

SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Methodist Community Centre
on Tuesday, 11th July 2023 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor M Allen
Councillor B Blanchard
Councillor S Hadley
Councillor P Hibberd (Chair)
Councillor J Keeton
Councillor M Moody
Councillor P Marshall
Councillor S Sloan
Councillor A Smith
Councillor K Walker

In Attendance 4 members of the public and County Councillor Laughton

23/033 Apologies for Absence

Received and accepted from District Councillor Michael

23/034 To receive and note any declarations of interest

Councillor Moody declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7.3 and Councillor Allen in Agenda Item 9.1.

23/035 Public 10 Minute Forum

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm to allow for the public session.

A resident asked if there was any progress on the installation of the Yellow Lines at the Strawberry Field development. The Clerk advised that this currently sat with Development Control at Nottinghamshire County Council. Councillor Laughton advised that he would also raise with Officers to try and establish a timeline. The Clerk would keep the resident updated.

A resident advised that the hedge alongside the jitty between Sternthorpe Close and Snell Close was overgrown and impeding access. The Clerk to log with Newark & Sherwood District Council and request it be cut back.

The hedge on Great North Road, heading towards the Old Nags Head, was reported by a resident as being overgrown and impeding pedestrians. The Clerk to log on the MyNottsApp.

A resident asked if the streets could be swept. The Clerk to raise with Newark & Sherwood District Council Waste Services.

The Chair thanked residents for their input and reconvened the meeting at 7.37pm.

23/036 To receive and approve the Minutes from the meeting held on 13th June 2023

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June 2023 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23/037 To consider applications for co-option on to the Parish Council

The Clerk referred to the two applications received for co-option onto the Parish Council, a copy of which had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

The Chair acknowledged that the two applicants, Steph Tyler and Terri Westmoreland, were present and invited both to speak to their applications if they wished. This offer was not accepted.

The Clerk advised that voting on the applications would take place in alphabetical order. The first applicant was Steph Tyler. This applicant was unanimously supported by Members, with 10 votes for.

There were no votes in support of the second applicant, Terri Westmoreland.

The Chair thanked both applicants for their interest in joining the Parish Council. The successful applicant joined Members and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and completed the Register of Members Interests

23/038

District Councillor Report

No report was presented as Cllr Mrs Michael had given her apologies.

23/039

County Councillor Report

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.40pm to allow County Cllr Loughton to present his report.

Cllr Loughton advised that there was a new policy regarding highways, with there now being a period of 7 days for potholes to be repaired, from 24 hours. The County Council were opening a new system that will enable parishes to access Google Maps which would bring up all areas where the County Council were working and what they were doing.

Investment of £27m would be spent on the A614, with funding received from Central Government. Work should commence in November.

Cabinet would be considering a report on Thursday, 13th July which recommended the sale of County Hall. There was now only 40% occupancy, and with running costs of £1.8m on heating, it was not sustainable to retain. If agreed, the sale should release £30-40m of capital, and would open the site for development.

Councillor Smith referred to the recent flooding at the junction of Crow Park Avenue and Grassthorpe Road. Councillor Loughton asked for a chronological event of drainage issues and flooding to discuss with Officers.

The Chair thanked Cllr Loughton for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.51pm.

23/040

Planning

(a)

Applications

23/01087/HOUSE – 20 Hemplands Lane, Sutton-on-Trent - Demolition of existing conservatory, garage and porch and construction of extensions as well as internal alterations, proposed detached garage

After discussion, it was unanimously AGREED that this application be supported.

23/01026/DISCON – The Pines, Great North Road - Request for confirmation to discharge conditions 3 (materials) and 4 (Architectural details) attached to planning permission

Members noted the request for confirmation to discharge conditions 3 and 4.

23/00996/HOUSE – Tamworth House, Palmer Road - Single storey rear extension

Prior to consideration of this item, Cllr Moody removed himself from the meeting.

Members noted the comments from the Conservation Officer on the planning portal. After discussion, it was unanimously AGREED that this application be supported.

Decision Notice

There were none to receive.

Tree Works

Members noted the following tree works.

- 23/01011/TWCA – Howgill House, 31 Great North Road - Remove one poplar tree and replace in the following planting season with one ginkgo biloba or liquidambar styraciflua or Davidia involucrata (8-10 nursery stock), within the same approximate location. Maintaining for the first five years and replacing if the trees dies or becomes substantially damaged.

23/041

Financials

a) To record receipts:

- Nottinghamshire County Council - £400

The Clerk advised this was from Cllr Laughton's Divisional Fund for the Falls Group and would be transferred.

b) To approve invoices for payment:

The following invoices were approved for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – June 2023 - £284.25
- HMRC PAYE – June 2023 - £71
- Freddie Allen Gardens & Landscapes - £1,326
- Sage Accounts - £8.40

d) Financial Report as at 30th June 2023 to include details of recommended transfer of funds from the current account

Members received and noted the Council's financial position as at 30th June 2023, with a balance of £112,168.37 in the current account and £68,539.63 in the deposit account.

The Clerk sought permission to transfer £34,213 from the current account into the deposit account to meet the £108,000 held in reserves for the Village Hall project. This was AGREED.

23/042

Parish Council Matters

a) To consider supporting the village fund towards the purchase of a new marquee to aid with fundraising events

Cllr Allen had declared a personal interest in this item.

Members noted the request received from the village fund for financial support to purchase a new marquee to aid with fundraising events. The present financial position of the Village Fund was noted, with Members acknowledging the significant cost of delivering the village festival.

After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor Hibberd, that £1,000 in financial support be granted to the village fund. This was AGREED with 10 votes for and one abstention.

b) To note concerns raised regarding parking outside the Sutton-on-Trent Primary & Nursery School

The Chair referred to the problems being experienced with indiscriminate and dangerous parking around the school. The Clerk confirmed that Via had been asked to inspect the area to see if the markings needed to be renewed.

It was noted that frequent requests were made by the Head for parents to walk children to school.

It was AGREED that the Parish Council keep lobbying Via and also investigate how to secure the monitoring camera.

23/043

To receive updates and agree actions:

The Chair advised that he would look to put together a review on this part of the agenda to bring to a future meeting.

a) Playing Field

(a) Resurfacing of Play Area – Sternthorpe Close

The Chair advised that an action plan would be put together during the August recess for the Sternthorpe Close play area.

The knee rails on Sternthorpe Close still hadn't been repaired. The Clerk would follow this up with the District Council. Arrangements would be made with the Council's contractor to remove the broken fence, until such time as a decision was made regarding replacement.

b) Cemetery

(b) NALC Cemetery Training

Members noted the Cemetery Training that had been arranged by NALC. Cllr Sloan had previously completed this training.

The Clerk advised that a site meeting had been held with a resident where there was a concern over the closeness of plots. A suggestion had been made to remedy the issue which Cllr Marshall and Sloan would review.

c) Highways

(c) Report from Cllr Moody on Via site visit

Councillor Moody updated Members on the site visit recently held with an Officer from Via and Cllr Laughton.

There was no funding available for any extension of the footpath, but an application could be made to the Local Community Fund for a contribution towards any cost.

There was no support in lowering the speed limit further away from the village boundary.

One solution could be to approach the adjacent landowners to establish if they would be agreeable to releasing a strip of land to be leased on a peppercorn rent to improve facilities for the village.

d) Community Speed Watch

Cllr Hadley reported that the group would be starting monitoring shortly.

e) Public Footpaths

There were no matters to report.

f) Churchyard

(a) Rewilding Project

Details of the proposed rewilding project had been circulated to Members for information. Cllr Blanchard advised that a meeting of the Parochial Church Council was being held on 18th July to discuss the project in more detail as there were some concerns with the current proposal.

It was AGREED that until that meeting had taken place and agreement of the PCC had been reached the project could not move forward.

The Project Leader would be asked to come back to the Parish Council once the views of the PCC were known.

g) Village Hall

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from a resident regarding the Village Hall and an article in Unity. Copies had been circulated to Members for information.

While it was noted that there were some valid points raised in the correspondence, Members agreed that if residents wished a response they should direct concerns direct to the Parish Council, rather than relying on a response to an item in Unity.

The Chair advised that a meeting had been arranged with Officers at Newark & Sherwood District Council to discuss the Section 106 funds. An updated from the Working Group would be requested for the September meeting.

h) Sports Club

There were no matters to report.

i) Library Support Group

A book reading challenge was being arranged for children during the school holidays.

j) War Memorial

(a) **To review quotations**

Cllr Smith advised that an alternative quotation was still awaited. In the meantime, the Clerk would follow up the location with Via.

The Chair advised that it may be necessary to call an additional meeting during the recess if the project was going to be complete for Remembrance Sunday.

k) Any Other Reports

There were none.

The Chair thanked Members for their reports.

23/044

Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) To note details of the 2023 Annual General Meeting and the appointment of a voting delegate

Members received and noted the details of the 2023 Annual General Meeting which would be held on 11th September 2023. No voting delegates were appointed.

(b) To receive details of the national plans for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day

Members received and noted details released to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D-Day on 6th June 2024. It was noted that there would be a national beacon lighting event. The Clerk to raise with the group that had been involved in the Platinum Jubilee and Coronation Events.

23/045

Correspondence

Cllr Moody advised that National Highways were looking for land to plant 3 million trees. The email would be forwarded to the Clerk and Cllr Smith for information.

23/046

To receive items for notification

It was reported that the litter bin at the school was in need of repair as it was on the ground. The Clerk to report to the District Council.

The Clerk was asked to follow up with the Management Committee of Strawberry Fields on the position of the bins that had been offered by the Parish Council.

Cllr Blanchard asked for a further 50 lamp post poppies. The Clerk confirmed they were £5 each. Councillor Hadley proposed these be purchased, seconded by Councillor Marshall and unanimously AGREED.

Close: There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 12th September 2023 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Community Centre.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROVED.