

MINUTES OF THE SOULDERN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ON 25th April 2024

Present:

Nick Oakhill (NO) CHAIR
John Hoodless (JH)
Neal Ship (NS)
Heidi Dennison (HD)
Cathy Fleet (CF) CLERK

Members of the Public:

David Carlisle
Joanna Carlisle

04(2).24.01 Apologies

No apologies had been received

04(2).24.02 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

04(2).24.03 To receive the minutes of the last parish council meeting

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 10th April 2024 will be approved at the next meeting.

04(2).24.04 Public participation

Members of the public were attending out of interest and participated in the discussion of Agenda Item 9.

04(2).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. They average 5-6 users every week at the post office. On that basis no further action is required regarding Souldern Post Office |
| Feb24.07 | Defibrillator – NO to contact SCAS re Defib training | NO | SCAS no longer provide training and they suggested contacting St John Ambulance. Action Closed |
| Apr24.01 | NO to ask Malcolm Sweetman to proceed with repairs to the stone | NO | Malcolm Sweetman |

| | | | |
|----------|---|--------------|---|
| | wall | | will carry out the repairs for £200 |
| 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 | On-going |
| Apr24.03 | JH will speak to the resident asking him to identify the willow trees he believes are his. | JH | Agenda Item |
| 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 | Action completed. Clerk to contact CDC |
| Apr24.05 | Clerk to write to Sanctuary Housing reporting the condition of the wall outside 3 Bovewell | CF | completed |

04(2).24.06 Co-option of councillors - No longer required as an agenda item. The vacancy is to be published on WhatsApp. David Carlisle will advertise on the website and also add a note when the agenda is published.

04(2).24.07 Correspondence
There was no correspondence not dealt with elsewhere.

04(2).24.08 Playground update

- No will discuss playground insurance with Alan Smith on his return
- Regular inspection are being carried out and recorded weekly. A letter had been received from the Sales Manager of Kompan requesting a councillor joins him at a meeting at the playground on 1st May. **NO to attend meeting.**

04(2).24.9 Trees by NBW

A response has been received to the letter that the PC sent to a resident regarding the willowtrees at the bottom of Foxhill Lane which stand on Common land. The resident disagrees with the PC's assertion on ownership of the trees and responsibility for their maintenance.

Tags had been put on all trees which are the responsibility of the PC, including these willows, however the resident has removed them and asked that they are not replaced. He states that the trees were planted by a previous neighbour and maintained by residents. He said that OCC in 2008 pollarded 4 willows and made no charge. There was no disagreement then over land ownership. In 2015 the PC arranged for remedial work to be carried out on two of the trees as a result of storm damage. The resident states that he will deal with the 3 trees which asserts are within his curtilage and requests that the PC deals with the remaining 2.

The PC has a map of all the trees in the village which are the responsibility of the PC, clearly identifying all the trees in question. The councillors discussed the boundary positioning, and ownership of these Willows with the benefit of multiple maps/plans showing site location and history. Several residents had provided further information relating to boundaries of the land in question.

It was resolved that the PC will respond to the letter received and that **NO and HD draft a response to be circulated to all other councillors.**

04(2).24.10 Village upkeep

- Village clean up on 31st was very successful

- Treework following Nicholsons survey – 2 need immediate attention - trees 7 (Beech) & 8 (Lime, memorial tree outside Magpie Cottage). Nicholsons to be asked to recommend work required and quote

04(2).24.11 Planning

There were no new planning applications.

04(2).24.12 Finance

Paid by standing order

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

Invoices to be approved

| Payee | Detail | Total £s | VAT |
|----------------|--------------------|----------|-------|
| OALC | 2024 Subs | 168.00 | 28.00 |
| CDC | Dog Bins | 334.62 | 55.77 |
| Nigel Prickett | April 24 grass cut | 441.60 | 73.60 |

Date of next meetings :

23rd May ,27th June ,25th July, 29th August ,26th September, 31st October, 28th November

Date of APM and AMPC to be 23rd May 2024

Signed
Chair, Souldern Parish Council

Date