

SPETISBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mr Steve Pardey, Toad Hall, High St, Spetisbury DT11 9DW

Tel: 01258 857271 Email: parishclerk@spetisbury.org.uk

Minutes of the Spetisbury Parish Council Meeting held at 7.45pm on 2nd October 2023 in the Village Hall.

Cllrs present: A Cummings, S Woodford, R Rutherford

Members of the Public: 13

Agenda:

Councillor Woodford was elected Chairman for the meeting.

23/103. To Receive Apologies: Cllrs Dunhill, Bew, Hall, Kerby (DC)

23/104. Declaration of Interest and Grant of Dispensation: None

23/105. Election of new Vice Chairman: Following the resignation of Katie Adams, the Chairman has proposed Cllr Bew. Seconded Cllr Rutherford and approved. Thanks were given to Katie Adams for her time on the Council.

23/106. Open Forum:

There are damp issues on the boundary wall with the Lodge garden. Clerk to arrange for investigation.

The gardens at Priory Gardens and the Village Hall need some clearance. Clerk to instruct the gardening contractors.

A question was raised regarding the Village Hall utility bills. The clerk confirmed that the contracts are due for renewal in 2024 and will send details to the VHMC.

Following a recent inspection, the School is now rated within the top 5% in Maths and Reading progress in the country.

Cllr Woodford explained that a galvanised surround with gravel infill is the preferred solution for the war memorial. Cost will be c£100. Agreed.

Signed

S Dunhill

Dated

6th November 2023

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Items for Decision:

23/107. Minutes of the Meeting Monday 4th September 2023 were agreed and signed by Cllr Woodford. Proposed Cllr Rutherford, seconded Cllr Cummings.

23/108. Spetisbury Events: Cllr Woodford read the following statement:

A concern has been raised by a resident regarding a possible inappropriate use of the Spetisbury Events email. The Parish Council has considered the issue that has been raised and has determined, as there has been no breach of anyone's personal privacy, that an apology is not necessary.

However, the concern has raised an issue regarding the current process of items posted on Spetisbury Events. Due to this, it has been resolved that in the future, any requests to post items will be mediated by the Parish Council.

There was no further discussion.

23/109. To consider Planning Application P/HOU/2023/03542 Vine Cottage, High

Street: Erect workshop & carport (demolish existing). Cllr Dunhill had visited the property and his opinion was that the proposed building is significantly larger than the existing and was very close to the boundary with the neighbours. A discussion took place and the applicant has indicated that there may be changes to the plans. It was proposed by Cllr Cummings, seconded by Cllr Rutherford that the Council object due to the apparent close proximity to the boundary.

23/110. To consider Planning Application P/HOU/2023/05128 The Cottage,

Spetisbury Manor DT11 9EB: Erect first floor side extension. Cllr Dunhill visited the property and left notes for the neighbours. The neighbour attended the meeting and mentioned that they had not received any notification from Dorset Council of the permissive development but had no objections to this proposal. Proposed by Cllr Cummings, seconded Cllr Rutherford that the Council supports this application.

Signed

S Dunhill

Dated 6th November 2023

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23/111. Slow Ways – connecting to National Walking Network: An email had been received regarding the setting up of a countrywide network of footpaths etc. It was felt that we already had a significant network and the Parish Council would not join this initiative. Proposed Cllr Rutherford, seconded Cllr Cummings.

23/112. Renewal of Electric Supply contract for first floor: The contract for this expires on 30th November. In view of the very light use of electricity on the 1st Floor, normal brokers are not interested. SSE have offered a 1 year fixed deal which will increase our overall bill by approximately 30%. However, if we moved to variable rate, the increase would be around double that figure. It was proposed by Cllr Cummings, seconded by Cllr Rutherford that the Council accepts the 1 year fixed rate.

23/113. To Approve Financial Statement and list of payments and sign the same:

A copy of the accounting statements for September were displayed to Councillors and signed by Cllr Woodford. Proposed Cllr Cummings, seconded Cllr Rutherford.

23/114. Correspondence and Clerk's report: A list of emails circulated was displayed.

Planning: Land adjacent to the Church – refused.

Permission to fell a dangerous tree in Village Garden – refused.

Tree Preservation Order imposed on 4 trees in School Car Park.

Tree at The Old Rectory – an appeal against refusal to fell is to be heard on 17th October.

Spetisbury Station – there has been some petty vandalism. Please be vigilant.

23/115. To confirm date of next Meeting as Monday 6th November 2023 at 7.45pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.32pm.

Signed

S Dunhill

Dated

6th November 2023