



**MINUTES OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 6.30PM AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs J Jones (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs S Gerrard  
Councillor Mr A Higgs  
Councillor Major K McRae  
Councillor Mrs M Wilson-Knight

Councillor Mrs E Jones  
Councillor Mr N Matlock  
Councillor Mrs M Matlock  
Councillor A P Booth  
Councillor Mr T Cox

**NOT PRESENT**

Councillor Mr J Walker (Apologies received)  
Councillor Mr R Butler (Apologies received)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr Rupert Matthews – Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire  
Edward Argar MP  
Borough Councillor Mr G Lawrence  
One member of the public  
Mrs R Richardson - Clerk  
Mrs J Lovatt – Deputy Clerk

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**318/23-24**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BY COUNCIL**

**RESOLVED** to accept and approve apologies from Councillors J Walker and R Butler. Apologies received from County Councillor Mr R Shepherd

**319/23-24**

**RUPERT MATTHEWS, POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE**

Mr Matthews introduced himself, and explained to Council what his role and responsibilities are. A discussion took place regarding how funding is allocated to certain projects.

**320/23-24**

**TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

None

### 321/23-24

#### CLERK'S REPORT

Email from the Elections and Land Charges Manager, which I have emailed to members about Parish Council vacancies. It reads as follows: - "For those Parish Councils who have **more than 1 vacancy remaining**, Charnwood Borough Council will direct that an election will be held on a date that they see fit. This means that we will publish a Notice of Election and require potential candidates to submit a valid nomination paper in order to stand for election. If there are more valid nomination papers submitted than there are vacancies, then an election will be held. If we receive an insufficient number of valid nominations during this time, then anybody who has submitted a valid nomination will be elected uncontested and the Parish Council should fill any remaining vacancies through the co-option process."

### 322/23-24

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident came to address his concerns regarding planning applications P/23/1481/2 and P/23/1487/2 - The Bull Park, Little Church Lane, Sileby, Leics, LE12 7NE

### 323/23-24

#### TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18 JANUARY 2024

**RESOLVED** To accept as a true record and these were duly signed

### 324/23-24

#### TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS IF IN ATTENDANCE

In the absence of County Councillor Mr R Shepherd, the Deputy Clerk read his report as follows:

"I should like to thank all at the Parish Council for the card expressing good wishes which I have received. It is very kind and I appreciate your concern.

#### **Matters of particular interest to Sileby:**

I should like to draw attention to the information in the email below which I circulated on 26<sup>th</sup> January and am including here for ease of reference. I have been in touch with Cllr. Lawrence about the matter and have therefore copied in Cllr. Lawrence.

Also, relevant I think is the email I sent to Jamie Needham on 18<sup>th</sup> January about the meeting to be convened to consider flooding in the Sileby/Syston area. I am awaiting a reply from Jamie and I appreciate how much pressure of work he and his colleagues are under dealing with the aftermath of recent flooding events. I will forward my email to Jamie separately for ease of reference.

#### **Matters of general interest:**

**The** Agenda for the Council's Cabinet Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February has been published today on the Council's website. Item 4 on the agenda is the Council's Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/2025 – 2027/28. The item includes a proposed Council Tax increase of three per

cent for core services and a two per cent increase in the adult social care precept. Following discussion at the Cabinet Meeting the proposals will be considered at a County Council Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

#### **Parish Councillors' enquiries:**

Please let me know in due course of any matters which the Parish Council would like me to follow up or about which more information is needed.

#### **Email from Damien Buckley:**

Dear Member,

Following the impact of Storm Henk, county and district councils have been working with Government leads to clarify a number of issues relating to the national flooding funding, and collaborating to put the best system in place locally.

From today (Friday), householders and businesses are encouraged to apply for the first element of this funding which is being managed by district councils.

Leicester City Council is also contacting eligible residents and businesses to encourage them to apply for funding.

The financial support includes:

- **A £500 grant for households** - where the living accommodation has been flooded or the home has been left uninhabitable, such as when utilities have been cut off
- **Eligible households may also qualify for the Council Tax Discount scheme** - entitling them to a 100 per cent discount for a minimum of three months

For affected businesses, the following schemes, which have stricter criteria, are available:

- **Business Rates Relief Scheme** -100 per cent relief on business rates for a minimum of three months. To qualify, flood water must have entered the property, or the flooding seriously impacted upon the business's ability to trade from the property during Storm Henk
- **Business Recovery Grant** - A grant payment of £2,500 for those severely affected by Storm Henk, with criteria closely aligned with the Business Rate Relief Scheme

Leicestershire County Council will also be coordinating a property flood grant – where eligible flood-hit property owners can apply for up to £5,000 to help make their homes and businesses more resilient to future flooding – and more details will be available soon.

Councils are contacting eligible people directly and increasing awareness through broader activity including media relations and social media posts.

Application forms, eligibility criteria and extra information can be found on district council websites. Anyone unable to complete the form online is advised to call their district council

directly. Information is also available on our website: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/flood-funding> “

Borough Councillor G Lawrence gave his report:

### **Flood Risk and Support**

According to LLR Resilience Officers, the upcoming ‘community meeting’ involving LCC, EA, CBC, etc. is being scheduled in March, possibly the 14th TBC. We see this as a vital opportunity for the PC and other elected representatives to have their say on the impact of recent flooding and press for action on the improvement & maintenance of the brook channel.

At the PC’s recent Community Response Plan, Geoff asked the outgoing and incoming LLR Resilience Partnership officers to lobby the EA to create a separate flood alert/warning option for Sileby Brook only, so it is clear to residents that they are signing up for the correct alerts/warnings before the EA de-commission the warning siren.

CBC has asked Serco to carry out further special bulky waste collections for flood-damaged household goods – these will be on Sat 3rd Feb and Mon 5th Feb.

On behalf of residents of Avenue Rd & Kendal Rd concerned about lack of functioning balancing pond at the lowest point of Cemetery Road development site; Geoff had referred builders Elemento to Planning Enforcement at CBC. Planning Enforcement Officer is on the case and has asked the developer CC Town Planning and their builders Elemento to reinstate the balancing pond within a few weeks, and not to wait until their scheduled restart of house-building in the spring.

Since the NHS Mental Health Charnwood Neighbourhood Lead has been convening the quarterly community networking meetings, she has been working with Loughborough Wellbeing Centre to develop a mental health & wellbeing offer in Sileby. This new project is going to run from Sileby Methodist Centre fortnightly on Thursdays 1 – 3pm starting from 15th February: it will be a drop in for people struggling with their mental health and/or socially isolated and lonely. People will be able to take part in different activities, socialise with other people & there will also be other services available to signpost / refer individuals to for further support.

There will be a launch event on the Thurs 8th February at 1pm at the Methodist Church to which parish councillors would undoubtedly be very welcome.

Councillor Higgs referred to the balancing pond issue affecting residents on Avenue Road and Kendal Road. He felt that the Planning Enforcement Officer should ensure that this work be carried out immediately, and to set a firm deadline.

**325/23-24**

**TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED OR REPORTS RECEIVED – FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

None

### 326/23-24

#### TO CONSIDER AND AGREE COMMENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS: -

(a) P/23/1481/2 Proposed conversion of existing barns to 3no. dwellings with associated amenity space, car parking and refuse storage facilities The Bull Park, Little Church Lane, Sileby, Leics, LE12 7NE

**RESOLVED** To respond to both applications as one.

(b) P/23/1487/2 Proposed conversion of existing barns to 3no. dwellings with associated amenity space, car parking and refuse storage facilities (Listed Building Consent) -The Bull Park, Little Church Lane, Sileby, Leics, LE12 7NE

**RESOLVED** To respond to both applications as one.

**RESOLVED** – The Parish Council object to this development at this time because of the following:

- The red line drawn around the development includes land that is not in the developer's ownership, and has not had permission to drive over this land. Until / if this is resolved, the parking for the stable conversion will not be able to have parking as indicated on the proposed plans, they will have no vehicle access to this.
- There is also concern about where the amenity space and refuse storage facilities are sited, again without impacting on land that is not in the ownership of the developer.

