

DRAFT Summary Minutes of the Spetisbury Parish Council Meeting held at 7.45pm on 7th October 2024 in the Village Hall.

Cllrs present: K Bew (Chair), S Hall, S Woodford, M Cheesley, E Calnan, B Cooper (DC). Members of the Public: 4

Agenda

24/103. To Receive Apologies: Cllrs Dunhill, Rutherford

24/104. Declaration of Interest and Grant of Dispensation: None.

24/105. Open Forum: Cllr Cheesley raised that there were several footpath signs where the lettering is worn. Clerk to advise Dorset Rangers.

A question was asked regarding the pavement by the Church/ School. Clerk to ascertain the current position from Highways.

The guttering at the hall has been overflowing during the heavy rain. Clerk to arrange for these to be cleared.

24/106. Ward Councillor Report: Cllr Cooper reported that he is dealing with Dorset Highways regarding the traffic options at the School, including a potential crossing. As parents are parking at Clapcotts Farm, this is not considered as part of the considerations. This is ongoing. The village gateways are still under consideration.

The A350 is to be closed at Sturminster Marshall in November for a period of 2-3 weeks. It is unclear at present whether this is a daytime or nighttime closure.

The Council land bank is now at 5+ years.

Devolution talks are underway between Dorset, Wiltshire and Somerset Councils.

The types of recycling have been increased.

24/107. Minutes of the Meeting 2nd September 2024 agreed and signed by Cllr Bew.

24/108. Approve Tree Works Invoice – Village Garden: Following agreement from Dorset Council, the tree surgeon had advised a cost of £950 to carry out the pruning work and a further £300 for work on the trees at the Village Hall.

Approved. Proposed Cllr Hall, seconded Cllr Calnan.

24/109. Update from the Traffic Working Party: Mr Rayner reported that a survey had revealed that the volume of traffic using the A350 had increased by 90% over the last 20 years. He asked whether a question regarding a bypass could be added to the Village Survey. There are issues with the Speed Camera connectivity.

24/110. Residents Survey: A full review of the proposed questions took place and several amendments were agreed. Cllr Calnan is to update this and the final draft will be published for approval at the November meeting.

24/111. Bench at the Woodpecker: The councillors had previously agreed that this could be funded from Community Benefit. Dorset Highways have approved the installation as the pavement is considered wide enough to support this. The clerk presented a choice of bench and it was agreed to purchase a Glasdon composite 2-seater bench costing £573.02 including VAT and delivery. Proposed Cllr Cheesley, seconded Cllr Hall.

24/112. Review of half yearly budget v actual financial figures: The clerk presented the summary of income and expenditure to date and confirmed that everything was on track. Approved - proposed Cllr Woodford, seconded Cllr Cheesley.

24/113. 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 Bew. Proposed Cllr Woodford, seconded Cllr Calnan.

24/114. Correspondence and Clerk's report: A list of circulated emails was displayed.

The interim TPO on the Lime trees adjacent to Spetisbury Manor has been confirmed.

Outstanding footpath issues – Rangers have been chased.

Clerk's Conference – Clerk attended this and will be undertaking a demonstration of a financial software package called Scribe and will advise the outcome. He will also be carrying out a review of the website to ensure that the content meets the latest Accessibility rules.

The bench and handrail at the Village Hall require preservative treatment. Cllr Cheesley will undertake this.

24/115. To confirm date of next Meeting as Monday 4th November 2024 at 7.45pm. Meeting closed at 9pm.