

Sparsholt Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting 16 April 2015

Present:

Sparsholt Parish Council: Mrs S Wood, Mr S Wooles, Mrs S Annesley, Mrs K Cobbold, Mr I Hay, Mr J Little, Mr A Osmond, Mr N Reid, Mr R Summerfield,

Other: Mrs J Judge (Clerk), Mrs J Whittle, PSCO K Croutear, PSCO Amey Stevens and 4 members of the public

Apologies:

Cllr Phil Bailey, Cllr Caroline Horrill, Mrs A Gledhill, Mr T Dunn, Revd J Machin, Mrs L McCarthy, Mr A Barron, Mrs A Lyne.

1. Sparsholt Parish Council Annual Report

Mrs Wood gave the Annual Report of Sparsholt Parish Council (Annex A).

PSCO K Croutear updated the meeting on crime statistics during the course of the year and changes to Hampshire Constabulary (Annex B). Mrs Jan Anderson, a member of public and Neighbourhood Watch representative, thanked PSCO Croutear and her colleagues, for their consistent helpfulness. (After giving her report PSCO Croutear and PSCO Amey Stevens left the meeting)

2. Review of Traffic Survey

Mr Little presented the findings of the Traffic Survey completed in October 2014 (Annex C).

3. Explaining Neighbourhood Plans

Mr Reid explained that Neighbourhood Plans had been introduced in 2011 and gave local communities a way of influencing decisions and development in an area.

The procedure for obtaining a plan was both complicated and expensive (£20,000 not unusual) and involved a formal process of consultation and independent examination together with a referendum with over 50% agreement.

Key was that a "neighbourhood plan" had to be consistent with the strategic objectives of the Local Plan prepared by the local planning authority. For example the Local Plan might set out a strategic requirement for 200 new homes. The Neighbourhood Plan could outline where these might be located thus "facilitating and directing".

Mr Reid concluded that if a village or town were already protected in the way it can be developed by the Local Plan (as Sparsholt was because of its building envelope) and the village or town did not wish to designate a particular site for expansion and development, then there seemed little point in having a Neighbourhood Plan.

Mr Reid recommended a booklet prepared by the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) entitled "How to shape where you live: a guide to neighbourhood planning"

<http://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/housing-and-planning/planning/item/2689-how-to-shape-where-you-live-a-guide-to-neighbourhood-planning>

4. Report from County Councillor Phil Bailey

Cllr Bailey provided a written report (Annex D) which was read to those attending the meeting by Mr Wooles

5. Report from District Councillor Caroline Horrill

Cllr Horrill provided a written report (Annex E) which was read to the meeting by Mr Wooles.

6. Reports from Village Organisations:

- **Ham Green Volunteers**

Anne Gledhill, Group Leader, had provided a written report (Annex F) which was presented by Mr Hay.

- **St Stephen's Sparsholt with Lainston**

Mr Blakemore gave an informative report about the activities of the Parochial Church Council (Appendix G).

- **Sparsholt Church of England Primary School**

Mrs Cobbold read a written report from the Head Teacher (Appendix H). In addition Mrs Cobbold highlighted a recent "School Travel Plan" report provided by the Local Authority. This endorsed numbers reported in the Traffic Survey (Item 2) with peak traffic in the mornings at "drop off" time and a more staggered approach in the afternoons with some children staying for after school clubs. The school bus was now making more stops enabling greater use and there was a mini bus for Sparsholt College children.

- **Sparsholt College**

Mrs Wood read the report (Annex I) provided by Tim Jackson, Principal of the College

- **Sparsholt Village Shop**

Mr Reid read the written report provided by Alastair Barron (Annex J)

- **Sparsholt Women's Institute**

Mrs Annesley read the reported provide by Ann Lyne, President (Annex K)

7. AOB

Mrs Blakemore said that she believed in the year 2000 the Parish received £10,000 from WCC relating to the Design Statement. As a result wild flowers were planted on the triangle of land at the end of Church Lane. Whilst initially this was a great success in recent years flowers had all but disappeared and she asked if it would be possible to put up signs to prevent cutting of edges etc. (as observed in Hursley) **Action: Clerk**

The meeting concluded at 8.50pm.

Signed..... Date.....