

Minutes of Sampford Arundel Parish Council Meeting held Tuesday 6 April 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs J Lloyd (Chairman), J Burgess, B Brown, G Pike and M Sydenham
Alice Kendall – Parish Clerk
Sgt Bishop
Member of the Public
County Councillor J Hunt
District Councillor R Habgood

The Chairman welcomed those present and thanked them for attending. A one-minute silence was held in memory of Elliot Sparks who was involved in a fatal accident on the A38 in the week prior.

015.21 Public Forum – matters of report

The members of the public who were present wished to speak on the road safety matter that would be raised in the Chairman's report and would speak at that point.

016.21 Apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillors Milton (unable to connect to Zoom) and Hill (who reported that she did not receive the agenda and documents)

017.21 Declarations of Interest, pecuniary or otherwise, in any agenda items

There were none.

018.21 Approve and sign Minutes of the meeting held 2 February 2021

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2021

019.21 Chair's Report

During this item, Councillor Sydenham arrived at the meeting.

A38 Road Safety

The Chairman started by giving a brief history of the ongoing issue of road safety on the A38 in the area of the Beambridge Junction. County Councillor James Hunt informed the meeting that he has been in contact with Kate Brown (County Council Highways) to discuss a previous plan to spend Small Improvement Scheme monies in this area. The Clerk confirmed that this money is still in the earmarked reserves, and that given the current position of Council's general reserve, it would be possible to put some more money towards this cause.

Sgt Bishop reported that he has contacted a number of colleagues to investigate this site more closely including a site visit. It is then planned to hold a meeting at the Beambridge Inn to discuss possible ways forward. The Clerk will ensure that Wellington Without Parish Council will be informed of the meeting date.

It was agreed that after working with Sgt Bishop to gather facts and data, that a report be drawn up to further assist decision making on possible solutions.

The Chairman will be sending a letter of condolence to Eliot's family.

The member of the public, Sgt Bishop and Councillors Hunt and Habgood left the meeting.

Virtual Meeting Legislation

As per the item in the Clerk's report, the Chairman informed Councillors that the legislation allowing virtual Council meetings will not be renewed when it expires on 7th May 2021. The Annual Meetings (Wednesday 5th May) will be held via Zoom, then in person meetings in the Parish Rooms will resume.

020.21 Clerk's Report

- Banking update – the application for online banking has been submitted with a response awaited from Natwest.
- Signage for Village Green – this is underway.
- Online meetings – The Government have voted not to renew the legislation allowing virtual Council meetings. The current legislation expires on 7th May 2021 so our next meeting, including the annual meetings, will be virtual but will then return to in person meetings at the Parish Rooms with social distancing in place.

021.21 Correspondence from Parishioner

An e-mail regarding litter in Sampford Moor was circulated with the agenda. Councillors felt that this was an ongoing national problem during lockdown. The Council will continue to monitor the situation as lockdown eases.

022.21 Planning Application

- a) 32/21/0001 - Formation of a vegetated geomodular boundary wall to the front of Little Holme, Greenway, Sampford Arundel
RESOLVED to defer comment on this application until the May meeting so that Highway's comments could be viewed.

023.21 Finance

- a) To approve payments since the last meeting:
There were none.
- b) Quarter 4 Bank Reconciliation to 10th March 2021 (*attached*)
RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation.
- c) Appointment of Internal Auditor
RESOLVED to appoint Kevin Rose of IAC as the Interna Auditor.

024.21 Footpaths and possible leaflet (Councillor Burgess)

Councillor Burgess reported that over lockdown, he had met a number of walkers who were out enjoying the Rights of Way in the Parish. It was agreed that a survey of the Paths be carried out. He and the Clerk will be in contact to design a simple leaflet detailing the Rights of Way in the area. It was thought these can be distributed to the Beambridge and the Bule Ball pubs.

025.21 Parish Online Subscription

RESOLVED to take up the discounted annual subscription at £43.20

026.21 Scribe Accounting System

RESOLVED to subscribe for an initial period of one year.

027.21 Matters of report

- Councillor Brown reported that building works look to be taking place at the Mill but was not sure if a planning application had been received for comment. The Clerk will check the SWaT website.
- Councillor Sydenham reported that he had repaired the post and put the CCTV camera back up. The Chairman thanked him for his efforts.
- Councillor Burgess informed the meeting that he had been contacted by Peter Bowler who currently runs a local history website. However, Peter is no longer able to do this. Then Clerk had agreed with Peter and Councillor Burgess that the information could be transferred to a Parish History section on the Parish Council's website and felt that it was important that the information not be lost.

028.21 Items for Next Agenda

- Year end accounts
- Planning application
- A38 Road Safety

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Signed: