



**MINUTES OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY, 15 AUGUST 2024 AT 6.30PM AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs J Jones (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs E Jones  
Councillor Mr A Higgs  
Councillor Major K McRae

Councillor Mr R Butler  
Councillor Mr A Booth  
Councillor Mrs M Matlock  
Councillor Mr N Matlock

**NOT PRESENT**

Councillor Mrs M Wilson-Knight (Apologies received)  
Councillor Mr J Walker (Apologies received)  
Councillor Mrs S Gerrard (Apologies received)  
Councillor Mr T Cox

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Borough Councillor Mr G Lawrence (up to Min No 132/24)  
Mrs R Richardson - Clerk  
Mrs J Lovatt – Deputy Clerk

**116/24**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BY COUNCIL**

**RESOLVED** to accept and approve apologies from Councillors M Wilson-Knight, S Gerrard and J Walker. Apologies received from County Councillor R Shepherd.

**117/24**

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

Councillor A Higgs Minute No 122/24(b)

**118/24**

**CLERK'S REPORT**

This application is for **information only** (not a formal consultation) as this application type is CL (Proposed) **P/24/1344/2** Conversion of garage into Hairdressing & Treatment Studio with changes to fenestration (Lawful Development Certificate for Proposed Development). 15 Jenham Drive, Sileby, LE12 7DP

Email from a resident: - Re the traffic on Seagrave Road drivers seem to think that the speed limit is 50 mph. Why hasn't something been done to address this. Other roads have speed warning signs and speed cameras.

Response from the Car Parks and Civil Parking Enforcement Manager at Charnwood Borough Council in response to our request for short stay spaces to be made available on the King Street Car Park.

“Charnwood Borough Council considered a request for short stay parking spaces in Sileby car park before the Covid pandemic. However, for obvious reasons, the pandemic has meant a change in the Council’s priorities and budgets. There has also been a change in the way customers use the car parks. Shopping (on-line) and work (from home) habits have changed, and this is reflected in parking practices.

Charnwood Borough Council can re-look at the proposals for some short stay parking spaces at the Sileby car park should the Parish have evidence that there is still a requirement, and it will benefit all customers. i.e. shoppers and businesses, residents, commuters, workers etc. It should be noted that the Borough Council is operating car parks on a limited budget. There is no income or financial support from car parks in the villages. Income from car parks in Loughborough, which supports the overall parking operation, has reduced since the pandemic. At the same time, operational costs are significant, and supplier costs have increased greatly in recent years with inflation.

There will be a cost to implementing any proposed changes to the car park which will need to be considered in the operational budget. Costs include signage, possible line marking and costs for amending the legal order.

Currently, there is no staffing resource allocated specifically to rural car parks, but we do carry out ad hoc patrols. Enforcement of any short stay bays would be on an ad hoc basis only. Therefore, adherence to a short stay bay would rely on the signage on site and only occasional patrols by Charnwood’s Street Wardens.”

Update from Councillor M Wilson-Knight on the 4 fallen trees along the towpath between Cossington Lock and Sileby Lock; the Canal & River Trust have confirmed they will be moved in 5 days.

## **119/24**

### **POLICE MATTERS - INCLUDING CRIME FIGURES AND REPORT FROM POLICE, IF IN ATTENDANCE**

No police present and no report received.

An email has been received outlining some changes to 59 Beat as from September

- PC Bhati will be leaving beat 59 to move to the pro-active team on 6 September.
- PCSO Shepherd will be leaving to join as a PC on 15 September
- PC Heath will be joining the team in the next few weeks.

**120/24**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None present.

**121/24**

**TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 AUGUST**

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

**122/24**

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) To note the Income

**RESOLVED TO NOTE THE** Income in the sum of £12,858.88.

(b) To approve the Expenditure

**RESOLVED** to approve the Expenditure in the sum of £33,507.28.

(c) To receive and note the Bank Reconciliation up to end June 2024

**RESOLVED** to note this.

**123/24**

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

In his absence, County Councillor R Shepherd's report was read, as follows: -

"I am in touch with the Borough Ward Councillors about matters of common interest concerning Sileby. Yesterday I discussed with Borough Councillor (BC) Lawrence a press release from the Environment Agency (EA) which I saw published on the Borough Council website. The press release concerns the launch of a Flood Warning Service in Charnwood, which was scheduled to go live yesterday, 14 August. The Service covers, among other areas, 154 properties in Sileby affected by the Sileby Brook. The press release says the EA will be writing to all residents and businesses within the new Flood Warning areas to let them know about the Service and how to register. There are more details in the press release, and I understand that BC Lawrence may be referring to it in his Report.

I have no other matters of concern to Sileby in particular to report at the moment. Please let me know of any issues which the Parish Council would like me to follow up or about which more information is needed." Councillor A Higgs asked if the Clerk could see if there is an update on the funding for bus services that was made available last year.

Borough Councillor G Lawrence gave his report as follows: -

Horse Fair 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> August.

This event is due to take place off the A6 Granite Way roundabout at Mountsorrel between Thursday 15 August and Sunday 18 August.

- It is a private event and on private land.
- Agencies including the police, local councils and others have advised the event organisers of the measures they need to take to manage the event, including the removal of waste.
- Agencies will remain engaged with organisers during the event and police will have an extra presence in the area.

Environment Agency re-launches Flood Warning Service in Charnwood area  
The new flood alert/warning category for 'Sileby Brook at Sileby' is now available for residents to register to and is linked to the new river gauge recently installed at Dudley Bridge. There is also one called: 'River Soar at Sileby' that covers the risk of flooding at Herrick Close & Barrow Rd and Preston Close & Cossington Road.

