

**Minutes of the meeting held remotely on Tuesday 19th January 2021 at
7:30pm.**

| Council Members present | |
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| Mr C McEwen (CM) – Chair | Mrs S Brown (SB) – Vice Chair |
| Mr T Leathart (TL) | Mr B Thunder (BT) |
| Mr S Young (SY) | Mr K Millard (KM) |
| Mr A Carter (AC) | Mr R Hurley (RH) |
| Clerk & Responsible Officer: | Mr K Morgan |
| Members of the public present: | Mrs A Featherstone |

Acronyms used in these minutes:

SBC – Swindon Borough Council, PC – Parish Council, NP – Neighbourhood Plan, NPC – Neighbourhood Planning Committee, SMRA – South Marston Recreation Association, OSWG – Open Spaces Working Group, CWG – Communications Working Group, SM website – www.SouthMarston.org.uk, ML – Mandy Larcombe (bookkeeper)

| Agenda item & minute number | Summary | Action |
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| Open 10 Minutes 121/20-21 | <p>The issues of traffic and visitors to Nightingale Lane and woods was discussed as several residents had raised this in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Just prior to the meeting Forestry England had contacted a resident and confirmed that closing the gate to the car park was not an option given current government directives.</p> <p>It was agreed that the council had little scope to intervene but would pass the matter onto ward councillors with some suggestions that might help, such as placing cones or deploying a COVID marshal. Clerk to contact ward councillors, notify them of the concerns and ask for their intervention. Clerk to also liaise with the resident on Nightingale Lane who raised the main concerns.</p> <p>Mrs Featherstone had raised concerns about the outstanding Emergency Plan and that it may not address all issues that could arise. SY advised that there was a draft that included a number of different possible emergencies, that this could be circulated and that he was waiting for responses from Swindon Borough Council before bringing</p> | Clerk |

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| | <p>the draft forward for approval. SY to send draft to Mrs Featherstone.</p> <p>The Police and Crime Commissioners report and precept were briefly discussed – no comments were made and no response required other than noting that an increase in funding would seem highly relevant given the current reliance on all emergency services.</p> | <p>SY</p> <p>None</p> |
| <p>1. Apologies 122/20-21</p> | <p>None.</p> | <p>None</p> |
| <p>2. Declarations of interest 123/20-21</p> | <p>SB declared a partial interest in the later discussion to be had concerning the Leaze Bridleway issues. Council agreed that, while SB had some interest in the discussion, it was also important she take part as a resident of the village and that the Leaze was not the main access point to her property.</p> | <p>None</p> |
| <p>3. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 15th December 2020 124/20-21</p> | <p>Minutes were approved remotely and will be signed when physical meetings resume.</p> <p>Proposed: SB Seconded: RH Approved: All</p> | <p>None</p> |
| <p>4. Review of actions 125/20-21</p> | <p>Review of actions currently outstanding. The following were discussed and updated where needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Apr 20 194/19-20 Car park lighting – it was discussed and agreed to place this item on hold given the possible start of school redevelopment in the summer. As a contingency council resolved to approve £200 for installation costs should the situation change (in addition to £200 agreed previously for the equipment).</p> <p>Proposed: SB Seconded: SY Approved: All</p> <p>Oct 20 87/20-21 Flood Ponds - Clerk to resume contact with SBC officers and enquire again if there is any maintenance process in place to monitor the state of flood ponds around the village.</p> <p>Nov 20 100/20-21 L&G Bridleway Litter – there appear to have been no changes to the litter issues</p> | <p>None</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |

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| | and the promised bin has not been installed yet. Clerk to chase. | |
| 5. Review of Parish Council Calendar 126/20-21 | The PC reviewed progress. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMRA MOU - It was agreed given current situation that the current agreement should be updated and circulated for signing/approval. Grant was discussed and approved previously. | Clerk |
| 6. Clerk's Report 127/20-21 | Report discussed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirley Wildern Legacy – It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the solicitors and ask them to pass on the parish's appreciation of the legacy left by Shirley Wildern. • Internal audit – council resolved to approve the appointment of Rosie Darkin-Miller as our auditor again provided there was no significant increase in costs. Clerk to contact. • Insurance - The Clerk confirmed that the new archway had been added to the council's policy with ant additional premium waived. • Crown Timber issues – the Clerk confirmed that restrictive conditions of use were being applied to new licenses issued and that the SBC officers had been very helpful and responsive to queries. Clerk to contact site manager regarding ongoing noise issues. • Correspondence - Leaze Bridleway – concerns had been raised by residents about the condition of the surface of the lane alongside the Bellway development. This was discussed but it was agreed there was little more that the parish can do especially considering the landowner had rejected previous offers by Bellway to resurface the track. Some ongoing issues with vehicles crossing ground and causing damage will be monitored and reported to the site manager if required. | Clerk Clerk None Clerk None |
| 7. Planning applications 128/20-21 | Applications had been discussed and responded to prior to the meeting and there was no further discussion. | None |
| 8. Reports from Working Groups | Communications Working Group: | |

