**149/24 Finance**

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for August/September 2024.

**150/24 Payments and Receipts**

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments for August/September 2024. The Clerk's pay increase was noted.

**151/24 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held at **7pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at Hemerdon Village Hall.**

**Meeting closed at 21.40**

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed .....

Name ..... Date .....