

SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Sutton-on-Trent Sports Club on Wednesday, 13th September 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 S Sloan
Councillor K Walker

In Attendance 23 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the process for asking questions.

23/047 Apologies for Absence

Received and accepted from Councillors Marshall, Smith District Councillor Michael and County Councillor Loughton

23/048 To receive and note any declarations of interest

There were none.

23/049 Public 10 Minute Forum

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.33pm to allow for the public session.

A resident referred to funding that Nottinghamshire County Council received from Persimmon towards an upgrade to FP5. The resident understood that the County Council had been out to site but no work had been undertaken. The Clerk was asked to seek clarification from the Rights of Way team on the present situation and the position with the funding.

An offer of a commemorative bench was made, to replace the one outside of the primary school. This would be in memory of Mr & Mrs Ward. The school had already been approached and were supportive of the proposal. It was AGREED that the offer be accepted and that the Clerk liaise with the school on contact details and to move the project forward.

The Chair thanked residents for their input and reconvened the meeting at 7.40pm.

23/050 To receive and approve the Minutes from the meeting held on 13th June 2023

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th July 2023 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23/051 District Councillor Report

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

23/052 County Councillor Report

No report was presented as Cllr Loughton had given his apologies.

23/054 Planning

(a) Applications

23/01414/OUT – Land at The Meerings, Sutton-on-Trent - Outline Application for a residential development of up to two dwellings all matters reserved except access

The Chair suspended Standing Orders at 7.42pm to allow residents present for this particular item to speak.

Concern was expressed regarding factual inaccuracies within the application, including an area of land that belonged to an adjacent property being shown on the plan. Residents were also concerned about the impact the development would have on their privacy and security. Additionally, The Meerings was a narrow road and there was a concern about access, especially for Emergency Vehicles.

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

After consideration it was unanimously AGREED that objection be raised to the application on the grounds that it was an overdevelopment of the site that would impact on the privacy and security of adjacent properties. Members noted the objections raised by residents and supported their concerns, particularly around highways. It was also noted that there were a number of inaccuracies in the application, which included land not owned by the applicant where no notices had been served.

23/01372/CPRIOR – Hutchinson Engineering Services, Ingram Lane, Sutton-on-Trent - Application to determine if prior approval required for proposed Installation of solar panels to roof as Schedule 2, Part 14, Class J.

Members supported this application without comment.

For Noting: Pre-Planning Consultation - J S Dakin, Ossington Lane, Sutton-on-Trent – Proposed Communications Installation for Cellnex NGR: E: 478713, N: 365841

Members received and noted the information without comment. A planning application should be submitted for consideration, which the Parish Council will be consulted on.

Decision Notice

Members received and noted the decision notices for the following applications:

23/00789/FUL – Land off Old Great North Road, Sutton-on-Trent - Erection of 1 No. five bedroom house with a detached garage and associated parking including tree and hedgerow removal – REFUSED

23/00809/OUTM – Land off Carlton Lane, Sutton-on-Trent - Construction of up to 21 No. Eco entry-level affordable dwellings (re-submission of 21/02565/OUTM) – REFUSED

23/00996/HOUSE – Tamworth House, Palmer Road, Sutton-on-Trent – Single storey rear extension – REFUSED

23/01087/HOUSE – 20 Hemplands Lane, Sutton-on-Trent - Demolition of existing conservatory, garage and porch. Construction of extensions and proposed detached garage – REFUSED

23/00856/HOUSE – Rowan Cottage, 7-9 High Street, Sutton-on-Trent - Two storey front extension, entrance porch and detached garage/garden store – GRANTED

Tree Works

Members noted the following tree works:

23/01010/TWCA - The Limes, 29 Great North Road, Sutton-on-Trent - T1 Ash, T2 Lime, T3 Sycamore crown lift to a max of 5.2m Sycamore T3 reduce back from adjoining garage to give 2m-3m clearance – NO OBJECTION

23/01145/TWCA – Willow House, 1 The Cuckstools, Sutton-on-Trent - Tree 1 (Prunus Cerasifera) - Fell Tree 2 (Prunus Avium) - Crown lift to 2m from ground level and reduce by 1m to provide sufficient clearance to property and highway – NO OBJECTION

23/01171/TWCA – Millstone Cottage, Old England Gardens, Sutton-on-Trent - T1 Dead tree - remove T2-T3 Birch - 20% crown thin and targeted pruning of dead and crossing branches T4 dead tree – remove – NO OBJECTION

23/01232/TWCA – 14 Main Street, Sutton-on-Trent - Pollard 1 No. Willow tree to 3m end height – NO OBJECTION

23/01359/TWCA – Grangefield, Main Street, Sutton-on-Trent - Remove and replace one Yew and one Ash. Tree to be replaced within 6 months of tree removal, maintained for next 5 years replacing if the tree dies, species to be Field Maple, Beech, Scots Pine, Oak, Yew, Lime, Western/Eastern Hemlock or similar

23/041

Financials

a) To record receipts:

- Nottinghamshire County Council - £400

On behalf of the Falls Group, Councillor Blanchard extended their thanks to County Councillor Laughton and the Parish Council for their financial support.

b) To approve invoices for payment:

