MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SAVERNAKE PARISH COUNCIL 19 OCTOBER 2017 MARLBOROUGH TOWN HALL AT 7PM

PRESENT

Guy Singleton (Chairman) (GS) Councillor
Neil Twentyman (Treasurer) (NT) Councillor
Andrew Smithson (Deputy chairman) (AS) Councillor

Rosemary Davies (RD) Clerk

Two parishioners

Item No.	
18/17	APOLOGIES
	No apologies for absence.
19/17	MINUTES
	The minutes of the meeting on 11 July 2017 were approved and signed by GS. Agreed these be published on Savernake Parish Council (SPC) website. (ACTION – AS)
20/17	MATTERS ARISING
	38/15 and AGM: Possible co-opting of additional councillors. Clerk has had no response from the Marlborough Town Clerk. After GS confirmed that Nigel Eayrs met the criteria for co-option, Mr Eayrs was co-opted to serve as a parish councillor, having been proposed by GS and seconded by AS, with all in favour.
	17/17 COMMUNITY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP 5190 (CATG): Reduction of speed limit on A4 NT gave a brief overview of the background to this issue. He reported that at the group's meeting on 21/09/2018 it was agreed that the suggested A4 speed limit reduction to 40mph, going up the hill towards Savernake Hospital, be one of the top five issues to be progressed. NT explained that a previous study had concluded that 50mph was suitable but it is hoped to have this conclusion reassessed because of the fatal accident in June 2016 and the increased traffic generated by expansion at the hospital site, which includes the Maurice Way housing development. Funding and timing are likely to be discussed at the next CATG meeting on 14/12/2017 at 10am but NT is unable to attend. GS stated he would attend if possible. (ACTION – GS)
21/17	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	There were no declarations of interest.
22/17	PLANNING 17/06043/FUL: Councillors had agreed by email to object to this planning application. The Clerk responded to Wiltshire Planning Department (WPD) by email on 11 August 2017; subsequently, the applicant received the relevant approval from WPD. 17/09161/TPO: councillors agreed by email on 29/09/2017 to raise no objections and GS sent this response to WPD.

23/17	FINANCE
	The treasurer reported that SPC has a current account balance of £1315.26, which reflects the two cheques signed at the last meeting. A possible rise in the annual Precept from £1000 was discussed because there has been no increase for a number of years despite rising costs; for example, in audit fees, insurance costs and maintaining the parish council's website. The current Precept is one of the lowest in Wiltshire. If SPC ceased as a separate council, the parish would be amalgamated with one of the adjacent civil parishes resulting in a likely increase in Precept costs to parishioners because the vast majority of other parish councils have higher Precepts. Councillors agreed to consider a rise in Precept at the next meeting. NT was asked to check guidelines regarding percentage increase in Precept. Councillors wish to have a clear proposal, if there is to be an increase in Precept, at the next meeting. (ACTION NT and Clerk)
	NT will check what precisely are SPC's assets, (for example, bus shelters) and whether it has a reserve account and if so, the amount held. Councillors agreed that it is not an objective of SPC to accumulate money; instead it seeks to support the parish and worthy causes within it with the available funds. (ACTION NT)
	GS and NT signed a cheque for £11.00 in favour of Marlborough Town Council for room hire in Marlborough Town Hall.
24/17	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
	GS, who attends the relevant steering group meetings, explained that this relates to land. Shortly, the group will start exploring possible options to designate land for future use as vehicle parking and playing fields, for example, although it is unlikely to affect SPC. GS will continue to attend. (ACTION GS)
25/17	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
	It was agreed that the clerk will use a SPC email address. (ACTION NT and Clerk)
	DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:
	Councillors agreed to meet on the third Tuesday monthly every three months. Next meetings: Tuesday 16 January – 7.30pm Tuesday 17 April; to be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) Clerk to book the Town Hall if available and if not, the Youth Centre.
	The Clerk will check rules for timing of APMs. (ACTION Clerk)

Signed	as a true record:
Name:	
Date:	