Minutes of the Thirteenth Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20 November 2023 at 7.30pm. This meeting was held at BVH.

Present: Cllrs Jankinson(Chair), Hughes, Keates, Nash, Poulton, Selwood, Tayler & Weston.

150. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Compton.

151. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

*Recess – one member of the public addressed the PC about the ongoing drainage and flooding*

*Issues on Hunts Hill. The Chair confirmed that complaints have been made to SBC and SBC ward councillors.*

152. MINUTES FROM THE TWELFTH ORDINARY MEETING

Proposed by Cllr Selwood, seconded by Cllr Nash,all agreed they be accepted as a true

record.

153. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**a**.Dropped kerb – response from SBC GP use CIL monies to negotiate delivery. Meeting arranged for 24 November 2023.

**b.** Sam’s Lane hedge gap, with SBC Planning. Velux Windows –inspection carried out and windows are broken. Repair to be arranged, parts ordered.

**c.** Boundary tree at Blunt Rise, reported to SBC. **Chair has photos to send.**

**d.** Ermin Street landscaping, awaiting dates from Cllr Weisinger, Meeting 24 November 2023.

**e.** High Street – Yellow lines repainted.

**f.** Deer Field – meeting with owners to be scheduled, with Trustees to propose dates.

**g.** REC – school boundaries, PC will be notified when this work is done. **Chair to contact Govenors.**

**h.** Gullies and drains on B4019 to be cleared by 30/10 – **Reported again along with Hunts Hill.**

**i.** Solar Panels at Community Building – grant information should be available early 2024.

**j.** Minerva Allotment – Newland have been instructed by SBC to move fence as it is in wrong place as per plans.

**k.** Chapel Hill – Fly tip reported.

**l.** **Tea and Talk –** Cllr Tayler to attend in the new year.

**m.** Fly tip reported.

**n.** Sutton Park - road sweeping vehicle attended 9 November; resident still dissatisfied.

154. FINANCE

1. Monthly Accounts – RFO reported that CIL monies had been receipted for 21/22 and 22/23, next payment due early in 2024. Cllr Poulton asked if CIL could be utilised for solar panels.

Cllr Tayler asked about the hire of air con refund – no refund received.

RFO confirmed that 2.9% interest with Cambridge BS is best PC can achieve currently.

Proposed by Cllr Keates, seconded by Cllr Nash, all agreed payments totalling £13,306.01, receipts totalling £151,128.55 and transfers be approved. See attached sheet for full details.

1. Fees & Charges Review – CSI & RPI are 6.3% and 8.9% respectively. RFO suggested a 7% uplift across the board. RFO confirmed that the process for REC charging works well. **PC unanimous approval of 7% increase.**
2. PC Office – Temp v Permanent solution – the PC had a lengthy discussion and concluded that the office planned as part of the MUGA should be prioritised at the front end of the project timeline.
3. BVH Flooring – recommend full resurface of floors to addressing lifting issues. PC agreed to defer decision and explore damp and movement of panels and obtain further quotes, these must be like for like from a specialist. **RFO to investigate.**
4. PHS Additional Service – PC agreed that emptying twice a week at an additional annual cost of £65 be approved and that nappy sacks must be used. **RFO to action.**
5. CIL Funds – received see above. Use to be discussed at budget round.
6. NJC Pay Award 2023 – RFO circulated the revised salary points. PC unanimous approval to implement. **RFO to notify staff and action any changes.**

155. PLANNING DECISIONS ADVISED BY SWINDON

None.

156. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DEPOSITED FOR COMMENT

S/HOU/23/1383 – Erection of a timber outbuilding for use as home office/store (retrospective)

At: 116 High Street Blunsdon SN26 7AB

**PC agreed to support as no planning reason to object.**

Other Planning Matters

1. **MUGA –** Meeting to be arranged this week.
2. **Community Allotment – No update. Cllr Selwood to phone contractor.**
3. **Pavilion –** Payment to be made to QS to enable project to progress. Chair mentioned grant funding as the objective is to improve accessibility. **Cllr Poulton to investigate.**

157. POLLING REVIEW & ELECTION CYCLES

Following the move by SBC to move to an all-out 4-year cycle of elections, Parishes have been asked to align with this timetable for efficiency reasons. PC unanimous agreement to align. **Clerk to notify SBC.** Consultation running from 30 October to 11 December about polling areas and places. BVH remains on the list.

158. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED TO 20 NOVEMBER 2023

1. SBC Members Bulletin – 9 & 16 November emailed to Cllrs.
2. SBC Media release, Remembrance Sunday – emailed to Cllrs.
3. Email from Cllr Watts re waste collection changes – emailed to Cllrs. **Concern raised by resident about new containers blowing about.**
4. SBC, invitation to Heritage evening – emailed to Cllrs.
5. NALC Newsletter – emailed to Cllrs.
6. Email from resident re padlock at Hills Allotments – padlock replaced.
7. NALC CX Bulletin X2 – emailed to Cllrs.
8. NALC notice of decarbonisation grant – Emailed to Cllrs Hughes and Nash.
9. WALC – notice of Executive meeting, emailed to Cllrs.
10. WALC – draft constitution, emailed to Cllrs.
11. Email from resident – SBC not completed work in Sutton Park.
12. SBC email re flooding engagement – emailed to Cllrs.
13. SBC Local News & Events X2 – emailed to Cllrs.
14. Chief Constable fortnightly update – emailed to Cllrs.
15. Email from resident re history of Turnpike Road – RFO responding.
16. Email from resident further issues with water on Hunts Hill – Ward Cllrs another email.
17. SBC Media release – Kings Award for Voluntary Service to VSC. Emailed to Cllrs.
18. Email from resident – hedge 63 Sutton Park not satisfied with resident trim.
19. Email from resident – The Ferns. Chair responded.
20. Copy email re Footpath BL1(Broadbush to Kingsdown Lane) sent to SBC.

159. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **GM –** Leaf clearance not adequate. **Clerk to meet GM.** The path in Churchway is particularly bad, this is not currently listed. PC agreed to add this to GM. **Clerk to action.**

PS to prioritise leaf clearance. **Clerk to notify PS.**

1. **Recreation Ground –** GM contractor confirmed Outfield is as short as the conditions allow.Cllr Jankinson to contact governors about lack of maintenance.
2. **BVH** – Damage to ceiling, cause, and culprit unknown.
3. **Community Building –** External lights must be in use for the safety of staff and customers. PC agreed to have circuits checked to isolate car park lights. **Cllr Keates to arrange.**

VSC has various out of hours events in December – the PC is aware and has given approval.

1. **Cemetery –** Central path need attention. Cllr Tayler outlined the proposal. **PC unanimous approval for £100 to resurface.** The clerk confirmed that the damage to the corner of the memorial was in hand to repair.
2. **Allotments –** Newland to reroute fence.
3. **Structure –** recruitment interview undertaken. **PC unanimous approval to make offer of employment.** Quote outstanding for hourly/daily rate for assistance with reviewing PC structure.

160. PARISH MATTERS

Cllr Weston updated the PC on his attendance at an Army Engagement event – largely a

recruitment drive.

Cllr Hughes reported that the latest Speedwatch data was available. Police have been in

attendance and approx. 20% traffic was speeding.

Cllr Hughes also noted that the vegetation at 30 High Street had not been attended to. **Clerk**

**to send follow up letter.**

Cllr Weston asked what PC could do about the infrastructure and planning apps. Chair

explained that the PC push back on every application and gave an overview of where we are

and why.

Cllr Nash gave apologies for the next meeting on 5 December.

Cllr Jankinson reminded the PC that the next meeting on 5 December was a Tuesday.

Cllr Tayler reported that the Perspex in BVH notice board needed replacing and that the play

area surface was to be cleaned at no cost to the PC. The matting in front of the bench at

Linley Road had been replaced.

Cllr Selwood reported that the manholes in Lower Village were lifting because of the

volumes of water.

Cllr Jankinson reported that he had helped with the interview process for new SBC Director.

Three candidates, 1 withdrew and the panel decided to make an appointment.

SLCF on 23 November – Flooding was the main issue, Blunsdon issues were recorded. New

SBC administration is working well with Parishes and Officers.

He also reported that he attended the monthly Ward Cllr surgery and that he was meeting

SBC, Ward Cllr and consultant on 24 November to discuss Ermin Street.

161. KEY MESSAGES.

Flooding reported to SBC.

Election Alignment.

Meeting Tuesday 5th.

162. SUMMONS TO ATTEND NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held TUESDAY 5 December 2023 at 7.30pm – Venue BVH

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

………………………………......

Chairman 5 December 2023

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

**PC Actions**

Dropped kerb – possible CIL funds, PC and Ward Cllrs. Cllr Manro to speak Cllr W.

Ermin Street landscaping – dates for meeting requested from PM.

Velux windows – Hayfield to repair.

Boundary trees at Blunt rise in breach of planning – SBC made aware, detail from Cllr J.

REC – School boundaries to be cut. Chair to contact Governor.

Deer field – meeting arranged 21/11 with ward Cllrs, trustees to contact PC.

B4019 – Gullies and ditches with SBC and Ward Cllrs.

Solar Panels – Cllr Nash and Hughes to look at business case.

Minerva – Newland moving fence.

BVH Flooring – RFO to investigate quotes.

PHS – additional bin collection. RFO to action.

Pay award – RFO to notify staff.

Community Allotment – Cllr Selwood to phone contractor.

Pavilion – grants to be investigated, Cllr Poulton.

Elections – Clerk to notify SBC.

Leaf clearance – Clerk to meet GM and contact PS.

CB lights – Cllr Keates to raise with VSC.

Cemetery path – to be resurfaced, Cllr Tayler.

Staffing – Clerk to offer employment to chosen candidate.

High Street – Clerk to send follow up letter.

Key Messages – to post on Facebook and WEB

***Hunts Hill damage to road ditch – Cllr Gardiner to report Aug 23 Clerk to Chase 4 sept 23. Cllr Selwood to send property details.***

First reported – lingering issues dated in red.

**SBC Cllr Actions**

Turnpike Parking – reported with photos. Yellow lines done – parking still a problem June 23.

Ditch in Kingsdown Lane – SBC awaiting waste plan from Care Home Nov 2022. Site meeting

arranged Dec 2022. Update received June 23