

Slapton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall on Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 8.00pm

PRESENT:

Slapton Parish Council Councillors: F Wakefield (Chairman), M Cleland, M Godsland, E Griffin, R King and A Packham.

Buckinghamshire Councillors P Brazier and D Town.

Slapton Parish Clerk Mrs B Knight.

Two members of the public.

C/21/193 Chairman's Welcome and announcements.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C/21/194 Attendance and Apologies.

Apologies were received from Tom Harris.

C/21/195 Disclosures of interest/dispensations pertaining to this agenda.

The Chairman declared he is a trustee of the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall.

C/21/196 To Approve the Minutes of the Slapton Parish Council Meeting held on 10th November 2021.

The minutes for the Slapton Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th November 2021 were amended and approved as correct and were signed by the Chairman PROPOSED BY Councillor King and SECONDED BY Councillor Cleland and carried unanimously.

C/21/197 To Co-Opt Three New Slapton Parish Councillors.

A vote took place and Emma Griffin was co-opted as a Slapton Parish Councillor PROPOSED BY Councillor Wakefield and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously.

A vote took place and Maggie Godsland was co-opted as a Slapton Parish Councillor PROPOSED BY Councillor Wakefield and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously.

Both Councillors signed the Declaration of Office which was witnessed and signed by Slapton Parish Clerk.

C/21/198 Public Question Time.

A local resident mentioned that Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust are refusing to put a bollard by the garages where rubbish and anti-social behaviour is an issue. The resident asked if the Councillors could support the residents with this request. This item will be placed on the January Slapton Parish Council Agenda.

C/21/199 Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s).

The Buckinghamshire Councillors submitted their report before the meeting which was shared with the Councillors. Bucks Councillor Brazier explained there is a new Warm Works grant scheme to help residents with green initiatives for homes such as insulation, further information is available through the Buckinghamshire Council website. Bucks Councillor Brazier spoke about the way in

Signed by Chairman: _____

which Buckinghamshire Council will communicate with local parish councils and residents on a more local level over planning.

The Chairman expressed concerns over how the planning officers take decisions which often disagree with the Slapton Parish Council recommendations made as a Statutory Consultee. The Chairman will send his comments and thoughts regarding planning to Bucks Councillor Town to consider.

Bucks Councillor Town spoke about the gully clearance which is continuing and Slapton gullies have been cleared.

C/21/200 Planning Application(s):

None.

C/21/201 Footpaths, Bridleways and Roads.

Horton speed limit change application is proceeding through the Community Boards.

S Bend hedge clearance – Buckinghamshire Council legal team are expected to take action and contact the landowner.

Village signs – a discussion took place about new signs for Horton, Slapton and Grove at a cost of £5,000 each. The Council was minded to proceed subject to agreement upon siting.

LED Streetlight survey – it was agreed to ask Sparkx to undertake the streetlight survey at a cost of £750 plus VAT.

Anglian Water have attended to the pumping station in Mill Road, this should help prevent the flooding in Mill Road. Slapton Parish Council with local residents will monitor this.

Councillor Cleland gave an update about Speedwatch and confirmed that the 52 police forces in the UK all participate in the new scheme. He stated that three offences recorded across the UK could lead to police enforcement. Speedwatch data is sent to Thames Valley Police and notices of prosecution can be issued. Bad behaviour from motorists is now recorded and sent to the police. All sites need to be re-registered, there are two sites in Slapton which need to be used at least once every three months. Councillor Cleland encouraged residents to volunteer as Speedwatch volunteers.

C/21/202 Slapton Recreation Ground.

The playground improvement project is proceeding through the Community Boards.

Play Around the Parishes is booked for the 4th August 2022.

C/21/203 Allotments.

The Chairman explained currently there is no land for allotments in Slapton.

Councillor Cleland stated there are two sites in Horton which were gifted to Horton village when Horton was in Ivinghoe Parish. One location is behind the kennels, but has been used for horse training with a cinder surface and has a disused five bar gate for access which could be reinstated. The second site is located near the railway in Horton. Both sites would require work to reinstate them. The matter will be addressed at a future meeting.

C/21/204 Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall/Slapton Village Hall.

The Village Hall Committee would like the Village Hall to be known as the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall.

C/21/205 Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Councillor Packham and Councillor King have identified a location for the brazier on the recreation ground. It was agreed to accept the quotation from local company Hammer and Tong to manufacture the brazier at a cost of £1610 plus VAT @20% £322 payable as two instalments.

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Total £1,932 PROPOSED BY Councillor Packham and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously. The Chairman thanked Councillor Packham for his work.

C/21/206 Jubilee Field – Re-acquisition from Bucks Council.

The Parish Clerk will contact Councillor Brazier for an update.

C/21/207 Christmas Tree.

Councillor Packham explained a local resident is donating a Christmas Tree for the parish and another local resident will provide the electricity. Slapton Parish Clerk will write to the residents to thank them for their kind gifts.

C/21/208 Bee Slapton.

No update.

C/21/209 Slapton Parish Council Website.

Councillor Griffin explained that the Village Hall Committee requires a strong web presence and spoke about the Slapton Parish Council website page. A discussion took place about the website layout.

C/21/210 Clerk's Report.

This was circulated prior to the meeting and there were no further questions.

C/21/192 Financial Matters.

It was agreed to hold a budget meeting on Tuesday 4th January at 6pm in the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall.

The following accounts were approved for payment PROPOSED BY Councillor Wakefield and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously.

Payee	Details	Amount
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	£240.00
John O'Dwyer	Inspections	£25.00
MW Agri	Hedge and grass cutting	£92.40
B Knight	Reimburse allowance and expenses	£28.85

Balances	
Cambridge & Counties	£27,306.05
Barclays (30.04.21 statement)	£58,683.68
Barclays (30.04.21 statement)	£4,560.84
Unity Trust Current Account	£6,561.07
Unity Trust Savings Account	£4,990.00
	£102,101.64

The meeting ended at 9.31pm.

The next Slapton Parish Council Meetings will be held on Wednesday 12th January 2022 and 8th February 2022 in The Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall at 8pm.

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