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| <p>129/20-21</p> | <p>Report reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB noted that there had been an initial positive response to the survey issued regarding Community News. <p>Open Spaces Working Group:</p> <p>Report reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights of Way - BT raised the requirement for purchasing equipment for maintenance works. Council resolved to approve expenditure of up to £55 for creosote, gloves and waterproof trousers. <p>Proposed: AC Seconded: SY Approved: All</p> <p>It was suggested that the fingerboard at the junction of Morses Lane and the Leaze bridleway should be covered up as it points to the medieval village despite there being no right of way. Council discussed and agreed the Clerk should seek approval from the Borough footpaths officer prior to doing this. Clerk to email.</p> <p>Allotments Working Group:</p> <p>Report reviewed.</p> | <p>None</p> <p>None</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>None</p> |
| <p>9. Reports relating to expansion 130/20-21</p> | <p>Strategic Planning Working Group:</p> <p>Report reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School expansion – this was further discussed and it was noted that Sam Howells at SBC has contacted the Chairman and that progress will hopefully now be made with more cooperation from the borough education team. | <p>None</p> |
| <p>10. Other reports 131/20-21</p> | <p>SMRA report:</p> <p>A verbal update was given by SB with no particular points to note.</p> <p>Parish/Borough Liaison:</p> | <p>None</p> |

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| | <p>The clerk noted the first meeting of the Cabinet Advisory Group for Parishes was to be held on 26th January. There would also be a Clerk's Forum meeting on 28th January.</p> | None |
| <p>11. Finance 132/20-21</p> | <p>To review and approve finance statement, bank statements and payments:</p> <p>As this meeting was held remotely papers were not circulated for signing. This will be done at a later date when circumstances allow.</p> <p>Council resolved to approve payments totalling £2,355.09</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Proposed: KM Seconded: RH Approved: All</p> <p>To summarise additional spending agreed at this meeting:</p> <p>The PC approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £200 for installation costs of car park lighting (if required) • £55 for equipment for rights of way maintenance <p>To review and agree annual precept for 2021-22:</p> <p>The council discussed options for the precept level and the recommendation from the Finance Working Group of a 3% increase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The motion for 3% precept was proposed by AC, seconded by SY. • CM then moved an amendment to reduce the precept rise to 2% which was seconded by RH. A vote was held and the amendment was rejected. • Council then voted on the original motion and resolved to approve a 3% increase producing a precept income of £44,984.00 for 2021-22: <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Proposed: AC Seconded: SY Approved: With two abstentions</p> <p>Clerk to complete and return form.</p> <p>To approve budget for 2021-22:</p> | <p>None</p> <p>None</p> <p>None</p> <p>Clerk</p> |

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| | <p>The council discussed and resolved to approve the proposed budget:</p> <p>Proposed: SB Seconded: KM Approved: All</p> | |
| <p>12. Matters brought forward by or with the consent of the Chair 133/20-21</p> | <p>TL reported a fly tipping incident that a villager had witnessed when people in a car pulled up in the village car park and dumped several bags of rubbish next to the bin.</p> <p>BT also raised fly tipping matters and whether the collection of bags of litter picked by the volunteers, that are then placed at various locations for collection by our contractors, actually encouraged more fly tipping at those locations.</p> <p>On reflection and after discussion with Allbuild, it was agreed that, while fly-tipping was a problem and should not be at all encouraged, it was preferable that any tipped waste was placed in those locations as Allbuild could collect and clear as one load and one cost to the parish.</p> | <p>None</p> |

The meeting closed at 9:07pm.

Signed by Chairperson:

Date: