



Soulbury Parish Council Buckinghamshire

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 18 December 2023 at 7:30 pm

Those present:

Cllr Maurice Cross Vice Chairman
Cllr Nigel Kemal
Cllr Margaret Rowe
Cllr Alan Stevens
Cllr Victor Wright Chairman
Wendy Taylor Clerk

4 members of the public (MOP)

1	Apologies for absence	Action
	Apologies received from Cllr Jilly Jordan.	
2	Declarations of interest	
	None.	
3	Approval of minutes	
	Minutes of the meeting held on 16th October 2023 were agreed and signed by Cllr Wright.	
4	Matters arising	
	Christmas tree on the village green is looking good. The new hole and liner works well and will be good for the future. However, it was considered necessary to cover it while not in use as it could be a H&S issue. Cllr Cross will make a cover.	Cllr Cross
5	Finance	
	<p>a) Accounts paid Please see attached list</p> <p>b) Monies received: Please see attached list</p> <p>c) It was unanimously agreed to continue the membership of the Open Spaces Society for another year and review at the next renewal.</p> <p>Balance at bank as at 18 Dec 2023 was £37,103.98. Bank statement for November 2023 was signed by Cllr Wright.</p>	
6	Governance	
	<p>a) Budget discussed, a few minor changes need to be made. It will be ratified at the next meeting in preparation for the precept request</p> <p>b) Planning Demystified course - very interesting course and was any eye-opener for what the planners have to/do not have to consider. The Clerk was given an aide memoire on this topic in order for discussions around planning to be more focused and so not to involve lengthy conversation over matters that have no relevance.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>c) Clerk advised that she now has details of what Devolution involved since this information was not forthcoming with the papers when she took over the role. Cllr Wright was given the document together with details of the 'Devolution Expressions of Interest' document.</p> <p>d) The Clerk has been working on trying to reduce the amount of time the meetings have been taking. She researched the websites of the parish councils local to us and proposed a revision to the agenda. It was agreed to see how this works and review its efficacy.</p>	
7	Planning	
	<p>23/03505: Rammamere House, Stockgrove Park, Soulbury, LU7 0BB - demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of new 2 storey outbuilding providing garaging and office space with associated landscaping. Resubmission of 23/01848. No real objections but wanted the planners to ensure that the building was not ever used as a separate dwelling or sold separately for use as a dwelling.</p> <p>23/03736: Green Farm, 2 The Green, Soubury, LU7 0DD- erection of agricultural building. Resubmission. No objections.</p> <p>23/02067/PIP/Appeal ref: 23/00081/REF: Land at Hollingdon Road, Soulbury, LU7 0DN - permission in principle for the erection of 2 only bungalows. Application was refused. Cllr Wright has informed the residents of Hollingdon about this appeal. Received only one acknowledgement.</p>	
8	Environment	
	<p>8.1 Childrens Play Areas</p> <p>Fencing has been completed and looks good. One small area as a larger gap at the bottom due to the undulations of the area so the Community Payback team will be asked to fill this in with soil.</p> <p>8.2 Churchyard mowing</p> <p>Still looking good. Grass not really growing now. Christmas tree in churchyard this year has received a lot of favourable comments.</p> <p>8.3 Fountain</p> <p>Clerk has advised the solicitor that she is again the point of contact. Had no response to that information or any information on progress. Will follow up in the New Year.</p> <p>8.4 Allotments.</p> <p>4x4s parking in the area have turned the grass area into a guagmire. Cllr Wright will talk to Michele Nicholas to suggest she stops the practice while the ground is soft.</p> <p>8.5 Lighting on corner of High Road and Stewkley Road</p> <p>Nothing heard from EON despite emails and telephone calls to our contact. Clerk will now go to head of the department to get some action.</p> <p>8.6 Ditch on village green</p> <p>Work has been completed.</p>	<p>Cllr Kemal</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Wright</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	8.7 Speed Indicating Device for Hollingdon Road/Stewkley Road junction Clerk read out response from Highways re moving 30 mph which bascially said it won't happen and reasons. It was felt the reasons were all historic and did not take account of new build and new usage of industrial area. Clerk to write to Cllr Jordon to help take this forward. It was also decided not purchase another MVAS at this stage for the area.	Clerk
9	Report from County Councillor	
	The clerk read out the headlines of Cllr Jordan's report and will add it to the parish website.	Clerk
10	Parish Hall	
	No further with the acquisition of caretaker.	
11	Millennium Green	
	Richard Caplan would prefer to use the Community Payback team to dig out the area in front of the gates to extend the car park to ensure he can keep them busy. Cllr Kemal will endeavour to move this project on.	Cllr Kemal
12	Public Participation	
	A resident raised the issue that the ditch along the Poppy Lane boundary had not been dug out yet. The clerk thought the ditch and hedge were done at the same time due to the whole area looking so much better but apparently the ditch had been cleared but was not dug out. She will write to Brickchill Homes again to get the ditch dug.	
13	Any other business	
	a) It was suggested the coloured lights on the Christmas Tree on the village green were a tad 'old hat' and it was more modern to have white lights. This will be considered in time for next year. b) It was suggested that a note be put into the Parish News advising people who intend to have EV charging points on the houses within the conservation area that they will need planning permission to do this. Clerk will forward information to the Editor. c) Cllr Wright has obtained an estimate for 'Welcome to Soulbury' gates at each entrance. This requires the purchase of 3 costing approx £5,000. This is a 'nice to do' rather than an necessity for consideration. d) The clerk read the headline content of a our biodiversity duty which is a guidance. Clerk suggested using the contained action plan templete to further this but she was asked not to further take this. e) The clerk had also obtained the Elections Toolkit from BMKALC. As we need to co-opt another councillor she suggested that this be looked at and use some of the templates contained to advertise the post.	Clerk Clerk
13	Next meeting	
	The next meeting will be held on Monday, 15 January, 2024 in Soulbury Parish Hall at 7:30 pm. Please note the dates for 2024: 19/2/24, 18/3/24, 15/4/24, 20/5/24, 17/6/24, 15/7/24, 16/9/24, 21/10/24, 18/11/24, 16/12/24.	All

Distribution: All Councillors/Parish Website/Parish Noticeboard/Parish News (a resume)

Payments and receipts as at 12 December 2023

Payments		£
Mrs S N Green	Parish Hall Cleaning - Nov	40.00
British Gas	Parish Hall Gas	28.51
NPower	Streetlighting	74.47
Victor Wright	Christmas tree support for village green	40.00
Victor Wright	Auger with driver to dig hole for Christmas tree	200.00
Heart and Soulbury Gardens	Strim/mow cemetary	100.00
Heart and Soulbury Gardens	Soulbury Parish Maintenance	200.00
NPower	Streetlighting	74.47
EON	Parish Hall Power	54.35
BMKALC	Training - Planning Demystified	60.00
Wendy Taylor (Clerk)	Reimbursement for Sage Payroll licence fee (Dec)	9.60
Wendy Taylor (Clerk)	Reimbursement for MS365 fior Mac licence	59.99
Aaron Fencing	New fencing for childrens play area on SMG	8274.00
Receipts		
M Sane	Parish hall booking fees	30.00
M Nicholas	Allotment rental	20.00
D Starkey	Allotment rental	40.00
C J Mills	Parish Hall hire	40.00

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