

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GREAT SOMERFORD PARISH COUNCIL
(INCORPORATING STARTLEY)
HELD IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM AT SOMERFORDS WALTER POWELL SCHOOL
ON WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2013 THAT COMMENCED AT 7.30pm.**

PRESENT: Cllrs S Jevons - Chairman, Cllrs H Cole, J Loader, D Butcher, M Hourigan, R Hughes, A Scott + 6 members of the public and S Webb - Clerk.

Minutes

076.13	Apologies for Absence - Received from Cllr P Worthen, Patrick Neville and Ellen Blacker.
077.13	Councillor Vacancy - Nothing to report - the vacancy is still not filled.
078.13	Minutes - The Minutes of the meeting held on the 11 th September 2013 were signed by the Chairman and adopted as a true record
079.13	Declarations of Interest - Cllr Scott declared a personal interest in items 9 - Cemetery matters and 13c Community Room review of booking form of the agenda. He stayed but did not take part in any discussions and did not vote. Cllr Hourigan declared a personal interested in item 9 Cemetery matters - he gave useful information but did not vote.
080.13	Public Participation – Mrs Austin asked if there had been any progress regarding the proposed bus time table changes for the 91 and 91B service. Cllr Loader briefed all present that he had written a letter to Wiltshire Council on behalf of the Parish Council and brought to their attention that Great Somerford was the largest rural community between Chippenham and Malmesbury and that a regular service was vital to this village. One suggestion Cllr Loader made to Wiltshire Council for consideration was that the service frequency is reduced from every hour to every two hours. This was favoured by those present. This is an ongoing issue. Nick Elkins mentioned that he was here for a planning issue. The Chairman agreed that he could speak during the planning item. Mrs Butcher mentioned the excessive dog fouling in the village. This to be reported to the Environmental Health department of Wiltshire Council and mentioned in the Signpost - ACTION CLERK
081.13	Walter Powell School/Pre School - Cllr Jevons mentioned that the £5,800 grant towards the new pre-school building that has been agreed was needed in November 2013. It was hoped that this would be paid from the S106 money for the Winkin's Lane development but the application was not accepted as the money is to be used for open space. Cllr Jevons has been looking into whether the money can be found from the Free Gardens Charity but again this was not possible. Following discussions, it was RESOLVED to pay the grant from reserves. The Pre-school has requested the use of the Community room for three days per week during the construction of the new building. It was RESOLVED to grant this request The school has kindly offered the use of the school hall for those groups that will be affected.

	<p>To compensate for this inconvenience, no Community Room hiring charge will be made by the Parish Council for those groups that move to the school hall during this period. Similarly, the Pre-school will not be charged for use of the Community Room during this period.</p> <p>The Pre-school has also requested the use of electricity during the construction of the new building. It was RESOLVED to grant this request free of charge.</p>
082.13	<p>Wiltshire Good Neighbour Scheme - Ellen Blacker the Co-ordinator was not present but sent in the following report: Wiltshire Good Neighbours has now been active in the County for 3 years and has grown. There are 20 Co-ordinators who cover all of rural Wiltshire. Last year we supported 1,700 clients making over 1,100 home visits. We received almost 3,000 separate enquiries. Of our clients, 72% are self referred, 15% referred by service providers, eg GP surgeries, Adult Care Services etc. 13% are referred by their families.</p> <p>Client enquiries are diverse but finance and social isolation continue to be the main concerns of those contacting us. Transport is also a significant problem in the rural areas. The Link schemes are invaluable in supporting older residents for GP/hospital appointments and shopping trips. The proposed changes to the local bus services have caused great concern and I have encouraged comments to be sent to Wiltshire Council as part of the consultation process.</p> <p>We are currently looking ahead to the colder months and there is an article in the local magazines suggesting appropriate preparations. As the winter progresses we will aim to give extra support to particularly vulnerable individuals, checking that all is well should we experience severe weather this year.</p> <p>Lastly, the “light up” of the new 4G mobile network can give interference with those using Freeview TV. A company called “at800” have been tasked with distributing information and a filter (a box which needs to be connected to the areal socket of the tv) to stop the interference. Not all homes will be affected, but we are concerned that Freeview users who experience problems are aware of the situation and don’t purchase a replacement tv.</p> <p>As ever, no matter how seemingly trivial, all calls and enquiries are always welcome. If you have any queries please telephone Ellen Blacker on 07757 922020</p>
083.13	Wiltshire Council update - Cllr Sturgis was not present
084.13	Cemetery Matters - Consideration was given to applications for the Cemetery Maintenance vacancy. There were two applications for this position and after long discussions it was RESOLVED to award BLJ Garden Services the position at an agreed rate of £250 for the growing period and £80 for the dormant period. Letters to be written to both the successful and unsuccessful applicants. - ACTION CLERK
085.13	Proposed changes to bus services in Great Somerford - Cllr Loader briefed all present that he had written a letter to Wiltshire Council on behalf of the Parish Council and brought to their attention that Great Somerford was the largest rural community between Chippenham and Malmesbury and that a regular service was vital to this village. One suggestion Cllr Loader made to Wiltshire Council to consideration was that the service frequency is reduced from every hour to every two hours. This was favoured by those present. This is an ongoing issue.
086.13	Planning Matters - A pre-planning application for modification/replacement of an existing dwelling at Hollow Street was circulated by the Agent. These plans were noted and Mr Elkins (the planning agent) was thanked for bringing this pre-application to the Parish Council’s attention.