### 327/23-24

#### TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE PROJECT PARK! WORKING PARTY

All updates discussed on minute no. 328/23-24, 329/23-24 & 330-23/24.

### 328/23-24

#### TO DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR APPOINTING AN ARCHITECT FOR THE SPORTS PAVILION PROJECT

It was felt that it would be beneficial to appoint an architect that could oversee the project, as the original architect has now retired.

**RESOLVED** Clerk to contact local architects and report back to Council.

### 329/23-24

#### TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE MEMORIAL PARK WORKING PARTY AND APPROVE A LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT TO CARRY OUT THE PARK ENTRANCE PLANTING AND TO CONSIDER WHO SHOULD CARRY OUT THE MAINTENANCE FOR 12 MONTHS

Councillor J Jones informed members that the Working Party had discussed four quotes which had been received for this work and a quote to carry out the maintenance, and it was **RESOLVED** to appoint Ground Control to carry out the planting at a cost of £17,332.15 and the maintenance for 12 months in the sum of £8,262.03.

### 330/23-24

#### "AWARDS FOR ALL GRANT" – TO ALSO CONSIDER APPLYING FOR BINS AND BENCHES AS PART OF THE GRANT APPLIED FOR TO HAVE A TEEN SHELTER IN THE MEMORIAL PARK

Councillor Higgs had printed off several options for bins and benches in the Memorial Park.

**RESOLVED** To apply for funding for Phoenix Benches and Broxap Litter Bins.

**331/23-24**

**TO REVIEW THE COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN**

After the “Table Exercise” which took place on 23 January, Councillor J Jones amended the Community Response Plan which was then forward to councillors for their comments. Members were in agreement with the amendments made and so it was **RESOLVED** to accept this revised version; the Clerk will amend accordingly.

**332/23-24**

**TO APPROVE REVIEWING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**RESOLVED** Councillor E Jones informed members that the Sileby Neighbourhood Plan will be out of date in December 2024. She said that with regard to Limits to Development, a red line would have to be drawn around all new estates, but there no need to change any policies. **RESOLVED** to approve reviewing the Neighbourhood Plan

**333/23-24**

**NEW PARLIAMENTARY BOUNDARY COMMISSION AREA FOR SILEBY MP.**

**RESOLVED** Clerk to write to the Boundary Commission addressing the dissatisfaction from members that Sileby has been split into two parliamentary areas. Councillor Wilson-Knight to draft the letter and send to the Clerk.

**334/23-24**

**TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE ANNUAL PLAY INSPECTION REPORT**

**RESOLVED** to note that there are no real concerns and repairs to the skatepark will be carried out.

**335/23-24**

**TO APPROVE LRALC PROVIDING THE INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE FOR 2023-24 FINANCIAL YEAR, AT A COST OF £450.00.**

**RESOLVED** To approve this cost

**336/23-24**

**TO APPROVE PLANTING COPPER BEECH HEDGING AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CEMETERY**

**RESOLVED** to approve planting copper beech hedging at the entrance to the cemetery.

**337/23-24**

**TO APPROVE SILEBY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB HOLDING A SPORTS CAMP THIS YEAR AND TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING THIS EVENT**

**RESOLVED** to approve this request and to also support this event

**338/23-24**

**TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER PRICE QUOTATIONS TO CROWN LIFT TO 6.0M THE 9 LIME TREES ON MARTINS WALK**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Middleton’s Tree Care at a cost of £550.00

339/23-24

TO APPROVE A DAY AND TIME FOR A CHRISTMAS WORKING PARTY

RESOLVED To take place on Thursday, 15 February at 6.00 pm in the Wesleyan Room

340/23-24

CONTENT FOR NEWS ARTICLE

Project Park! update (Councillor A Higgs)

341/23-24

FUTURE PLANNING

Review of the Refurbishment Project for the Garden of Remembrance (Councillor J Jones)

Meeting closed at 8.02 pm

Chairman’s Signature: ..... Date: .....