

MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ON 10th April 2024

Present:

Nick Oakhill (NO) CHAIR

John Hoodless (JH)

Neal Ship (NS)

Heidi Dennison (HD)

Cathy Fleet (CF) CLERK

Members of the Public:

04.24.01 Apologies

No apologies had been received

04.24.02 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

04.24.03 To receive the minutes of the last parish council meeting

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 29th February 2024 were checked for accuracy and content, agreed as a true record of the meetings and signed by the chair.

04.24.04 Public participation

There were no members of the public present

04.24.05 Clerks Report and Actions from previous meeting

NO	ACTION	OWNER	Update
Feb24.01	Village Post office – NO to contact Wrightons of Fritwell regarding use of their post office	NO	NO meeting with Wrightons tomorrow. Action closed
Feb24.02	PCSO to be invited to Annual Parish meeting	CF	CF o send invite
Feb24.03	Clerk to send information re prospective councillors to NO	CF	Completed Action closed
Feb24.04	Spring Clean – NO to respond to CDC with dates HD to create posters	NO HD	Awaiting delivery of equipment. To be carried out 13 th April. Action closed
Feb24.05	Grasscutting – NO to respond to Nigel Prickett agreeing his price increase	NO	Completed Action closed.
Feb24.06	Planning – NO to draft response to 23/03183/F	NO	Completed – no objection but comment submitted.
Feb24.07	Defibrillator – NO to contact SCAS re Defib training	NO	Awaiting response

04.24.06 Co-option of councillors

There are still 2 vacancies. Requests have been made on WhatsApp and noticeboards with no response. It was agreed that a direct approach is the only way to encourage applications and all councillors were asked to consider anyone they know who might be interested.

04.24.07 Correspondence

- CRT re Lifting Bridge . A response to the letter sent indicated that signage has been put up around the bridge requesting users to put the bridge down after use. A log will be kept during the summer to record times when the bridge is left up and will be sent to CRT.
- Sanctuary re 4 Bovewell – A letter had been received from a housing officer, indicating that she had visited on several occasions and had a conversation with the resident and found no grounds for complaint. It has since been noticed that vehicles have been removed from the premises
- Diana Stevens re dry stone wall by playing field. An email had been received expressing concern about the wall. NO has inspected it and agreed that it is in danger of collapse. Malcolm Sweetman has offered to carry out repairs for £250. **It was agreed that NO will ask him to proceed.**

04.24.08 Playground Insurance update

NS has spoken to the insurance company and they confirmed that public liability cover is in place provided regular inspections are made by someone appointed by the council and recorded. JH said that Gallaghers have said that reference should be made to the Design Document. JH also said that the Kompan design document states that the playground is designed for under 12s.

There was lengthy discussion as to whether appropriate precautions have been taken and whether the insurers would honour a claim if a claim was made by someone of inappropriate age using the equipment.

NO will carry out investigation of other playgrounds and their signage. NO will also ask Alan Smith if he carried out any signage research prior to the playground build.

04.24.09 Trees by NBW

A resident is intending to pollard the willow trees at the bottom of Foxhill Lane outside his house, some of which are owned by the parish council There is a schedule of trees prepared by Nicholsons in 2019 identifying the trees. **JH will speak to the resident asking him to identify the trees he believes are his.**

There is an Ash tree on the outskirts of the boundary of Souldern Charity's hedge near the allotments. It is suffering from Ash Dieback. **JH to identify location using W3W and Clerk to report to CDC asking for advice**

04.24.10 Village upkeep

Spring clean is taking place on Saturday

The car park barrier plans will be drawn up and submitted to the PC by Richard Kite for approval .

The wall outside 3 Bovewell is falling down. **Clerk to report to Sanctuary Housing**

04.24.11 Planning

[24/00693/F](#)

Manor Farm Barn High Street
Souldern Bicester OX27 7JL

Construction of open car port and cycle storage with solar PV collector, battery storage and charging points for electric vehicles and cycles - re-submission of 23/03600/F NO OBJECTION

[24/00694/LB](#)

Manor Farm Barn High Street
Souldern Bicester OX27 7JL

Construction of open car port and cycle storage with solar PV collector, battery storage and charging points for electric vehicles and cycles NO OBJECTION

[24/00731/TCA](#)

Souldern Manor, Bates Lane

NoI of Treework - NO OBJECTION

04.24.12 Finance – the following accounts were approved for payment:

Paid by standing order

Payee	Detail	Total £s	VAT	Comments
Cathy Fleet	Clerk Salary	132.69	0.0	
HMRC	(re above)	26.67	0.0	

Invoices to be approved

Payee	Detail	Total £s	VAT	Comments
Kompan	March 24 Inspection	107.06	17.84	

Date of next meetings :

25th April, 27th June ,25th July, 29th August ,26th September, 31st October, 28th November

Date of APM and AMPC 23rd May

Signed

Date

Chair, Souldern Parish Council

ACTION LIST SUMMARY

NO	ACTION	OWNER	Update
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Feb24.01	Village Post office – NO to contact Wrightons of Fritwell regarding use of their post office	NO	NO meeting with Wrightons tomorrow.
Feb24.07	Defibrillator – NO to contact SCAS re Defib training	NO	Awaiting response
Apr24.01	NO to ask Malcolm Sweetman to proceed with repairs to the stone wall	NO	
Apr24.02	NO will carry out investigation of other playgrounds and their signage. NO will also ask Alan Smith if he carried out any signage research prior to the playground build.	NO	
Apr24.03	JH will speak to the resident asking him to identify the willow trees he believes are his.	JH	
Apr24.04	JH to identify location of the tree with Ash Dieback using W3W and Clerk to report to CDC asking for advice	JH/CF	
Apr24.05	Clerk to write to Sanctuary Housing reporting the condition of the wall outside 3 Bovewell	CF	