

**MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 21st January 2016**

Present:
N Oakhill (NO – Chair)
K Draper (KD)
K Allpress (KA)
C Rothero (CR)
D Masterson-Jones (DMJ)
B May (BM)
N Robertson (NR - RFO)
B McGarry (Clerk - BMC)

Also in attendance:
R Hamilton - SFC
S Fawcett
R Summers
D Summers

Apologies
D Carlisle

1. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2015 were approved & signed
Prop: CR; 2nd: KD

2. Matters arising & updates from last meeting:

Dog bins will be emptied every Thursday

3. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest

4. Issues from the Floor: None

5. Updates:

- a. **Playground:** No update
- b. **Nancy Bowles Wood:** So far circa 260 trees have been identified and this work is approximately half way done, as is the coppicing. The apple tree that was removed is to be replaced. The whole of the NBW committee are planning to meet at the wood
- c. **Football Club:** The Club are still doing well this season and are top of the table by 2 points, they have won their last 7 games. RH is keeping in touch with Kate Green about parking. Another player from Souldern is about to sign up with the club.
- d. **CDC** – no update
- e. **OCC** – no update

7. Finance:

- a. Financial transactions since the meeting held on 19th November 2015 were approved
Prop: CR 2nd: KA

Payments:

Date

Amount

Power

Playground Paint – Tania Noble	24.11.15	£90.50	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19
Playground Repair – Mark Baker	24.12.15	£475.49	LG(MP)A 1976 s. 19

Receipts:

Playground Fundraising - Karen Gray	4.1.16	£225.00
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Bank balance as at: 3rd Nov 2015 £10,045.19

- b. **2016/17 Budget & Precept:** This was agreed in principle at the November meeting but it was resolved to make the final decision at tonight’s meeting when there were more Councillor’s present. It was therefore resolved to adopt the non-austerity budget and keep the precept for next year at £5,700. NR to action Prop CR 2nd: BM NR
- c. **External Audit – (Opt in or out of CDC option):** Rules for external audits will be changing in 2017. After some discussion it was resolved that we need more information on the implication of these changes. NO to action. NO

8. Planning Matters:

- a. 15/01753/F – Bowcombe House, Bates Lane; Erection of detached garage; single with part two storey extension; garage conversion with associated interior and external works- **Refused**
- b. 15/01795/F – 1 The Old Stores, High Street; single storey garden office. **Permitted**
- c. 15/02005/F – 2-storey new build dwelling – The Hill. **Permitted**
- d. 15/02003/F – Single storey detached garage & replace existing garage - Beech House. **Application withdrawn**

9. Administration:

- a. **Risk Assessment:** previously circulated was approved and confirmed as being in force
- b. **Roles & Responsibilities:** The division of responsibilities within the Council were approved and allocated. This information will be put on the website

Planning: DMJ

Training on planning protocols and implementation of CDC planning policy;

Responsibility for Planning meetings;

Keeping alongside planning applications in Souldern;

Ensuring timely response to CDC for applications;

Creation of Neighbourhood Plan

Playground & Football Club – NO

Village Hall & Dog Bins – KA

Highways: BM

Maintenance of verges and grass cutting:

Roads/Maintenance,

Gritting, parking,

Road Safety –

Footpaths & Bridleways – KD

Website updates – NO, KD & BMG

Village Pond – BMG to co-ordinate with Malcolm Sweetman & Norma Jones

3 Parishes – BMG

Newsletter – ALL, BMG to collate

Village Events – ALL

10. Other Business:

- a. **The website** Awareness of the website needs to be raised and a reminder will be put in the 3 Parishes and in the welcome pack
- b. **Gigaclear:** Are currently working on the main road to Aynho and anticipate connection by 29th January. Contractors will then return to the village to complete Network build works which will take about another week. On completion there will be a walk round the village to identify any problems. All works are expected to be completed by the first week in February.
- c. **Souldern Events 2016:**
It is the Queen's 90th birthday this year and on Sunday 12th June the Church and the Chapel will be holding a special joint service in the Church followed by a village garden party with entertainment by kind permission of Diana and Sandy Gray at Souldern House
Plans for the Soap Box Derby and Pitstop Party are well under way and this will take place on Saturday 25th June
- d. **Grass Cutting:** is the Council's single largest expense and Mr Cross, who it was agreed does a really good job, has said that he will not increase his prices for 2016. It was therefore resolved to renew our contract with Mr Cross, however, maybe an alternative arrangement should be considered for next year, i.e. buying our own mower
- e. **Grit Storage:** Now that permission has been granted for the new build on the hill the wooden barn, where the Council stores the winter grit supplies, is going to be demolished so we need to find an alternative, convenient storage facility. For the time being supplies have been moved to the shed in the corner of the playing field (for immediate access) and to one of Ed Deeley's barns.
- f. **Update on Footpaths:** Bridleways 13 and 8 are being cleared and the footbridge on footpath 18 is going to be replaced. There is a tree down on footpath 23

- 11 **Next meetings:** Tuesday 16th February (Planning) & Thursday 17th March 2016 (Full Meeting)

The meeting ended at 8:45

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