

MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ON 30th November 2023

Present:

Alan Smith (AS) CHAIR

John Hoodless (JH)

Neal Ship (NS)

Heidi Dennison (HD)

Cathy Fleet (CF) CLERK

Members of the Public:

There were 3 members of the public present , Chris Rothero, Adam Brumby, David Blunt

11.23.01 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Nick Oakhill , Cllr Eddie Reeves

11.23.02 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

11.23.03 To receive the minutes of the last parish council meeting

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 26th October 2023 were checked for accuracy and content, agreed as a true record of the meetings and signed by the chair.

11.23.04 Public participation

Members of the public present were all attending regarding the planning applications for Stone Croft – Agenda Item 11.

11..23.05 Clerks Report and Actions from previous meeting

No	Action	Owner	Update
Feb23.03	AS to action 20mph limit	HD	Nov23 update HD apprehensive about anonymity if data collected on WhatsApp – will send a link so people can contribute. Leaflet drop to be done to every household commencing January. To be agenda point for next meeting
June23.02	Village upkeep –Workparty to clean Church Lane ditch	NO	NO to organise once foliage dies down. Working party this coming Saturday
July 23.06	Co-option of Councillor- AS to post on noticeboards and Whatsapp group	AS	Oct update – AS tp put on Whats App group Nov update: 3 responses from WhatApp post.

Oct23.01	Playground – AS to provide further information regarding Kompan maintenance package AS to confirm with the VH committee that they will pay and will then place the order for fencing	AS AS	Agenda item
Oct23.02	NS to contact Gallaghers regarding Insurance of new playground equipment and add all equipment to the Asset Register.	NS	Agenda item
Oct23.03	Clerk to review the Risk Assessment for the next meeting	CF	Agenda item
Oct23.04	Clerk to chase emptying of dog bin at NBW	CF	Emailed Paul Devine 30/10/23 Action closed
Oct23.05	Clerk to book VH for meetings in 2024	CF	Completed

11.23.06 Playground update

Progress

- The equipment build is complete
- Turf laid by 12 village volunteers to allow for safety matting to be put down
- Safety surfacing being laid this week both wet pour and rubber matting
- Post install inspection by independent 3rd party due next week
- Further turfing around wet pour area and towards the carpark still required
- Fundraising has taken us over target for Phase 1

2. Maintenance

- AS spoke to Lucy Cornish who stated that one of the reasons for going with Kompan was that they offered an inspection and maintenance package. With the many different pieces of equipment they know what bolts go where and what to check.
- Lucy commented that village volunteers previously were not happy doing the maintenance as they did not have the skills to identify what was wrong and fix it
- We need to demonstrate that the playground is being properly maintained or else we could be sued for negligence if someone had an accident resulting from poor maintenance
- I recommend strongly that we go with the Kompan maintenance package as originally agreed by Lucy **AGREED**

3. Fencing

- Having taken advice the bow top metal fencing is not appropriate for our playground and is usually only used for complete fencing off of a playground with one reason being to keep dogs out. Also the end post would potentially be a safety hazard.
- The advice received was to install knee rail fencing along the edge of the carpark facing the playground and the patio area leaving a gap for entering. This was deemed sufficient as the playground was far enough away from the carpark and opened on to a wider field.
- We should agree that this is the way forward. **AGREED**

4. Benefactor board

- We require a board where we can display organisations and people (if they desire) who have contributed to the playground. This is a requirement of both Viridor and the National Lottery.
- AS proposed that we buy a board and have the story of the playground back to 1973 with pictures of the big slide and the new build as well as displaying the logos (supplied by Viridor and National Lottery) and names of people as appropriate.
- Agreement needed on type and location of the board

5. Opening date and opening ceremony

- AS proposed that the playground be opened on 14th January

11.23.07 Village Upkeep

11.23.08 Risk Assessment

The revised Risk Assessment was approved and adopted.

11.23.09 Asset Register

The Asset register had been updated and was approved.

11.23.10 Insurance

Value of the playground equipment required by Gallaghers. Would be additional £600 on the premium. **NS to enquire additional cost for including insurance of the surfaces.**

11.23.11 Planning - The following planning applications had been received and were discussed:

23/03172/F Little Slam, High Street. Single storey rear extension . NO OBJECTION

23/03182/F Stone Croft, Back Lane Demolition and erection of replacement dwelling, detached garage and gym. Adam Brymby (member of public) commented on his application saying that he is keeping the extension in keeping with the existing. He has been through pre-planning advice. Estimate of 9-12 months for construction. Trees have been removed. **PC has concerns about access for contractors vehicles during construction. PC will send comment to CDC**

23/03183/F Stone Croft, Back Lane. Demolition of stable block, erection of single infill dwelling with attached garage and summerhouse/garden store, creation of new access onto Foxhill Lane and associated landscaping. **PC has no objections bu has concern about access to the site and deterioration of the road. PC will send comment to CDC + windows on west side – in keeping with village?**

23/02914/F Inkerman House, Somerton Road. Retrospective single storey extension to detached outbuilding and revised floor plan layout. PC has concern about the number of retrospective applications.

23/03208/F 2 Cotswold Court Single storey rear extension, single storey side extension and associated landscaping. **No objection**

23/03219/LB Pond Cottage - **NO Objection**

05.18.10 Finance – the following accounts were approved for payment

Paidby standing order

Payee	Detail	Total £s	VAT	Comments
Cathy Fleet	Clerk Salary	126.29	0.0	
HMRC	(re above)	25.07	0.0	

Invoices to be approved

Payee	Detail	Total £s	VAT	Comments
Nigel Prickett	Oct grass cut	414.00	69.00	
Village Hall	Post Office	250.00		
Village Hall	SPC Meetings	216.00		
TS Electrical	Changing Rooms	1344.00	224.00	
Banbury Turf	Playground Turf	1492.50	248.75	Net amount re-invoiced to Village Hall Paid from Playground account
Village Hall	Share of Insurance	266.99		
Gallagher	Increase in Insurance for Playground	334.21		

Receipts received

	Detail	Total £s	VAT	Comments
Playground	Donations & Fundraising	5425.61		

Payment of the playground to Kompan when invoiced was agreed. Reclaim of VAT will be made asap

Budget/Precept

The proposed budget/precept demand had been circulated prior to the meeting and the spreadsheet was read through line by line at the meeting. It was proposed that a 25% increase for the next fiscal year. £7994 to be demanded from CDC. Unanimous decision.

The PC approved the payment of Clerk pay increase

Other matters

4 Bovewell - complaints from residents because of repair and storage of cars. **Clerk to write to Sanctuary and CDC Enforcement**

Dates for 2024

25th January ,29th February, 28th March ,25th April, 30th May ,27th June ,25th July, 29th August ,26th September, 31st October, 28th November

Date of APM and AMPC to be confirmed

Signed
Chair, Souldern Parish Council

Date

ACTION LIST SUMMARY

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July 23.06	Co-option of Councillor- AS to post on noticeboards and Whatsapp group	AS	Oct update – AS tp put on Whats App group Nov update: 3 responses from WhatApp post.

Nov23.01	Insurance - . NS to enquire additional cost for including insurance of the new playground surfaces.	NS	
Nov23.02	Planning - Clerk to submit responses to CDC	CF	
	Clerk to write to Sanctuary and CDC Enforcement regarding 4 Bovewell	CF	