

MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 10th December 2024 at Hemerdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs May, Hutton-Fellowes, Nicholson, Serpell Denman, Webb, Sophie Jones (Clerk)

In attendance: Cllr Edie (SHDC), Cllr Oram (SHDC), 2 Members of Public (MOP)

Part 1 (Open to the Public)

191/21 Election of Vice-Chair

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes nominated Cllr Nicholson as Vice-Chair for Sparkwell Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr May and unanimously agreed. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed in the presence of the Clerk.

192/24 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Lee

193/24 Agreement of the Agenda between Parts I and II

All agreed. Councillors noted that one item of business would be considered in Part II of the meeting.

194/24 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Serpell Denman declared a private interest in planning applications 3508/24/FUL and 3509/24/FUL.

195/24 County Councillor's Report

No update provided.

196/24 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Edie circulated a District Report prior to the meeting. He noted that South Hams District Council are encouraging shopping within the district to support local businesses, and there is the added bonus of free parking in some areas.

197/24 Public Forum

The applicants for planning application 3495/24/FUL attended the meeting to give further information on the application. It was noted there is a national policy for younger farmers to support functional, viable businesses.

198/24 Hemerdon Mine

There was no update from Hemerdon Mine.

199/24 Planning

- a. **3495/24/FUL** – SPC support the application
- b. **3507/24/VAR** – No comment
- c. **3508/24/FUL** – SPC support the application
- d. **3509/24/FUL** – SPC support the application
- e. **3595/24/CLE** – SPC object to this application
- f. **3792/24/HHO** – Comments made regarding privacy and ecological impact.

200/24 Minutes

- a. Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12th November 2024

RESOLVED – unanimously that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 12th November be approved and signed.

Cllr Edie left the meeting at 19.50

201/24 Climate Change and Biodiversity

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes updated the council on the project at Fairway Gardens. They are tidying up the spare bit of land behind the houses. Established a wormery hedgehog houses, seed planting, proposed to plant native plants, wood stacks for small rodents, metal sheets for reptiles, etc.

ACTION – Clerk to invite Fairway Gardens Representative to the parish council meeting in January 2025.

Cllr Nicholson proposed to match fund £500 for the project, this was seconded by Cllr Webb. Unanimously agreed.

ACTION – Clerk to add this to agenda for January 2025.

Cllr Nicholson noted that Boringdon Camp is unused.

ACTION – Clerk to investigate securing the site as part of Sparkwell Parish Council assets.

ACTION – Clerk to add Boringdon Camp back on the agenda and find out where we got with it previously.

202/24 Road & Snow Warden

Pothole at Mount Pleasant was repaired quickly. There were a few trees down due to the recent storm, but these were cleared quickly.

Clerk updated the council on progress with the Deer signs.

Clerk updated the council on flashing road signs.

Cllr Webb noted that a new gate is needed on a bridle path. It is recommended that SPC pay for the gate, then claim it back.

A quote for a new gate has been approved for £200. This will be claimed back through the P3 Partnership Scheme.

203/24 Tree Warden

No update from Cllr May.

204/24 Chairman's Business

Cllr May discussed a letter from Hemerdon Recreation Club regarding transferring land ownership from Sparkwell Parish Council to the Hemerdon Recreation Club, for the 3-cornered field, immediate garden and car parking area.

ACTION – Clerk to seek advice that the original family that owned the land are content with ownership being transferred to the Hemerdon Recreation Club. Also, ensure that there are legal safeguards that the future trustees can't sell the land off.

ACTION – Add above as an agenda item in next meeting

205/24 Correspondence

Clerk circulated all correspondence prior to the meeting.

- a. To consider funding request from South Hams Community Action and decide on amount to donate.

ACTION – Clerk to invite SHCA to a future meeting. Also, incorporate money for a hardship fund into next year's budget.

Cllr Oram left the meeting at 20.38

206/24 Finance

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for December 2024.

207/24 Payments and Receipts

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments for December 2024.

208/24 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at Sparkwell Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 20.45

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name Date