



# Soulbury Parish Council Buckinghamshire

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 26 February 2024 at 7:30 pm

Those present:

Cllr Maurice Cross  
Cllr Salina Darbyshire Mackay  
Cllr Margaret Rowe  
Cllr Alan Stevens  
Cllr Victor Wright                      Chairman

Wendy Taylor                              Clerk

7 members of the public (MOP)

16/24	Apologies for absence	Action
	Apologies received from Cllrs Kemal and Jordan.	
17/24	Questions or comments from the public	
	Clerk advised Cllr Jordan had forwarded her report and would put it onto the website. Two junior members of the public presented a report relating to the need for the football area in the park to be of a standard where they could play. Cllr Stevens explained that as a Council we are aware of the work that needs to be done and when the weather dries out it is planned to get a heavy duty roller to the area. The goals/nets will also be improved.	Clerk
18/24	Approval of minutes	
	Minutes of the meeting held on 18th December 2023 and 15th January 2024 were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.	
19/24	Matters arising	
	None	
20/24	To receive declarations of interest related to the business on the agenda	
	There were none.	
21/24	Co-option of new councillor	
	Mr John Bennett applied to take up the vacancy on the Council. After discussion Cllr Cross proposed, Cllr Stevens seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed Mr Bennett be co-opted onto the Council. Clerk will arranged all necessary paperwork.	Clerk
22/24	Finance	
	a) Accounts paid Please see attached list b) Monies received: Please see attached list	

	Balance at bank as at 13 Feb 2024 was £34,259.10. Bank statement for January 2024 was signed by Cllr Wright. Balance as at 26th February 2024 is £34,148.67 as receipts have been received for parish hall bookings and February's DD has been taken for the streetlights.	
23/24	Update from Clerk on parish matters	
	Clerk has received the invoice for the new lamp post on corner of Stewkley Road and High Road amounting to £3,108.00 inc VAT. This will be paid. Clerk advised that pin badges for DDay80 are available at £7.95 each and flags are also available for £22.50 inc pp and VAT for 3'x 2' size should anyone think it necessary to purchase for this upcoming event.	Clerk
24/24	Planning	
	23/03904: Cherry Tree Barn, Bragenham Lane, Soulbury, LU7 0EE - Erection of storage building and associated works. Whilst Highways has no objection to this the Parish Council is extremely concerned about access along a very narrow road for towed vehicles and also feels a warehouse type structure for commercial use is not suitable for the area. The Council therefore objects to this application. 24/00019: Land at Ash Farm, Soulbury Road, Wing - Operational road to facilitate the planting and maintenance of woodland and subsequent access and egress for timber harvesting. No comment. 19/A4199: Winscott Farm, Stewkley Road, Soulbury, LU7 0DJ - submission of pursuant to Conditions 7, 154, 15, and 19 relating to planning permission 19/04199. No comment as these are changes to fit in with changes in building regulations. 23/00081/REF: Land at Hollingdon Road, Soulbury, LU7 0DN - Planning appeal for 2 bungalows in Hollingdon. This appeal has been refused. 17/B0671/DIS: Land adjacent to The White House, High Road, Soulbury - submission of details pursuant to Condition 15 (photovoltaic slate tiles). No comment.	
25/24	To discuss and agree purchase of external hard drive for the Council	
	The clerk advised she was concerned that should something happen to her no-one would be able to gain access to the Parish Council computer files. She proposed the use of an external hard drive which can be plugged into any of the Councillors' computers. This will cost £138 for a 2TB Sandisk external hard drive. It was agreed she could go ahead and purchase this. She will also purchase a set of laser cartridges for the printer. At the suggestion of Cllr Bennett, the clerk will also create a document containing passwords used in the course of Parish Council business, ie website access, utilities, etc.	Clerk Clerk
26/24	To discuss piping the ditch on the village green	
	It has been too wet underfoot to complete this job. Clerk agreed to follow up and agree a date for completion.	Clerk
27/24	Environment	
	<b>a. Fountain</b> Again nothing to report despite the clerk walking into the solicitor's office to get an update sent via email. <b>b. Allotments</b> Gate work still needs to be carried out but the area is abnormally wet at the moment and prevents any vehicles getting on the site.	Clerk

