

**SOUTH MORETON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on Wednesday 8th**  
**January 2020 at South Moreton School**

**Present:** Cllrs L. Deeley (Chair), R. MacDonald, T. Kendall and D Harland.

**In attendance:** L. Dalby (Clerk), District Cllr A-M Simpson and one member of the public.

**1. Public Participation (Max 15 minutes)**

The resident reported an overgrown hedge which has been reported on Fix my Street. He also expressed concerns about the fence which has been added above the bridge opposite the Hithercroft junction. The Clerk has reported to OCC highways.

The resident also reported that he was unhappy with how recent Planning Applications had been handled. Planning matters were discussed briefly.

**2. Reports from County and District Councillors**

District Cllr Simpson reported that the Local Plan was frozen by central government before the general election. The Government is now considering taking over plan or handing it to OCC. SODC have until the end of the month to respond.

Planning, the Community Led Plan and Neighbourhood Planning were discussed. District Cllr Simpsons report is held on file.

**3. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Brown.

**4. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest**

There were none.

**5. Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 20<sup>th</sup> November and 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chair.

Cllr McDonald reported he had met with the Environment Agency – either side of the sluice gate there are low point which make it vulnerable to flooding but a permit is needed to get permission to do the work. Landowners are entitled to remove weeds from the middle of the water course but not allowed to go to the edges.

**6. Clerk's Report**

There was nothing to report.

**7. To discuss budget 2020-21 and agree precept**

The budget was reviewed and the precept was agreed as £8869.

**Proposed** Cllr Kendall **Seconded** Cllr Deeley **Carried** unanimously

**8. To receive Community Led Plan Report**

Cllr MacDonald reported that the next step is to create first draft of the questionnaire.

Meetings with the school, boxing club, church and Crown Committee are to be held before the questionnaire goes out. Cllrs Macdonald and Harland are keeping in touch with SODC.

**9. To consider Recreation Ground Matters**

The Clerk is applying to SODC for funds to complete the work.

### **10. To consider Allotment Matters including agreements**

It was agreed the agreements should include 'to cultivate fruit, vegetables and flowers.'  
There must be evidence of work within three months of taking on an allotment.

### **11. To consider public footpath and highways matters**

The footpath at Millbrook remains a problem but has been reported constantly.  
The Clerk reported that she had spoken to an OCC officer about the High Street pavement and road. OCC are trying to find a suitable alternative to concrete setts and will consult with the Parish Council before any work is carried out.

### **12. To consider procedure for responding to Planning Applications**

It was agreed Cllrs Kendall and MacDonald would attend the OALC training session.  
It was agreed to consider completing a Neighbourhood Plan at the next meeting.  
Once the Clerk receives a planning application it will be emailed out to councillors and publicised to the community.  
There will be an assumption that a public meeting will be held to discuss the application.  
All applications treated exactly the same.  
It was agreed that Planning Procedure should be written along with other council procedures.

### **13. To discuss Didcot Garden Town**

Previously council had been told that South Moreton were not under threat from Didcot Garden Town. It was agreed to ask the District Councillors to clarify the scheme.

### **14. Agree Accounts for Payment**

The following accounts for payment were made between meetings.

Payee and Reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
L. Dalby – Clerk's Salary and expenses	167.32		167.32
HMRC - PAYE	37.40		37.40
Julian Hearman-Stokes - Strimming	100.00		100.00

The following accounts for payment were agreed.

Payee and Reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
L. Dalby – Clerk's Salary and expenses	206.80		206.80
HMRC - PAYE	46.60		46.60
SODC – Parish Council Election	1249.12		1249.12

### **15. Correspondence**

There was none.

### **16. Items for report and inclusion on the next Agenda**

- CLP/Neighbourhood Plan
- Garden Town

### **17. To consider meeting on a monthly basis**

It was agreed to stick to a bi-monthly meeting format.