

Minutes of the Meeting of Lower Slaughter Parish Council
Held in the Village Hall on Monday 16th September 2024 at 6 p.m.

Councillors present: Cllrs Ann Classen, Julian Grimshaw, Andrea Jordison, George Papadakis (Chair of meeting) , Daniel O'Driscoll

In attendance: Clerk Jane Carter, 11 members of the public, Cllr Len Wilkins

- 240916/1 Election of Chair:** Cllr Papadakis was proposed and unanimously elected as Chair for the September meeting.
- 240916/2 Declarations of Interest:** None
- 240916/3 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Mark Mackenzie-Charrington
- 240916/4 Public Session:** A resident raised concerns over residents parking in The Square. She requested if a parish council letter could be mailed to residents with a polite reminder about parking.
- 240916/5 To approve the minutes of the annual meeting held June 20th, 2024 :** Council approved the minutes, and these were signed by the acting Chair.
- 240916/6 To receive an update and report from County Councillor, Mark Mackenzie-Charrington.** Apologies sent
- To receive update and report from Cotswold District Councillor Len Wilcox:** there had been issues with the change in recycling in collection dates, but these had now been resolved. The National Planning Framework had been published for consultation and initial projections for CDC were 950 new houses to be build annually compared with 525 currently.
- 240916/7 Matters arising:**
- I. Highways: There had been a village site walk around with the Highways Officer for the area and Cllr Mark Mackenzie Charrington and 3 councillors. A list of works had been produced. Councillors agreed the priority should be:
 - i) the addition of a sign in Mill Lane to mirror the existing sign and so it would be visible from both sides of the road
 - ii) Repairs to white lining where necessary
 - iii) Repairs to the stone copings on the footbridge- the clerk would make enquiries if the council was expected to carry out the work or whether GCC would fund itCllr Jordison had updated the council regarding the method to report parking violations. People now had to call 101 but response was slow. The clerk agreed to speak to BOW and Stow to understand their parking management schemes and funding and whether Lower Slaughter could be included
 - II. Allotments: remedial works were required to the allotment. It was proposed the larger vacant plots be sub divided to create more manageable plots. Long grass needed to be cut back. Two blocks of 15 hours were approved. The clerk would write a quote outline, and this would be issued to interested parties. Cllrs Classen, O'Driscoll, and the clerk would meet on site to discuss the required works.

- III. Public Footpath repairs: work had been completed to footpath HLS3 Mill Lane. Footpath officer Steve Randles said the work had stood up well to all the rain. The council's contribution to the work was £9600 as agreed with GCC. This would be taken from footpaths reserves
- IV. Swale reprofiling: Stuart Thomas updated the council on the progress of tenders. He had met with representatives from the hotel, and they had agreed access to their land for the works. They had also requested a tree survey. The funding was still under discussion and no funds would be committed until it had been agreed. Cllr Grimshaw asked how the reprofiling solution had been arrived at. It was explained that a report had been conducted and following consultation had been agreed as the most cost-effective and simplest solution. The meeting was open for residents' comments. A resident asked if the work would stop flooding in the village. Cllr Papadakis explained it would not as flooding was due to several issues and the weir bypass was just one small part. River maintenance was another important aspect. Another resident questioned the value of spending the money and whether all options had been considered. Cllr Papadakis said that £20,000 funds had been set aside in council reserves for work to the weir and river and this had been agreed for some time. The hotel would not be making a financial contribution but had agreed to help with landscaping and maintenance. It was agreed to invite a representative from the hotel to a future meeting once funding had been agreed.
Cllr Papadakis said he had been in contact with Thames Water regarding works to pipelines between The Square and the Church where water was backing up. They were fully aware of the issues and relining works would be carried out.
- V. The Old Mill coffee bar: there had been no reports of any litter or any other concerns. The owner said that regular litter runs took place throughout the day. It was agreed the matter would not be a standing item on the agenda.
- VI. 20mph speed limit: the Clerk reported that Lower Swell Parish Council was trying to coordinate a joint approach to GLCC for 20mph speed limits in all villages. It was agreed to support in principle, but the council requested more information. The clerk would report back

240916/8 Planning Applications:

No matters to consider

240916/9 Finance:

- I. To approve current statement of accounts and bank reconciliation (as circulated): APPROVED
- II. To approve payments and note receipts (as circulated) APPROVED
- III. To review and adopt the NALC 2024 Model Financial Regulations (as circulated): these had been reviewed and were ADOPTED
- IV. To appoint Per Pro Services Ltd as internal auditor for the period 2024-2025: APPROVED

240916/10 Reports from the Wardens:

- I. **Neighbourhood Watch:-** fly tipping had been reported to CDC and was removed within five days
- II. **River:-** Cllr Papadakis thanked all the weekend volunteers for the river clearing. The owner of The Mill was thanked for allowing the skip to be sited on their land for the duration of the works. It was felt that one or two more weekends would be need but it was progressing well. Work on the other side of the river was required but it was too big a job for volunteers and a digger may be required.

- III. **Rights of Way Report :** The PRWO Steve Randles reported that paths were still overgrown. The clerk would find a contact for the landowners. Hedgerows on the road out of the village past the cricket club were now also very overgrown. Footpath HSL4 through the cricket club car park needed work as it had previously been flooded for 3 months. The clerk would contact Gloucestershire Footpaths to find out the cost of a boardwalk similar to the one in Scare Lane. She would also investigate if Scare Lane could now be added to the road sweeping route.
- IV. **Trees** Stuart Thomas said that trees had been planted as part of the Ash Dieback scheme with GCC. No further trees were required.
- V. **Highways :** No further matters
- VI. **Flood and Snow:** A new combination lock was needed for the grit bin in Kingswell.

240916/11 **Matters to be raised by councillors:** A defibrillator had been installed at the cricket club.

240916/12 **Date of Next Meeting: Monday November 18th 6 p.m.**

Meeting ended: 19.30 p.m.

Signed _____

Date _____