

Springthorpe Parish Meeting

20th November 2023

Minutes

Chair: Dr Gillian Procter Tel: 07484041037 email: chair SPM@outlook.com

Present: Marian Graham, Tom Graham, Julie Oaks, Russell Smith, Mike Dewsbury, Sue Dewsbury, Paul Howitt-Cowan, Shirley Winter, John Oaks, Julian Cowan, Adrian Winter, Alex Amaira, Fiona Smith, Jill Cowan, Sue Winter.

1. Apologies.

Brian Cameron, Annabel Cameron, Ella Collins, Michael Anyan, Clare Anyan.

2.

Minutes of last meeting held on 23rd May 2023.

Minutes agreed and proposed by Julian Cowan seconded Mike Dewsbury.

3. Matters arising – not elsewhere on agenda

Stuart Moody had written a poem for the Coronation which he read out at the coronation party on the green. He also sent a copy to Buckingham Palace and received a card and letter by reply which he asked if it could be displayed on the notice board, and this has been.

4. Treasurers Briefing (see attached)

- i Balance at Bank and outstanding commitments itemised
- ii Proposed recommendation of precept John Oaks seconded Marian Graham
- iii Treasurer Vacancy:

Chair proposed a vacancy for a treasurer to assist in the day to day running of the parish council.

Proposed by Adrian Winter seconded by Julie Oaks. Also chair would like more than one person, ie herself to be able to do on line banking. No volunteers from the meeting

- iv Aproximately £2000 free funds currently sitting in the bank account. The picnic Coronation Lottery Grant money (£2200) has to be returned if the project isn't completed. There remains

outstanding the provision of a hard standing on the Village Green and siting of the new picnic table (See 5 iii) which should be completed before end of March 2024. Chair wishes to retain the funds in the account against the possibility of repaying the Grant but hopes the money may become available for Village improvements informed by new Neighbourhood Planning Project

5.

i Stuart Moody had written a poem for the Coronation which he recited at our coronation party on the green. He also sent a copy to Buckingham Palace and received a Thankyou card and letter by reply which he asked if it could be displayed on the Village Hall notice board

ii Playing Field Lease. Chair has been in discussion with Thonock Estate regarding the responsibility and ownership of the playing field. Whilst Thoncock Estate retain ownership they stated there was no official documentation regarding a lease. Whilst the chair has approached WLDC re a grant for improving the field they would not consider it until they had formal documentation of lease. Thonock Estate have subsequently provided chair with a letter for a 5 year lease to be reviewed after the said term.

The grant being applied for would be for just over £3000 to improve the field. This would be to replace/repair 30 metres of fencing damaged by Northern Power Grid costing £770, the installation of a hard standing for picnic table and bench and 2 bicycle stands.

A more general discussion about the Playing Field followed, salient points included:

Playing Field Sub Committee. Chair proposes the re-establishing of a sub committee for the playing field which she says she is happy to chair, so currently looking for new members. Russell Smith proposed discussion at next meeting, seconded by John Oaks.

Julian Cowan queried the quality of the grass cutting of the playing field stating it was the middle only that was cut and not that often, also saying that the tall grass around the edges was ch oking the fence and adding to it rotting. He suggested putting the cutting out to tender. Chair will discuss with Tom, the current grass cutter, to see if he could improve his cutting of the field.

Russell Smith proposed a more detailed discussion about issues concerning the PlayingField at next meeting, seconded by John Oaks.

iii Village Green Site Meeting June 2023

Picnic table purchased, to be placed on new hard standing. Wooden benches to stay on the village green and tree stump to be lowered considerably. Table to be destroyed due to its condition. Adrian Winter spoke about delays with work at the village hall which has led to even further delays on the village green but promised to discuss time table for installation of hard standing. The lottery Grant money must be returned if the bench is not installed by the end of March 2024.

iv Receipt of Neighbourhood Planning Application.

Confirmation from WLDC that Neighbourhood Planning Application has been accepted

v Flooding on Hill Road.

Discussion re flooding of the corner opposite 4 Hill Road and adjacent to the Old Chapel.

It is believed that until the kerb on the corner of Hill Road was installed this problem wasn't there. In the same way flooding near the Old Chapel started after the Gas Main was installed. The council recurrently flush the drains but the problem always recurs

A more general discussion about safety on Hill Road followed and there was general agreement that cars entered the village speed limits generally in excess of 30 mph

Pot hole repairs have obliterated part of one of the new SLOW signs on the road south of the Village

Alex Amaira proposed the village speed limit was reduced from 30 mph to 20mph before an accident happens.

It was agreed that: Chair would attempt to have useful dialogue with Highways and with our County Councillor about the speed and flooding issues

6 Planning - Till Bridge Solar

No Planning Application yet received

7 Parish Meeting Vacancies. Treasurer already declared (4). Chair would like to declare Vice Chair and Web Manager also Vacant. Proposed Russell Smith seconded Alex Amaira

8 Part-time Clerk.

Chair informed the meeting she is looking for a part-time fully trained parish clerk to relieve her of some of the admin with in the roll of Parish Chairman. The position of parish clerk is expected to be approx. 24 hrs per year at a rate of approximately £18 per hour. Proposed Mike Dewsbury seconded Alex Amaira. She is also looking for a vice chairman to share the burden along with web administrator. Proposed Julie Oaks seconded Adrian Winter.

9 Senior Event. Current budget of £400. This is to cover 24 seniors from Springthorpe and 6 from Heapham who supply their own funds. Event to take place in the village hall on 29th February 2024. To qualify you need to be 66 years plus. Help on the day Marian, Jill, Julie, Shirley, Sue and Fiona. Food to be decided at another meeting.

10: Next meeting (5th February Ordinary General Parish Meeting) CHANGED TO 12 February 2023

13th May APM and APCM