

Minutes of the Annual Meeting Lower Slaughter Parish Council
Held in the Cricket Club on Thursday June 20th 2024 at 6 p.m.

Councillors present: Cllrs Ann Classen, Julian Grimshaw, Andrea Jordison, George Papadakis

In attendance: Clerk Jane Carter, 18 members of the public, Cllr Mark Mackenzie-Charrington

- 240620/1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair:** there were no councillors willing to stand. The clerk explained that a Chair would need to be elected at the start of each meeting. Cllr Papadakis agreed to act as Chair for the June meeting.
- 240620/2 Co-option of new councillor:** the vacancy following the resignation of Cllr Paul Sinclair had been advertised. No election had been called. The council duly co-opted Daniel O Driscoll who joined the meeting.
- 240620/3 Declarations of Interest:** None
- 240620/4 Apologies for absence:** S. Thomas (Trees/Flooding), Cllr Len Wilkins
- 240620/5 Public Session:** A resident raised concerns over the non-authorised signs at the top of Mill Lane and asked if they could be removed. She said that more traffic was being forced along Copse Hill Road which was unfair to residents. A second resident said that the signs acted as a deterrent to cars going down Mill Lane which was a difficult road to navigate. It was felt that wider discussion around traffic issues in the village was needed. The clerk suggested a highways department walk around with councillors should be organised and Cllr Mark Mackenzie-Charrington agreed to organise. The signs would be reported to highways. A resident spoke on the proposed planning application for The Old Mill. She was supportive of the Mill being used as a home but had concerns over the scale and design of the plans. She asked that the historic features of the Mill including the workings be preserved and that the PC should apply for a preservation order.
A resident reported the build up of reeds by the road bridge.
- 240620/6 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 18th 2024 :** Council approved the minutes, and these were signed by the acting Chair.
- 240620/7 To receive an update and report from County Councillor, Mark Mackenzie-Charrington.** A report had been circulated. Roadworks in the area continued to cause issues and he highlighted a forthcoming road closure in Moreton High Street from early September through to December. Road resurfacing was still a priority

To receive update and report from Cotswold District Councillor Len Wilcox: apologies had been received
- 240620/8 Allocation of responsibilities for coming year:-**
- i. Highways- Cllr Grimshaw
 - ii. Trees- S. Thomas
 - iii. Allotments-Cllr Classen
 - iv. Finance- All
 - v. Planning-All

- vi. Public footpaths- S Randles
- vii. Snow and Flood- Cllr O'Driscoll
- viii. River and Weir- Cllr Papadakis/S. Thomas

240620/9 Matters arising:

- I. **Gigaclear Broadband:** Gigaclear (fast broadband fibre) had notified the clerk they would be carrying out works in the village and Upper Slaughter later this year. A plan of works had been circulated to councillors. Once finalised this would be published to residents and there would be regular communication from Gigaclear. There were no overhead cables planned. It was anticipated the work would start in the autumn and could last up to six months.

240620/10 Planning Applications:

To consider: 24/01512/FUL | Alterations including: reinstating residential use across the ground floor, re-configuration and refurbishment of the ground, first and second floor, demolition of two lean-to extensions and erection of a single storey rear extension associated works. Conversion of annexe building to ancillary accommodation and erection of single storey extension. Addition of coffee shop/deli (use class E/sui generis), museum (use class F1) and shop (use class E), and restoration of the mill building. Part replacement of windows, thermal upgrading of the existing building, and the refurbishment of the exterior including repointing of the stonework to match existing | Old Mill Mill Lane Lower Slaughter Gloucestershire GL54 2HX.

The applicant addressed the meeting. He said that the Mill would become a family home as well as a business. The food offering would be takeaway which was different to the previous sit-in restaurant. There would be no indoor seating. He was keen to hear parish council and residents' comments on the design of the building. He was very aware of the heritage of such an important building and wanted to get the balance right.

The meeting was opened to members of the public to speak. A resident said that an outdoor business would create nuisance and litter for residents. The village was already increasingly busy with tourists, and this would add to the issues of people picnicking and litter. Some people already felt imprisoned in their own homes at the height of the summer season. He asked if customers would have access to toilets. A resident said that there needed to be a very robust construction management plan which would cover the parking by building workers, delivery of supplies so that disruption to residents could be managed. A resident said that a waste management plan would need to be part of any permission and that the picking up of litter should be done daily.

The meeting was closed to comments and councillors' discussion. Cllr Grimshaw said he felt the glass sliding doors on the front of the building were not appropriate or in keeping with its heritage. Cllr Papadakis said he questioned whether the balance residential use versus business use was right. He was concerned that a takeaway would be a very different business from that previously with no control on the number of people. The proposed development would create a large residential building with a small snack business on the side. Litter would be an issue as would customers sitting on walls and gathering outside the area with no real seating arrangements. He felt the extension across the back was too large and disproportionate to the building which was so important to the village heritage. Cllr Jordison said she felt seating should be provided but supported the proposals as exciting for the village.

Councillor Classen supported the application and would be happy to see it in the village. It was agreed support the application with comments. Cllr Papadakis voted against. The clerk would draft comments incorporating those of the residents and councillors and submit to CDC.

To Note:

23/00032/REFUSE | Change of use of existing dwelling and erection of extensions to create 40 bedroom hotel and associated works | Grafters Fosseyway Lower Slaughter Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL54 2EY- **DISMISSED**

24/00001/REFUSE | Alterations and additions to construct a single storey link walkway between the principal house and outbuilding | Lavandula Becky Hill Lower Slaughter Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL54 2HS- **APPEAL IN PROGRESS**

240620/13 To consider and approve current financial status of PC accounts.

- 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 confirm that the Parish Council wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and to sign and return the Certificate of Exemption. (Form 2): NOTED AND APPROVED
- IV. To consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the Annual Return) for 2023-24- APPROVED
- V. To consider and approve Section 2 of the Annual Return for 2023-24- APPROVED

240620/14 Reports from the Wardens:

- I. **Neighbourhood Watch:-** apologies received
- II. **River:-** Quotes for the Weir project were being sought. Stuart Thomas had written the scope which would be circulated to potential contractors. Three quotes were required. A tree consultant would be employed to confirm trees would not be affected by the work
- III. **Rights of Way Report :** The PRWO Ste Randles reported that several paths had become overgrown. The clerk would find a contact for the landowners and ask if they would carry out work. Cotswolds Warden should also be approached. Gloucestershire footpaths still had to carry out work to Mill Dam/Scare Lane. The clerk said she was now in contact with them following Cllr Sinclair's' resignation. Hedgerows on the road out of the village past the cricket club were now also very overgrown.
- IV. **Trees** nothing to report
- V. **Highways :** Cllr Grimshaw said that repairs to the foot bridge were needed. The clerk would raise with highways but stress the importance of the bridge and that it was listed. Stone masons would be needed to carry out any work. A resident has written to ask if the white lines could be redone. It was agreed to add to the list for highways.
- VI. **Flood and Snow:** no grit supply had been ordered as there were sufficient supplies

240620/12 Date of Next Meeting: July 15th, 2024. Rearranged to September 16th, 2024, in the village hall.

Meeting ended: 19.37 p.m.

Signed _____

Date _____