

SAMPFORDS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday 19 January 2017 in the Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Mr William Burton	Mrs Rhiann Chappell	Mrs Jane Lawrence	Mrs Sarah Parker
Mrs Lynn Bowles	Mr Gordon Deuce	Mr George Smith	2 members of the public
Mrs Kay Adye	Mr Graham Keen	Ms Kath Thompson	

1 Public Forum.

2 **Apologies for absence.** Simon Walsh.

3 **Declarations of interest regarding Agenda items.** George, Cricket Club. Jane, Village Hall,

4 **Minutes** of meeting held on 27 October had been previously circulated were agreed, proposed by Kath and seconded by Kay.

5 Matters Arising.

5.1 **Hill Road Speeding.** Sarah will write to Highways regarding extending the 40mph limit up to Hill Farm triangle, and from the Rectory to the to of Hawkins Hill. A Little Sampford resident had expressed concerns regarding walkers in the road past the Old Rectory. Volunteers had not come forward to set up a scheme to monitor speed with a speed gun. This scheme has worked in other villages. William reported that he had heard from another village that residents putting 30mph stickers on their wheelie bins had been successful in reducing speeding. This idea was to be put on Sampford Signal for comments.

5.2 **Village Hall.** Documents had been circulated prior to the meeting regarding the PC becoming Custodian Trustee of the Hall. This step is necessary before the PC can be officially asked to take on Sole Trusteeship. It was agreed unanimously that the PC should become the Custodian Trustee. This was proposed by Lynn and seconded by Rhiann. All were in favour. The wording of the document regarding the Sole Trusteeship had some requirements with which the PC were not entirely happy. Wendy Peacock would arrange for Sue Sheppard from RCCE to come and go through the document with the PC to clarify any of the clauses in question before any decision is made.

5.3 **Skip Park at Tindon End.** Simon would look into the original permission given for the skip hire operation.

5.4 **Deer crossing sign.** Hempstead PC decided they did not want a deer sign on the road in question. Sarah to write to the Traffic Working Panel who might agree to a warning sign on the site. Simon would let Sarah have the address.

5.5 **Land behind Merlins.** In spite of exhaustive inquiries no owner could be found. The land cannot be included in any adjoining gardens unless it has been fenced and used without objection, for 10 years.

5.6 **Riverbanks.** Sarah had approached the Environment Agency regarding river clearance. They no longer have funds for this and it is up to riparian landowners to undertake clearance.

6 Correspondence.

SSE membership renewal. It was agreed to continue with £10 annual membership.

Local Plan The necessity for 20 local Councillors to agree on the future siting of new housing proposals are causing delays and it will probably be another year before the plan is published. Fortunately the government has lifted sanctions on those councils who are experiencing delays in publication of their Local Plan.

Highways. Some of the potholes in Parsonage Farm Lane had been repaired, but not to a very high standard.

Support 4 Sight. Sarah contacted Support 4 Sight and offered room in the telephone box by the bridge for their proposed spectacle collection.. Graham has made space for them and we await their take up of the offer.

7 Reports from County and District Councillors.

Simon Howell reported on his work on the budget for UDC. He is to double the number of litter pickers and will have to replace the refuse vehicles which are a major expense. He listed the grants from the new Homes Bonus he would be distributing, amongst which is one to the Village Hall Committee, £50 to the Flower Show Committee via the PC, and £500 to the PC towards publication of the proposed footpath booklet.

County Councillor Simon Walsh sent a report which was circulated after the meeting.

8 **Highway Rangers.** There were no specific requests. Sarah would ask Highways to realign the 30mph sign on the entrance to the village from Finchingfield.

9 **Footpath Booklet.** Sarah and Clare had taken more photos and the booklet is nearing completion. Unfortunately Clare has had eye problems delaying the final adjustments.

10 Reports from Parish Councillors on their areas of responsibility.

- 10.1 Play Area:** (*KT, KA, GS*) Sarah had ordered new metal 'no dog' signs. Kath and Graham would look at the fencing situation in the spring.
- Table tennis table.** The table is with William and he will contact Chris Parker regarding its installation. This has to be done by the end of February when all all invoices have to be submitted to UDC in order to qualify for the UDC grant.
- Mitie** Kath and Sarah had met with Mr Whey from Mitie. They will give a report following each visit. This report will be given to Kath.
- Youth** Kay reported that the Youth Club attracts around 50 members each week and the Christmas party had been a great success. 2 Scuba sessions have been arranged at Colchester along with other activities.
- 10.2 Planning Applications** (*WB, GD*)
There were no adverse comments on the application for **Cherryfields, Sampford Hall Lane.**
Land behind Watsons Close. The application for housing by Mr Harrison was refused on the same grounds as his previous application.
- 10.3 Grass-cutting** This has been well done. Graham would ask Chris Butcher to cut the Leylandii around the skate board area and also weedkill and cut the surrounds to the tennis court in the Spring.
- 10.4 Publicity.** Jane will put her PC report in the forthcoming edition of AMBO. She was asked to include the fact that although residents complain about speeding no-one has come forward to volunteer for the speed-gun initiative.
- 10.5 Website.**
- 10.6 Liaison with village organisations.** The Cricket Club Quiz will be on 28 January at 7.30 in the village hall. Team Spirit Quiz will be on March 11. Wendy was congratulated on her organisation of the Christmas Tree Lighting which had been very successful, and a good gathering for all the village..
- 10.7 Transport. & Village Assets.** The village clock has been repaired and is now back chiming. The Little Sampford Sign had rotted and fallen. The sign has been completely restored and should be good for a few decades. The Great Sampford sign will be inspected for any rot or decay.
- 10.8 Village Hall.** (*JL*) Reported earlier in the meeting.
- 10.9 Sport.** (*GS*) The Cricket Club starts up again at the end of April.
- 10.10 Highways and footpaths..**(*WB & GD*)The stile behind the Nurses house has not been repaired. Sarah would speak again to the landowner concerned. The stile below the Grange is in need or repair. Sarah will contact the landowner.

11 Finance

- 11.1 An up to date Receipts and Payments report was circulated to the councillors.**
Ratification for the following cheques totalling £856.50 signed earlier was received as follows:
100795 for £30.90 to `brian Archer Signs for 'no dog' signs
100796 for £825.60 to Gillett and Johnston for village clock repair
Authorisation for the following cheques totalling £3,362.86 was received:
100797 to Sarah Parker for 3rd quarter pay £821.06
100798 for £600 to Sarah Parker for annual office expenses (inc petty cash)
100799 for £1,843.11 to A J Saych for refurbishment of Little Sampford village sign
100800 for £86.71 to Mitie pest control for contract for the play area.
100801 to Graham for £11.98 for light bulbs for the telephone box.
Cheques proposed by Rhiann and seconded by Kay.
- 11.2 Dates for future PC meetings :** 9 March, 6 April (annual Parish meeting), 11 May (AGM), 22 June, 21 September, 26 October, 15 January 2018.

12 Further items for discussion only.

Sarah will contact Mike Lindsell for a date for the Litter Pick.

William thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.35pm

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE
ON THURSDAY 9 MARCH 2017 AT 8 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Sarah Parker, Clerk. 21.1.2017