

SOUTH MORETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTH MORETON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24th January 2024 AT THE CROWN AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs L. Deeley (Chair), R. Macdonald, S. Willis, and T. Kendall.

Also present: N. Hutchings (Clerk) and five members of the public.

1. Public Participation (Max 15 minutes)

It was noted that Christmas within the Church and village was a great success, and everything went very well.

See point 9 for discussion regarding Paths use around the village.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were noted from Councillor Gordon.

3. County and District Cllr Reports

None

4. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest

There were none.

5. Agree minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2023 and 17th January 2024

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes and they were signed by the Counsellor Deeley.

6. To note recreation ground update and discuss grants

All repairs have now taken place; however, the storm just 24 hours ago has slightly damaged the large gate. This will be looked at but not deemed urgent.

7. To discuss up & coming Tree work

Dead trees and branches have now been removed. Any wood from this will be used for the village benefit.

A working party will be removing the remaining two dead cherry trees on Monday 5th March 2024.

8. To approve Playground Inspection Rota

It was **resolved** that Cllr Willis would manage the rota for now and will be on continual review.

The playground will be monitored visually weekly, and training will be looked into for village.

9. To note two pieces of Correspondence from MOP and discuss:

a. Speeding through village

A resident has volunteered to set up a village Speeding Committee. This will be run separately to the Parish Council, however updates etc can be made available at PC Meetings.

b. Flooding on roads within village

A number of local residents have set up a flooding group and they are in contact with the Council and will be updating regularly at PC Meetings.

It was also suggested any ditches in the village need better maintenance to ensure they are clear for taking flood water.

c. Lack of gritting on some roads throughout village

PC to email Highways to ensure the roads in SM are being gritted regularly.

d. Rights of way/access to fields behind and side of Church

These are permissive paths, so the village has no rights to use these paths. The landowners had given permission for people to walk across their land but can revoke permission at any time. Which is what has happened here.

It was agreed a meeting with the footpath officer would be a good idea as some people were unsure of where some old paths had gone and if they were public footpaths or not. PC to email and try to get a meeting with Counsellors.

10. To note update regarding website.

The website has had some issues recently and it is running on an old platform and is becoming out of date. It was agreed that the community needs a up to date page that has up to date information from all the different groups in the community.

A new platform for hosting website will be looked into and priced up.

11. Update Counsellors on Meeting between PC and Counsellor McDonald regarding making changes to Finance report.

Suggested changes discussed and all in agreement with change.

12. To Note Finance Report

Finance report noted and confirmed.

13. To confirm payments

All payment confirmed;

To note payments made between meetings:

Payee		VAT	£
Murray Mackan Trees	£236		£236

Payments for approval

Payee		VAT	£
Networld Sports Ltd	£399.98	£66.66	£399.98
HMRC - PAYE	£20.80		£20.80
N. Hutchings Clerk salary	£981.84		£981.84
N. Hutchings Expenses	£129.99		£129.99

14.PC to confirm Precept has been finalised and submitted.

Parish Clerk has confirmed the Precept has been submitted and showed email from Council confirming it's been received.

15.Memorial site for the village.

To be discussed at next Parish Council meeting when Cllr Gordon is available.

16.Annual Picnic in the park.

To be discussed at next Parish Council meeting when Cllr Gordon is available.

17.Confirm date for Annual Parish Meeting.

It was agreed by all that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held before the Parish Council Meeting on 22nd May at 7pm.

18.Items for report and inclusion on the next Agenda.

Point 14 & 15

19.Date confirmed for the next meeting as 20th March 2024.