The following invoices were approved for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – July 2023 - £284.25
- HMRC PAYE - July 2023 - £71.20
- Freddie Allen Gardens & Landscapes - £1,326
- Sage Accounts - £9.60
- Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – Lamp Post Poppies - £250
- Trent Valley IDB – Drainage Rates - £20.51
- A J Products – New Bin - £102
- Freddie Allen Gardens & Landscapes - £1,326
- Village Fund – Agreed Donation - £1,000
- Falls Group – Tfr of County Cllr Grant - £400
- Sage Accounts - £9.60
- Sutton-on-Trent Methodist – Room Hire Apr to July 2023 - £72
- Clerk's Wages – August 2023 - £284.25
- HMRC PAYE – August 2023 - £71
- Freddie Allen Gardens & Landscapes - £1,326

c) Financial Report as at 31st August 2023

Members received and noted the Council's financial position as at 31st August with a balance of £ 72729.16 in the current account and £102,903.42 in the deposit account.

c) To consider renewal of the Parish Council's insurance for the year 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council were coming out of a 3 year tie in deal with Gallagher. BHIB had been approached to provide an alternative quotation which was cheaper and offered the same coverage. BHIB specialised in Parish Council insurance.

As the quotations were not immediately to hand, the Clerk would circulate these to Members outside of the meeting. A 3 year tie in was available.

23/042

Parish Council Matters

To receive an update on the position with the double yellow lining at Strawberry Fields

The Chair advised that the Parish Council's views had been sought by Via on an initial

proposal for double yellow lining at Strawberry Fields. After consideration, Members had suggested that these should be extended to the north of Hemplands Lane and to the junction with Great North Road. This had been communicated to Via who had advised that the proposals would now be prepared to come out for consultation.

To note changes being implemented by the Parish Council's website provider and the introduction of charges

The Clerk advised that Hugo Fox, who provided the platform and hosted the Parish Council's website were now introducing a fee structure, moving away from a free package.

After discussion, it was AGREED that the Bronze Package, at a cost of £9.99 plus VAT per month be accepted.

The Clerk would investigate the additional benefits of moving to the Silver Package and report back to Members.

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

An action plan was required to outline a way forward for the Sternthorpe Close playing field and play area.

The Clerk advised that the new bin for the Strawberry Fields development had been received. The Management Company were aware and would be arranging for it to be installed. Once complete it would be added to the District Council's collection round, with liability for the cost of emptying falling to the Parish Council.

The Chair asked the Clerk to undertake research on the number of litter/dog bins in the village with a view to bringing a report back to the October meeting on the cost of replacing these with larger capacity bins.

b) Cemetery

To consider the purchase of Cemetery software

Approval was given for the Clerk to research Cemetery software to future proof the Council's Cemetery records. A report would be brought back to a future meeting.

c) Highways

The Clerk advised that Cllr Smith had provided Via with a timeline of the flooding issues at the junction of Grassthorpe Road and Crow Park Avenue to Cllr Laughton.

The Clerk was asked to follow this up with Via's drainage team to establish what work was planned to alleviate the problem which it was understood was due to tree roots impacting the drainage system.

d) Community Speed Watch

Cllr Hadley advised that the scheme was operating regularly but would benefit from more members. The Clerk to put a post on Facebook asking for volunteers to come forward.

e) Public Footpaths

Matters relating to FP5 had been considered during the Public Forum.

Cllr Moody advised that there was a problem with the bridge on FP8 as you go up towards the flood bank, with the wooden foot slat being broken. The Clerk to report to the Rights of Way team.

f) Churchyard

(a) **Rewilding Project**

The Clerk reminded Members that this had been before Council for consideration at the July meeting, but discussion was suspended until the project had been considered by the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

The PCC had confirmed to the Parish Council they were supportive of the project with a couple of amendments to the original proposals. These were:

1. No fruit trees were to be planted, and the PCC had agreed to more open structure bushes that would attract wildlife.
2. The proposed wild flower meadow will be shorter by 3-4metres so that it starts further back from the Lych Gate entrance.

Further, it was the PCC's understanding that the water feature area was to be shallow such as gravel trays and puddles with stones. They would wish to ensure this remained the case and did not consent to anything deeper.

After discussion, Members noted that the decision to enable the project to proceed was the responsibility of the PCC. As they had given their approval, provided there was no additional financial impact on the Parish Council, the project was supported by the majority of Members.

g) Village Hall

The Chair referred to discussions held with Section 106 officers at Newark & Sherwood District Council around the funding available for the village hall development on the Strawberry Fields site. It had been confirmed that the decision notice for planning application 22/00447/S73M had been approved on 12th July 2023, which meant that the legal transfer of the land could now proceed. A copy of the decision notice, together with the Planning Officer's report would be circulated to Members for information.

A number of questions had been asked around the use of the £239,620 funds available towards the cost of building a village hall. Members noted that the estimated cost currently stood at £639,689 for a full build to completion.

A response was awaited which would be brought to the attention of Members once received.

h) Sports Club

There were no matters to report.

i) Library Support Group

There were no matters to report.

j) War Memorial

A full report would be brought to the October meeting of the Parish Council.

k) Any Other Reports

There were none.

The Chair thanked Members for their reports.

23/044

Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) To note a consultation on Local Plans and consider whether to respond

It was agreed that no response be made to this consultation.

23/045

Correspondence

The only correspondence received related to the application at The Meerings which had been considered earlier on the agenda.

23/046

To receive items for notification

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

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 10th October 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.