

Minutes of Lower Sapey Parish Meeting

Held at St Bartholomew's Church on 18th January 2024

Present:

Chair: Dot Millward Vice Chair: Howard Rigby. Clerk (Temporary): Sue Everitt
A. Everitt, S. Younge, D. Richards, P. Millward, N. Denniston, S. Rigby, J. Denniston

1. Apologies: P&P Cumins (District Councillors), M&M Griffiths, J&A Jones, M West, E Younge.
2. Minutes of the meeting of 28th September 2023 had been read by parishioners and agreed as a true record. Proposed by S. Rigby and seconded by S. Younge.
3. Matters arising: The low water pressure issue within the parish has been corrected. A leak was found by STW and mended. The hole in the road near to Holland Mill junction has been tested and is due to natural water outflow and therefore not the responsibility of STW. The damaged fingerpost at the top of Church Bank has been repaired by County Highways. The request for an additional grit bin near the old pumping station has been rejected by County Highways. Road through Harpley has had the surface deposits partly cleared.
4. Financial matters; The precept was debated and it was agreed to increase it to £1200. The main points of financial impact were the maintenance costs of the defibrillator and to cater for the fees expected with the services of professional parish clerk. Proposed by S. Younge, seconded by N. Denniston. The parish website domain name annual fee for 2024 (£15.27) was approved. Proposed by J. Denniston, seconded by N. Denniston.
5. The post of Parish Clerk is still vacant.
6. Proposal for section 106 funding. A paper, written by N Denniston, was presented to the meeting and discussed at length. Copies of the paper were distributed in hard copy at the meeting and electronically as requested. The proposal is to offer to buy Close Cottage and its associated parking area so as to provide a publicly available parish meeting place. At present the only available meeting space is St Bartholomew's church with the kind offering of its PCC. Rooftops, the current owners of Close Cottage, continue to find it difficult to find time to come and discuss. D. Richards is continuing to lead on this as the contact point with Rooftops and MHDC. There was unanimous agreement to approve the proposal.
7. Parish Lengthsman scheme: no costs have been incurred to date although the road below Hatt House is giving cause for concern.
8. Sewage at Harpley Green outlet. Environmental Health have visited the site and indicated that it is not their problem Apparently it is another part of the Environmental Health department and D. Millward will follow up on this matter.
9. Planning matters: No applications within the parish have been made.
10. Policing matters: It as proposed to invite a police representative to the next meeting. There has been a further nasty accident at High House cross roads despite road improvements. There have been reports of "bogus scrap wagons" in the area and vigilance has been advised.
11. Correspondence: The Community Safety Team would like to put on another event. This was discussed and thought to be an excellent plan for some time when the weather is a bit warmer. A decision was deferred until the next meeting.

12. Any other business: no further matters.

13. Date of next meeting 16th May 2024.

Meeting closed 19.58 hours