75% of brook channel in the built-up area was strimmed by the EA in early-August.  
Many thanks go to our volunteer flood warden for following up with a litter-pick!

Enforcement of the proper operation of SUDS ponds constructed on new housing estates  
In his email to SPC this week, the Head of Planning has outlined that it would be 'a matter for the Leicestershire Lead Flood Authority [LCC], developer/management company and potentially also the water authority' to investigate any evidence that SUDS ponds are not functioning as designed.

We therefore recommend that parish & borough councillors work together to identify the SUDS ponds and arrange for them to be monitored and photographed during and after heavy rainfall events.

#### **124 /24**

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

Councillor J Jones reported that she had just had a meeting with Councillors E Jones and R Butler to discuss forming a Community Flood Plan.

Councillor A Higgs had met with residents who are interested in forming a committee for the Community Garden. At that meeting they speculated how much land will be allotted; they would like picket fencing around the area and compost facilities need to be considered. The community group are forming their own Community Garden Committee. A meeting has been arranged at the park on Friday, 16 August. Councillor Higgs will report back to members at the next council meeting.

#### **125 /24**

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

(a) **P/24/1073/2** Change of use to residential land and erection of timber fence - 6 Newbold Close, Sileby, LE12 7PB.

**RESOLVED** No objection.

(b) **P/24/1249/2** Retention of pitch side shelter, and installation of storage container (Resubmission of Planning Application ref: P/24/0335/2) Community Sports and Social Club House, 3 Southfield Avenue, Sileby, LE12 7WL

**RESOLVED** No objection.

(c) **P/24/1332/2** Deed of variation to vary open space terms under Schedule 4 of S106 planning obligation relating to permission reference P/17/1578/2 Peashill Farm, Ratcliffe Road, Sileby, LE12 7QB.

**RESOLVED** No objection.

**125 /24**

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

This will be discussed in the closed session later in the meeting.

**126 /24**

**TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER PRICE QUOTATIONS TO CUT BACK THE CONIFER TREES IN THE CEMETERY**

**RESOLVED** To accept the quotation from Seagrave Tree Services.

**127 /24**

**SECURITY OF THE MEMORIAL PARK**

Councillor A Booth had asked Stowfledge for the cost of a steel planter to be sited at the end of the car park at the Memorial Park. Councillor A Higgs said that there was already a boulder in place.

**RESOLVED** To put the steel planter information on file, for possible use at a later date.

**128 /24**

**ZOOM ROOMS IN THE VILLAGE**

Councillor A Booth asked members to consider facilitating Zoom Rooms for people that work from home that would like another space to work. Councillor J Jones had previously said that this option could be considered when the Community Centre is due to be updated, and possibly an alternative layout of rooms. Councillor Booth said that we could use the under-utilised rooms that we currently have, and the Deputy Clerk explained that Peter Pan Playgroup use the Main Hall and Primary Room during term-time, so these rooms would be unavailable and the Wesleyan Room is a meeting room, and would not be suitable for a Zoom Room due to the close proximity of the playgroup and children playing next door. The Sports Pavilion is also booked out every day of the week. Councillor Booth suggested that we look at alternative venues if we cannot provide the facility within any of the premises we own. Councillor J Jones suggested that more information will need to be provided, before this option is considered, for example – is there a need for it and suitable venues, costs and who would run it? Councillor A Higgs suggested that an article could be put on the quarterly newsletter that goes out with Soar Valley Life and the Parish Council website.

**RESOLVED** Councillor Booth to carry out research on this project, and the Clerk to request legal advice on whether Sileby Parish Council has the legal power to fund it.

**129 /24**

**TO CONSIDER OPTIONS RE NUMBERING OF THE TREES IN THE MEMORIAL PARK**

**RESOLVED** To request a map of the Memorial Park from Red Kite and to purchase numbered tags for the trees.

**130 /24**

**TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM AN ALLOTMENT HOLDER TO BUILD A GREENHOUSE MEASURING 8'X10' TO REPLACE AN EXISTING 7'X10' POLYTUNNEL ON HIS ALLOTMENT**

**RESOLVED** Not to permit this request.

131/24

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER APPLYING FOR A SHARE OF THE £400K COMMISSIONER'S SAFETY FUND, INDIVIDUAL GRANTS OF £10,000. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST LINK TO THE COMMISSIONER'S CURRENT POLICE AND CRIME PLAN AND SUPPORT HIS WORK TO PREVENT CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB) AND HELP BOOST SAFETY (APPENDIX I)

RESOLVED To publicise this grant on the website.

132 /24

CONTENT FOR PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ARTICLE

King Street Car Park

133/24

TO REVIEW ACTION STATUS REPORT

This was reviewed and updated accordingly.

134 /24

FUTURE PLANNING

None

Proposed for closed session in accordance with the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960 s.1(2) and the local government act 1972 s100 (2) the following agenda item is likely to be considered with members of the public and press excluded from the meeting for the reason that the matter is commercially sensitive.

135 /24

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER TENDERS FOR THE TWO NEW PLAY AREAS ON THE MEMORIAL PARK (PROJECT PARK!) WHICH COMPRISES SITE CLEARANCE, SUPPLY AND BUILD OF TARMAC AND RESIN PATHS WITH BLOCK/STEEL EDGE FEATURES; RUBBER PLAY SURFACING; PLAY EQUIPMENT; STEEL FENCING' SITE FURNITURE; GATEWAY FEATURES; RAISED PLATERS; SOLAR LIGHTING; TREE, SHRUB AND HERBACEOUS PLANTING; WILDFLOWER MEADOW AND BULB PLANTING.

RESOLVED To accept the recommendation of the Project Park Working Group, and to accept the tender from MAC Construction Limited.

Meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Chairman's Signature: ..... Date: .....