	<p><u>Applications for consideration</u> - 13/02581/FUL, Extension, at 1 Winkins Lane, Great Somerford, - It was RESOLVED to support this application</p> <p>13/03674/FUL Erection of Log Cabin, at Dauntsey Road, Great Somerford, - It was RESOLVED to give full support to this application as the continuation of the Pre-School is of vital importance to the village.</p> <p>13/03448/FUL External and internal alterations at Meadow View, West Street, Great Somerford, - It was RESOLVED to support this application.</p> <p>13/03209/FUL. New entrance at Startley Farm House, Startley, - It was RESOLVED to support this application</p> <p>13/03657/TCA, Tree work at Mount House, Great Somerford, - It was RESOLVED to support this application.</p> <p><u>Wiltshire Council Decisions</u> - 13/02151/FUL First floor extension at 1 Heath Cottages, Heath Lane, Startley - Approved with conditions</p>
087.13	<p>Highway Matters - As received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Speed Indicator Device for Startley - Update from Cllr Hourigan - Report on Community Speed Watch conference had been previously circulated. He also reported that the police will visit those motorists reported to be travelling in excess of 45mph with a view to bringing to their attention the seriousness of speeding. b) Clearing of ditches - Cllr Loader agreed to speak to the person responsible for the ditches in Hollow Street. Cllr Loader mentioned that a quote from a contractor will be sent to the owner of ditches that need to be cleared. c) Access to 18 Winkins Lane issue - Cllr Butcher reported that this dangerous situation had now been rectified. d) Guinness Trust Development - request for a footpath - Cllr Butcher reported that many residents are in favour of a footpath from No 7 Dauntsey Road to the Police House. Details of distances to be clarified and once done an issue sheet to be raised. ACTION CLLR BUTCHER/CLERK
088.13	<p>Community Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Consideration to be given to a request from the Pre-school to use the Community room whilst the new building is being erected. - See minutes No. 081.13 b) To consider a request from the Pre-School to use an electricity supply (if necessary) from the Community Room during the construction of the new building - See minute No. 081.13 - this request was granted. c) Review of use of new booking form - A booking form for all hirers has been introduced and is working well. Payment is to be made on completion of the booking form. It was established that one group that pre-books the community room is not happy with paying on completion of the form. It was RESOLVED not to change the present procedure which was working well. It was also RESOLVED Cllr Cole speaks to the group concerned, explaining that if several weeks in advance needs to be booked, a booking form can be completed each week and paid for at the time of booking, for that week. - ACTION CLLR COLE

089.13	<p>Future Objectives for the Parish Council S106 Agreements outstanding- Priorities are i) Upgrade of children's play area, ii) Help with replacement of the pre-school building</p> <p><u>S106 Agreements outstanding</u></p> <p>15 Winkins Lane. - The total amount of £5,800 is ready for use - An application was submitted to use the money to go towards the new building/equipment for the preschool This application was refused because the S106 contribution for this development was specifically for public open space. The Parish Council has clarified this by obtaining a copy of the S106 Agreement. The money is to be used for public open space and play equipment could come into this category ;Cllrs Butcher and Cole will look into possible ways to use this money. One suggestion made was an outdoor table tennis table.</p> <p>Springfields Dauntsey Road. - £2,116 ready for use. - This also is to be used for public open space (play equipment)</p> <p>Possible S106 for Brown Leaves -Nothing to report</p>
090.13	<p>Items for Action Community School Management – Nothing to report</p> <p>Playarea – Cllrs Butcher/Coles reported that the RoSPA inspection had taken place but the report had not yet been received. New play equipment is being sourced to be funded with S106 Agreement monies.</p>
091.13	<p>Neighbourhood Plans - A meeting with Tim McCombe of W C has been arranged for Friday 18th October at 5pm in the Community Room to begin work on the N P.</p>
092.13	<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Receipts since 2nd September 2013 amounted to - £28.00 b) Payments approved at this meeting amounted to - £1,153.18 c) Bank Account balances as at 1st October 2013 Current account £49,083.81 - (this included a transfer of £45,000 of the Free Gardens account ready to be transferred into a higher interest account) Deposit account £11,506.23 d) The Clerk prepared a half year budget forecast showing that the agreed budget for this F/Y was £12,770 and the spend to the end of September was £5,791. This was noted. e) The Clerk circulated a briefing note on Council Tax Support and the impact on town/parish councils - This was noted. f) Wiltshire Council had requested that all town/parish councils complete a questionnaire on the above. The Clerk had done this and it was RESOLVED to agree with the answers given and submit the questionnaire. ACTION CLERK
093/13	<p>Correspondence as received - None received to date</p>
094/13	<p>Councillors Reports and items for the next agenda. Next meeting 13th November 2013</p> <p>Note a Wasps nest in the play area was disposed of.</p> <p>Agenda items for next meeting - Neighbourhood Plan update and Guinness Trust footpath. (see 087.13d)</p>

MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30PM