	<p><b>c. Millennium Green</b></p> <p>Electrics still need to be completed. Work has commenced on the small extension to the car parking area by the gate. Has been established that we can put a temporary structure on the SMG. Cllr Stevens suggested that a questionnaire go out the the public to see if it is something they want.</p>	
28/24	Correspondence	
	The clerk had received an email advising her that her predecessor, Mr John Spires, passed away a week or so ago. Funeral is 10:30 am 4 March at MK Crematorium followed by a wake at the 3 Locks Golf Club.	
29/24	Councillors Open Forum	
	<p>Cllr Wright was approached by a resident in Dean Farm Lane because residents are joining together to improve the standard of this non-adopted road. He advised that they are looking to spend £10K and wanted some monetary support from the Council. Council not happy with this as it was felt that to do a good lasting job would/should cost considerably more. It was also felt that such work was not the responsibility of the council and would set a precedent for any other non-adopted road users to ask the council to support repairs. Cllr Wright will advise the resident.</p> <p>Cllr Stevens wanted the presence of our Bucks Councillor in order to discuss the use of waste disposal sites. At present we have to go to Aylesbury at considerable transport expense when there is a Beds Council site very close. He suggested that Bucks Council residents could pay, say £5, to drop waste off and conversely Beds Council residents could do the same when close to Bucks sites. He felt some joined up thinking was needed at Bucks Council.</p>	<p>Cllr Wright</p> <p>Clerk</p>
30/24	Public Participation	
	<p>Several members present remarked on the levels of flooding in the vicinity, ie near the 3 Locks pub and the Fountain. Clerk will write to Cllr Jordan about this.</p> <p>Member of the public made those present aware of the colossal amount of housing due to be constructed in the area SW of Milton Keynes around Hunters Farm and the new warehousing already built in the area.</p> <p>Cllr Kemal joined the meeting (when closed) having attended a Churchwardens meeting. We were advised that we are losing both our Rector and Vicar around April time. No replacements as yet.</p> <p>Clerk was asked to continue to press Highways to move the 30 mph limit on Stewkley Road to the current 40 mph limit.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
31/24	Next meeting	
	<p>The next meeting will be held on Monday, 18 March, 2024 in Soulbury Parish Hall at 7:30 pm.</p> <p>Please note the dates for 2024: 15/4/24, 20/5/24, 17/6/24, 15/7/24, 16/9/24, 21/10/24, 18/11/24, 16/12/24.</p>	All

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

Payments and receipts as at 13 February 2024

<b>Payments</b>		<b>£</b>
Mrs S N Green	Parish Hall Cleaning - Dec	40.00
Victor Wright	Postage	8.15
Victor Wright	Keysafe	7.99
Victor Wright	Battery for defib	267.60
J Dawson	Water charges for allotments	219.93
NPower	Streetlighting	88.69
Heart and Soulbury Gardens	Village tidying Inv 035	200.00
R&D Agri Services	Hedge cutting	60.00
Wendy Taylor (Clerk)	Reimbursement for Sage Payroll licence fee (Jan)	9.60
Heart and Soulbury Gardens	Village tidying inv 036	200.00
Eon Next	Power for Parish Hall	43.73
NPower	Streetlighting	95.43
Mrs S N Green	Parish Hall Cleaning - Jan/Feb 24	80.00
<b>Receipts</b>		
Wayward	Parish Hall booking	30.00
Allotments	Plot rentals	70.00
Friends of All Saints	Parish Hall booking	20.00
Social Group	Parish Hall booking	80.00
Wayward	Parish Hall booking	30.00
Lions Club	Parish Hall booking	60.00