

## Slapton Parish Council

### Minutes of the Slapton Parish Council Meeting

held at Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall, Slapton on  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 6.30pm

**PRESENT:**

Councillors Frank Wakefield (Chairman), Mac Cleland, Maggie Godsland, Emma Griffin, Tom Harris, Robert King and Alec Packham.

Buckinghamshire Councillor Peter Brazier.

Bridget Knight – Slapton Parish Clerk.

Five members of the public.

**C/018/23 Chairman's Welcome and announcements.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the Hall is booked using a manual booking system now, as the Village Hall Committee has not renewed Hallmaster. The intention is to hold Slapton Parish Council Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 6.30pm with no meeting in August.

**C/019/23 Attendance and Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Buckinghamshire Councillor Derek Town.

**C/020/23 Disclosures of interest/dispensations pertaining to the agenda.**

Councillor Wakefield confirmed he has resigned as Secretary and Trustee of the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall. Councillor Griffin stated that she had not sought re-election as a trustee of the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall Committee.

**C/021/23 To approve the minutes of the Slapton Parish Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

The minutes were signed as true and accurate PROPOSED BY Councillor Cleland and SECONDED BY Councillor Packham and carried unanimously.

**C/022/23 Public Question Time (2 minutes per person, maximum of 10 minutes).**

A local resident enquired about Slapton Lane gritting. Councillor Brazier stated a risk assessment was undertaken on Slapton Lane and it scored 6 out of 12 and Buckinghamshire Council have decided it does not require gritting. Councillor Brazier will challenge Buckinghamshire Council with this decision and the Parish Council will press for this.

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Chairman, Slapton Parish Council.

**C/023/23 To Receive Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillor(s).**

Councillor Town submitted his report before the meeting and there were no further questions. Councillor Brazier spoke about the Local Heritage List Project where non designated heritage assets are being identified, this can include agricultural sites, formal gardens, monuments and street furniture. Councillor Brazier reported that Buckinghamshire Council will enter into negotiations with Slapton Parish Council to lease Jubilee Fields.

Councillor Brazier has asked Matthew Barber the Police and Crime Commissioner to visit Slapton. The Wing policing team is expanding and should be fully staffed in the Spring. The Chairman thanked Councillor Brazier.

**C/024/23 To Receive details of planning decisions received and to discuss planning applications.**

None.

**C/025/23 Solar Farm Update.**

Councillor Harris confirmed work has not started. Councillor Packham enquired about conditions and Councillor Brazier will check with Planning Enforcement.

**C/026/23 Village Signs.**

Work is ongoing and Councillor Packham has asked for these to be completed in time for the coronation. It was agreed to accept the quotation for village signs from Hammer and Tongs for £3,300 PROPOSED BY Councillor Packham and SECONDED BY Councillor King and carried unanimously.

**C/027/23 Recreation Ground.**

Councillor King report the zip wire will be worked on at Easter. The pedestrian gate has been checked and has moved slightly but not of concern. The five-bar gate is in good condition. The footpath has been measured and is 308 meters length and Councillor Packham stated 5 circuits is the equivalent of a mile. John O'Dwyer reported a bolt is missing from the Viking Swing.

There has been an increase in dog poo bags in the recreation ground which is specifically dog free. Councillor King will speak to John O'Dwyer about dog mess and the Viking Swing. The Chairman will write an article for The Villager to remind residents the Recreation Ground is a dog free area.

The Chairman will investigate a possible dead tree and report back.

**C/028/23 Jubilee Field Lease.**

Buckinghamshire Council have agreed to enter into negotiations with Slapton Parish Council to agree a lease of the Jubilee Fields.

**C/029/23 Website.**

Councillor Packham has updated the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall page.

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Chairman, Slapton Parish Council.

### **C/030/23 Footpaths, Bridleways and Roads.**

Horton – 40MPH is ongoing.

Ivinghoe Freight Strategy – good news this is going ahead with phase one starting 13<sup>th</sup> February and signage will be erected making this legal. The second stage will be signage in the wider area.

The two stiles have been reported to Buckinghamshire Council with no further update. The Parish Clerk will contact Ripple and to enquire if the Leighton Buzzard Ramblers will part fund a new kissing gate, the cost to the parish would be £250.

Councillor King will investigate salt bins from Browns for Grove to be discussed at the next meeting.

Councillor King reported the monthly litter collection by Buckinghamshire Council in Grove has stopped, the Parish Clerk will contact Street Scene.

Councillor King explained the Grove layby is occupied frequently by a camper van and people living in cars. The Parish Clerk will contact Thames Valley Police about this issue, and it will be on the agenda when the Police Commissioner visits.

Councillor King reported the reversing beeps from the quarry is causing a disturbance. Councillor King will email the Parish Clerk and a letter can be sent to the company.

### **C/031/23 Environment.**

A discussion took place about the land behind the Church and it was agreed to terminate the lease.

Councillor Godsland spoke about the insect hotels to be placed in Holy Cross Churchyard and the Recreation Ground. The third hotel will most likely be placed in the Jubilee field. In the sunny position bees and wasps will be targeted and the remaining insects in the shady and damp area of the church yard.

### **C/032/23 King Charles III Coronation – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

The Chairman explained a beacon lighting event will take place with a pop up pub with gazebos in the evening between 8-10pm. Councillors King and Packham agreed to lead on this project.

### **C/033/23 Finance and Payments Approval.**

The following payments were approved PROPOSED BY Councillor Harris and SECONDED BY Councillor Godsland and carried unanimously.

Payee	Details	Amount
John O'Dwyer	Rec inspections	£30.00
SWALEC	Streetlight Electricity	£102.80
Anglo Dutch	Payroll Services	£36.00
Clerk	Expenses	£19.05

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Chairman, Slapton Parish Council.

Ivinghoe Parish Council	Phone contribution	£15.00
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Balances:	Unity Trust Current	£50,575.90
	Unity Trust Savings	£10,814.59
	Cambridge & Counties	£27,578.99
		<b>£88,969.48</b>

**C/034/23 Clerk's Report.**

The Parish Clerk reported streetlights 1 and 26 have been reported to Sparkx for repair. The Chairman will be attending the s106 training and Councillor Griffin will attend the grant applications course. The Chairman encouraged members to attend training courses. The Parish Clerk read emails from the Chair of the Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall which stated the filing cabinet has been moved and the bookings will be free of charge for a year for frequent users including Slapton Parish Council.

**C/035/23 Date of next meeting(s):**

The meetings will be held the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March in Elizabeth Griffin Memorial Hall at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 7.42pm.

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Chairman, Slapton Parish Council.