

**MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
ON 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

**Present:**

K Draper (Chair)  
A Martin (AM)  
C Rothero (CR)  
D Masterson Jones (DMJ)  
B McGarry (Clerk- BM)

**Also in attendance:**

P Mander  
J Mander  
M May  
D Summers  
R Summers  
T Vincent  
D Stephens

**Apologies:**

J Martin  
JJ Macnamara (CDC)  
Mike Kerford Byrne (CDC)  
D Carlisle  
J Carlisle  
Nick Oakhill

**1 Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 were approved & signed although an amendment to point 5b regarding the precept was noted. This should read £5,700 + £98.40, not minus.

Prop: CR 2<sup>nd</sup>: DMJ

**2 Matters arising & updates from last meeting:**

**Website:** Progress is ongoing. AM distributed an outline of the things that could be included on the site and he and Ann Prescott are working on the history of the village for to be used.

**Broadband:** It has been confirmed that Souldern will be included in funding for ultra fast broadband but there is no anticipated date **other than sometime in 2016**. Gigaclear recently gave a presentation to the village about the benefits of signing up to their system and KD explained the difference between what they are offering and BT Superfast Broadband. It was suggested that a simple explanation should be included in the next newsletter.

**Souldern Solstice:** Plans are progressing for the Solstice and it is anticipated that the High Street will be closed between 11am and 6pm. The event will be covered by the PC insurance. A website is being created for the Solstice and there will be a page on it for Souldern Vision.

**Vision for Souldern:** Volunteers have been identified to represent different areas of the village and to represent different sections of interest at the launch. An advert has appeared in the 3Parishes advertising the launch and posters printed.

**Football Club:** Not much progress but the Club has assured the Council that they wish to continue.

**Bridleway:** Pending

**3 Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest

**4 Issues from the Floor:**

There were no issues from the floor

**5 Updates:**

- a. **Playground** – Rosie Sanders wishes to stand down as leader of the group and grateful thanks were expressed for her valued work to date. Anne Large is arranging a meeting of volunteers and hoping to include some new residents. Inspections are being carried out but it needs to be ensured that they are being done weekly in order to comply with the insurance especially as the weather improves.
- b. **Nancy Bowles Wood** – Romney and David have decided to stand down from leading the group after many years of hard work developing and maintaining the wood to make it the place it is today. Very grateful thanks to them both. Tim Vincent has kindly agreed to lead the group. Tasks for the spring have been identified including mapping, maintenance, planting and the monitoring of squirrel damage.
- c. **Football Club** – As above under updates
- d. **CDC** – No update
- e. **OCC**- Still waiting for speeding boxes

**6 Finance:**

- a. Financial transactions since the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January were approved  
Prop: AM 2<sup>nd</sup>:CR

Payments	Date	Amount	Power
Nick Oakhill - Dog Bins	7/3/15	201.60	EPA 1990: s89
SVH : NBW AGM 2014	7/3/15	14:00	LGA 1972 sch 12, para 10

Receipts

None

Bank balance as at: *To be completed when we get the statements*

- b. It was resolved that payment should be made to the clerk  
Prop: DMJ 2<sup>nd</sup>:CR

**7 Planning:**

- a. 14/01751/PAMB – Re-application for the conversion of cattle building into a single dwelling house. Foxhill Barn, Somerton Road, Souldern has been

refused .

- b. 14/02119/F – Rear extension and alterations to The Old Forge in the High Street – Approved
- c. 15/00146/LB – Internal remodelling, rear single storey extension and detached garage at The Hermitage, High Street, Souldern – This application was discussed and no objections were raised by the Council
- d. 15/00237/F – Single storey flat roof rear extension at West End House, Bates lane, Souldern. This was discussed and no objections were raised, although the close proximity to the neighbouring property was noted and the neighbours made aware.

8 **Administration:**

- a. **Elections:** Parish Council elections will be held on May 7, the same day as the national elections and a timetable for nominations was circulated.

9 **Newsletter:** The next newsletter will be distributed at the end of March. It was suggested that a short summary about the Gigaclear and BT options should be included. Any other items/suggestions should be forwarded to the Chairman.

10 **Spring Clean:** After some discussion it was resolved that a village tidy-up would be scheduled for the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> April. Timings and meeting point will be advertised in the newsletter.

11 **Other Business:**

**Footpath 11:** A concerned resident had contacted Cllr Macnamara regarding the lengthy closure of footpath 11 due to the unsafe lifting bridge across the canal. This resulted in a response from Sarah Aldous, OCC Rights of Way Field Officer, who informed us that the work should be completed by the end of March.

Concern was also raised about the condition of the wall and hedgerow running from the entrance to Court House and the pond – This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

12 **Next meeting:** The next full meeting will be the Annual General Meeting 7:00pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May followed by the Annual Parish Meeting Planning meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 7:30 in the village hall

Signed..... Date.....  
Chairman Souldern Parish Council