



**MINUTES OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 6.30PM AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs J Jones (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs S Gerrard
Councillor Mr A Higgs
Councillor Mr A Booth

Councillor Mr R Butler
Councillor Mrs M Wilson-Knight
Councillor Mrs M Matlock
Councillor Mr N Matlock

NOT PRESENT

Councillor Major K McRae (Apologies received)
Councillor Mrs E Jones (Apologies received)
Councillor Mr J Walker (Apologies received)
Councillor Mr T Cox

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs R Richardson - Clerk
Mrs J Lovatt – Deputy Clerk

155/24

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BY COUNCIL

RESOLVED to accept and approve apologies from Councillors K McRae, J Walker and E Jones. Apologies received from County Councillor R Shepherd, and Borough Councillors G Lawrence and N Bottomley.

156/24

TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Councillor A Higgs Min No 161/24 (b) and (c)

157/24

CLERK'S REPORT

Confirmation has been received from The FA and Howdens that they are content to provide a 6-month extension to the Howdens Award. This means that the kitchen will need to be installed by the end of March 2025.

158/24

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

No police present and no report received.

159/24

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None present.

160/24

TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER

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

161/24

FINANCIAL MATTERS: -

(a) To note the Income

RESOLVED to note the Income in the sum of £22,297.53.

(b) To approve the Expenditure

RESOLVED to approve the Expenditure in the sum of £37,170.07.

(c) To receive and consider price quotations for the installation and dismantling of the Christmas Lights

RESOLVED To appoint Morton Electrical at a cost of £10,400.

162/24

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS IF IN ATTENDANCE

The Clerk read County Councillor R Shepherd's report: -

"I should like to draw attention to the document headed "Passenger Transport Network Review Briefing" which I forwarded earlier today. This provides an update on the County Council's work concerning bus services.

I am in touch with Borough Councillor Bottomley about local issues with which she is dealing.

I have just heard from the Flood Risk Manager at the County Council that an enquiry concerning balancing ponds made by Councillor McCrae, which I forwarded to the County Council in its role as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), is being investigated by one of her colleagues. I am awaiting an update from the colleague concerned, which I understand will come as soon as possible.

Other than that, I have nothing concerning Sibley in particular to report at the moment. 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".

In the absence of the Borough Councillors the Deputy Clerk read their report: -

1. **Peashill Farm walkway to Ratcliffe Road** - Following reports that motorbikes and cars have used the walkway as a short-cut from Ratcliffe Gardens estate to Ratcliffe Rd, and our

referral to Planning Enforcement, Davidsons decided to seek clearance to vary the details of the original plan for the installation of bollards & removable barriers at the bottom end of the walkway. Pending the outcome of that process, Planning Enforcement requested that Davidsons put in place temporary barriers to prevent use by motor vehicles within 2 weeks. Geoff requested the site manager to expedite this on 10/09/24, and again on 13/09/24.

2. **Ratcliffe Road Closure** - After Ratcliffe Road was closed for emergency repairs by Severn Trent, the signage was left up for four days after works were completed. Naomi contacted STW and Highways at LCC to see who was responsible for the signage and why it was not removed promptly. Highways have confirmed that a TM company would have been responsible for the signage on behalf of STW. Naomi has contacted STW to highlight the impact of the delay in removing signage. She has also requested they look at other TM options, such as traffic lights rather than closing the entire road. Naomi is awaiting a reply from STW.
3. **Coats for All event** - Our next Coats for All event has been booked Saturday 16th November. Naomi is confirming donation points and will create the graphics/posters as soon as they are confirmed. If anyone would like to get involved, or people contact about the event, please signpost them to: cllr.naomi.bottomley@charnwood.gov.uk or 07846901387.

Councillor A Higgs raised an issue with the open spaces that had been part of Charnwood Borough Council's trial of 'less mowing' to help increase biodiversity. This scheme is to attract more wildlife, such as bees and butterflies and other invertebrates, which in turn attracts birds and mammals to the areas. The areas concerned were Collingwood Drive and Greedon Rise – these areas have now been cut, but will the grass be removed from site to allow the wildlife to thrive? Clerk to forward the query to Borough Councillors for them to investigate and report back.

163/24

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

Councillor R Butler had attended a Flood Warning training session at County Hall.

Councillor Butler had carried out a site visit at the drainage ditch adjacent to the allotments on Cemetery Road. He reported that the ditch had been cleared by Charnwood Borough Council's contractors, but there was an issue with one property on Ratcliffe Road fly tipping their garden waste into the ditch. Councillor Butler has reported this issue to Charnwood Borough Council.

Councillors R Butler and M Wilson-Knight completed the Transport Survey on behalf of the Parish Council and would be submitting in due course.

164/24

TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE REPORT FROM THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR, MOORE (EAST MIDLANDS) RE THE COMPLETION OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024.

To note that on the basis of their review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and

Accountability Return (AGAR), in their opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern. This, at relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met
RESOLVED to note this

165/24

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN OFFER OF FREE TREES FROM LCC FORESTRY & ARBORICULTURE
RESOLVED Clerk to contact the lead of the newly formed Community Garden Group and ask if they would be interested in applying for these trees.

Councillor A Higgs reported that Sibley Parish Council still had several rowan trees in stock, and he thought it would be a nice idea to plant these at the Gibson Road entrance. Councillors agreed that this was a good idea.

166/24

TO CONSIDER WHAT ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN RE THE UNSAFE HEADSTONES OF OVER 100 YEARS OLD (INFORMATION EMAILED TO COUNCILLORS ON 12 AUGUST)

RESOLVED To have a site visit at the Cemetery on Monday, 30th September 2024 at 11.00am. Councillors and the Admin. Officer to attend. Admin. Officer to clearly mark out the eighteen graves prior to the meeting, so that these can be easily identified at the site meeting, and a decision can be made on a 'plot by plot' basis, with advice given by the Admin. Officer.

167/24

TO APPOINT 2 COUNCILLORS TO CARRY OUT RISK ASSESSMENTS AT THE FOLLOWING SITES: -

- (a) Community Centre
RESOLVED to appoint Councillors S Gerrard and E Jones
- (b) Parish Council Office
RESOLVED to appoint Councillors N Matlock & M Matlock
- (c) Sports Pavilion
RESOLVED to appoint Councillors J Walker and E Jones
- (d) Cemetery
RESOLVED to appoint Councillors N Matlock & M Matlock
- (e) Martin's Walk
RESOLVED to appoint Councillors R Butler and M Wilson-Knight
- (f) The Pinfold
RESOLVED to appoint Councillors R Butler and M Wilson-Knight

168/24

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE PROJECT PARK! WORKING PARTY

Councillor J Jones had attended a meeting with Councillors A Higgs and J Walker, Annie Millen from Red Kite and the Clerk. There was a discrepancy with the costing of the solar lighting, raised beds and the monoliths, but this can be resolved.

- (a) To approve a slight alteration to the plan of the Community Garden by re-positioning the path to the right of the planters, so the two recently sited benches will not have to be moved.

RESOLVED to approve this slight alteration.

169/24

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A LETTER FROM DEPUTY PCC RE THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2025-29, REQUESTING FEEDBACK AND PRIORITIES WHICH WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE FINAL PROPOSALS

RESOLVED To wait for the survey and to respond accordingly.

170/24

COUNCILLORS N AND M MATLOCK WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE A DAY AND TIME TO CLEAR THE WEEDS IN THE CEMETERY NEAR THE GATE AND ALONG THE NEWLY RESTORED WALL AND WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR SOME HELP.

RESOLVED Clerk to email all Councillors asking if they would be interested in helping, and for Councillors to then contact Councillors M & N Matlock to arrange a suitable date and time.

171/24

CONTENT FOR PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ARTICLE

None.

172/24

TO REVIEW ACTION STATUS REPORT

This was reviewed and updated accordingly.

173/24

FUTURE PLANNING

Cemetery Trees and Hedges – Cllr A Higgs

Questions for Police & Crime Commissioner – Cllr A Booth

Meeting closed at 7.27pm

Chairman's Signature: Date: