

**MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at Sparkwell Parish Hall**

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

**In attendance:** Cllr Edie (SHDC), Marica Lyndon (TW)

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

**097/24     Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Webb

**098/24     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.

**099/24     Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**100/24     County Councillor's Report**

No update provided.

**101/24     District Councillor's Report**

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

**ACTION** – Clerk to check details of SHDC website are up-to-date.

**ACTION** – Clerk to arrange all Cllrs an email address.

Cllr Edie left the meeting at 19.30

**102/24     Public Forum**

No MOP present.

**103/24     Hemerdon Mine**

The final permit for the mine processing facility has been received today. It will be uploaded onto the portal asap. TW will be publishing details tomorrow. The next step is to approach funders for investment. They will be continuing the feasibility study and beginning a small amount of recruitment from the local area. TW will be releasing dates for the next load of coffee mornings, which they will also run in the evenings too.

Regarding the CEO, there is a temporary CEO in place whilst a permanent replacement is chosen. This will be announced in due course.

Cllr Nicholson raised the recent fatality on the stretch of road near the mine. He noted that DCC, as the Highway Authority, haven't done enough to prevent accidents from occurring and to ensure road safety.

Cllr Hartley asked if SPC could be given a timeline once funding is sourced and when operations are due to commence. Marica said the build timeline is 12 months post funding; Q1 2026.

Cllr May confirmed the Local Liaison Group meetings will start again soon.

**ACTION** – Review Terms of Reference for LLG meetings. Who should Chair the meetings? Add to agenda for July.

Sparkwell Parish Council would like to thank Tungsten West for their recent laptop giveaway. The community have benefitted hugely from the incentive.

#### **104/24 Planning**

a. **0994/24/FUL** – Concerns with lighting and noise.

b. **1610/24/ARM** – No comment

c. **1698/24/PDM** – No comment

Cllr Nicholson suggested inviting the Freeport to a future SPC to provide more in-depth information on their plans.

#### **105/24 Minutes**

a. Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**RESOLVED** – unanimously that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 be approved and signed.

#### **106/24 Climate Change and Biodiversity**

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes updated the Cllrs on the River Yealm Water Quality Group. The Cllrs are still completing their water quality checks. Cllr Webb couldn't access the Lee Mill testing location due to damage of the gate. This needs to be resolved quickly due to the location of the site with regards to sewage treatment plants, etc.

#### **107/24 Parish Spring Clean**

Cllr Hartley has arranged a spring clean for Lee Mill. Cllrs will arrange for the Hemerdon and Sparkwell clean ups to coincide with the Lee Mill date.

#### **108/24 Road & Snow Warden**

Cllr Hartley will contact Nick Colton regarding the road by the A38 in Lee Mill/Ermington.

Cllr Nicholson has been informed by a resident that there may be dumping at Goodamoor Farm.

**ACTION** – Clerk to send letter to EA regarding Goodamoor Farm dumping and if they have a permit for it, and if they can confirm/investigate. Cllr Nicholson will send draft letter to clerk, which will be sent on to Rob Argent.

#### **109/24 Tree Warden**

No update from Cllr May.

#### **110/24 Parish Assets (Bus Shelters, Benches, etc)**

The Treby Arms is reopening. Date to be confirmed.

Repairs at Bottle Park are underway. Also, there is a bench to be repaired. The SPC will fund the wood.

**RESOLVED** – SPC to fund the repairs to Bottle Park and the bench. Pricing to be confirmed. Agreed unanimously.

**RESOLVED** – There is an agreement between a parishioner and SPC that they will cut the grass at Bottle Park. This will be invoiced to the SPC, further details to follow. Agreed unanimously.

The bridlepath leading up Hemerdon is broken. It will be reported, and repairs should be funded by the Paths Partnership Scheme.

#### **111/24 Grants**

Cllrs proposed to donate £150 to the Devon Air Ambulance.

**RESOLVED** – SPC will donate £150 to the Devon Air Ambulance.

#### **112/24 Chairman's Business**

Cllr Hartley will be putting in a grant application to Newnham Solar Fund to install solar panels to the Lee Mill bus shelter.

#### **113/24 Correspondence**

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

#### **114/24 Finance**

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for June 2024.
- b. Annual Return/Audit
  - i. Approved unanimously
  - ii. Approved unanimously
  - iii. Approved unanimously

#### **115/24 Payments and Receipts**

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

**116/24     Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held at **7pm** on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024** at **Hemerdon Village Hall**.

**Meeting closed at 20.30**

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed .....

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