



**MINUTES OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY, 20 JUNE 2024 AT 6.30PM AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs J Jones (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs E Jones
Councillor Major K McRae
Councillor Mr T Cox

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

NOT PRESENT

Councillor Mrs M Wilson-Knight (Apologies received)
Councillor Mr J Walker (Apologies received)
Councillor Mrs S Gerrard (Apologies received)
Councillor Mr A Higgs (Apologies received)

IN ATTENDANCE

Children and Staff from Redlands Primary School
Member of Appointed Community Member - Redlands Primary School
Mrs J Lovatt – Deputy Clerk

040/24

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BY COUNCIL

RESOLVED to accept and approve apologies from Councillors M Wilson Knight, J Walker, S Gerrard, A Higgs and County Councillor R Shepherd.

041/24

TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None

042/24

CLERK'S REPORT

Cemetery wall – the tree surgeon has now taken down the two trees, and work has started on

the wall.

Unsafe Memorials – A decision will need to be made regarding the next stage of unsafe headstones. What does Council want to do about kerb sets (probably not a risk) and graves that are over 100 years old? This will be put on the next agenda for consideration.

The Voltage Company has informed us that they will no longer be installing the Christmas Lights for the village, but thanks Council for all their business over the past years, and he will still be happy to carry out any other electrical work. I will put on the next agenda to arrange a date for a Christmas working party. A letter of thanks will be sent to Richard McGowan at the Voltage Company. Clarify if he can still install Remembrance lights.

Planning Application P/23/1481/2 (Re-consultation) Little Church Lane

The Clerk had asked for an extension to this re-consultation, but was refused on the following grounds...

Unfortunately, on this occasion I cannot agree to the extension as we have an agreed extension of time in place with the applicant and to prolong the re-consultation period will result in a delay to the decision and failure to adhere to the timeframe agreed with the applicant. Furthermore, this is shorter re-consultation exercise which seeks comment on plans which seek to address concerns that have been raised previously. I would however advise the parish council that concerns related to land ownership are not material considerations as the applicant has served the requisite notice on third party landowners. I have spoken to Cllr E Jones about this, and we have no further comments to make.

043/24

POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Holly Shepherd attended the meeting with two other PCSOs to report on the increase in criminal damage within Sileby. Councillors were concerned that crime was on the increase in the village. PCSO Shepherd said that the police had received several complaints earlier in the week of youths throwing stones, plants and dog waste at residents' properties. Patrols were sent out, but they were unable to apprehend the culprits. Further patrols will be carried out.

044/24

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Children from the School Council at Redlands Primary School asked Councillors some very good questions about Sileby, which included play equipment in the park, safety around Sileby Brook, school places, Sileby Gala and tree planting. One of the questions asked was 'could Sileby have 'smoke free' areas?' – which Councillors thought would be a great idea, but suggested that when the elections are over, they contact their local MP with that question.

045/24

**TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE
RESOLVED** To accept as a true record and these were duly signed.

046/24

FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) To note the Income

RESOLVED To note the Income in the sum of £6,422.85.

(b) To approve the Expenditure

RESOLVED To approve the Expenditure in the sum of £36,672.10.

047/24

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS IF IN ATTENDANCE

The Deputy Clerk read out a report from County Councillor R Shepherd:

Weed-spraying - Further to my mention of weed-spraying in my Report for the 6th of June Parish Council Meeting, I should like to draw attention to the two emails about the matter which I sent on 10th June. One was from me, and one was from Sarah Cross, the Borough Council's Cleansing and Open Spaces Contracts Manager. I know there can be confusion about who sprays and who sweeps, so I hope the emails may help to clarify matters.

I am in contact with Councillor McRae and Borough Councillor Lawrence concerning various issues, about which they may be reporting.

Parish Councillors' enquiries - Please let me know of any matters which the Parish Council would like me to follow up or about which more information is needed.

The Deputy Clerk read out a report on behalf of the Borough Councillors:

Charnwood Local Plan Update - Amongst other things, LCC's proposed transport approach and local plan viability were examined by the Planning Inspectorate at the public hearings in February. They have since tested LCC's approach to Transport Strategy Contributions – this involves a standard formula for calculating developer contributions for transport infrastructure, pooling of the contributions received for the Soar Valley area, and prioritisation of highways and transport improvements by LCC. The main modifications to the draft Local Plan required by the Planning Inspector have been agreed with Charnwood and will now be subject to public consultation.

Sileby Brook – Councillor Lawrence attended the 'walkaround' meeting on the 14th June 2024 with representatives from the EA, LCC & CBC, Parish Councillors Butler & McCrae and 3 residents from Cygnet Close, who reinforced their request (backed by 150 signatures on a petition) that the footbridge be demolished or raised. One of the EA officers agreed to consider the viability of conducting flow modelling to determine if demolition would increase flood risk downstream. The residents, Councillors McRae and Lawrence will be meeting this officer again on the 26th of June 2024 to discuss this further and improvements to flood resilience that could be made on one resident's property, possibly with the aid of an LCC grant. No full dredging of the brook was offered but some de-silting and strimming will take place at locations highlighted by Councillor Butler, hopefully before winter, including either side of Dudley Bridge, near the railway bridge and at Hobbswick. LCC also undertook to clear a blockage that was found under the roundabout bridge. We would support Councillors McRae and Butlers requests to the

Parish Council arising from the meeting, including for further investigations around flood management measures upstream of Swan Street.

The Banks Surgery - Along with the Parish Council, Councillors Lawrence and Bottomley are supporting the operators and staff of The Banks Surgery in their efforts to obtain a positive decision on their planning application to extend the surgery building partly funded by the available Section 106 funding. We have escalated the delay in reaching a determination of the application to the Head of Development Control.

Saint Gobain (British Gypsum) Barrow Mine Annual Parish Liaison Meeting 29th May 2024 – Councillor Lawrence attended this fascinating event and the councillors present heard from Saint Gobain’s Plant Manager & Mine Manager about their operational mining and bagged plaster production plans, within the constraints of their minerals planning permission. This prevents them from mining below built-up areas, and they also do not extract gypsum rock from below farm and other residential buildings outside of local villages. Much of the current and near-future mining activity will be to the west of Seagrave. Saint Gobain remain committed to maintaining good relations with neighbouring communities and are looking to explore opportunities for their staff to take time out of work to undertake voluntary work in local communities. Councillor Lawrence will be following up on this commitment.

048/24

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

Councillor R Butler reported that he and Councillor Wilson-Knight had completed the Transport Survey on behalf of the Council.

Councillor K McRae gave Council a report on the issues with flooding on Cygnet Close, and what the problems were. Councillor McRae is supporting the residents and trying to help in resolving these issues. Councillor J Jones thanked Councillor McRae.

Councillor J Jones had attended a meeting at the Banks Surgery, with Councillor K McRae also attending. This was to discuss the planning application that is currently in dispute due to flood risk. Borough Councillors are supporting the Banks Surgery with this issue.

049/24

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

(a) **P/24/0932/2** Pre-Application Advice Major - Reserved Matters application for 228 new homes pursuant to outline planning permission P/21/0738/2 - Land off Barnards Drive, Sileby, LE12 7PY

RESOLVED To note this application and have no further comments at this stage.

(b) **P/24/0266/2 (RECONSULTATION)** Retention of replacement concrete hardstanding pad to accommodate portable container - Hallmarq's Modular standing equine MRI unit with air conditioning units. (Retrospective Application) Sileby Hall, 12 Cossington Road, Sileby, Leicestershire

RESOLVED No Objection but support the neighbour’s comments regarding this application.

050/24

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE PROJECT PARK! WORKING PARTY

Councillor J Jones reported to Council that the resurfacing of the MUGA had been postponed to the 8th and 9th August – This is for a better chance of good weather conditions.

It was **RESOLVED** to request a site meeting with Ground Control and a couple of Parish Councillors to review the planting and agree to a stage payment for the work carried out to date.

Saint Gobain / Tarmac are unable to donate boulders for the Gibson Road entrance to the park. This issue to go on the next agenda for consideration.

(a) To receive and consider tender documents and drawings re the play equipment.

RESOLVED At agree the tender documents, but Councillor A Higgs to review the planting options and speak to Red Kite if there are any issues.

(b) To approve the new plan for the Sports Pavilion

RESOLVED To approve the plan for the Sports Pavilion.

051/24

FURTHER REMOVAL OF TREES AT SILEBY CEMETERY

RESOLVED To defer this agenda item to the next meeting, when Councillor A Higgs will be in attendance.

052/24

CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT

Councillor J Jones reported that we are not eligible to apply for this grant.

053/24

TO APPROVE RE-SITING ONE OF THE BENCHES IN MARTIN'S WALK TO THE MEMORIAL PARK

RESOLVED To defer this agenda item to the next meeting, when Councillor A Higgs will be in attendance.

054/24

TO APPROVE A COST TO MAKE SAFE A FURTHER TEN MEMORIALS AT SILEBY CEMETERY

RESOLVED to approve a cost of £2,650.00.

055/24

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN EMAIL REQUESTING SUPPORT TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF LITHIUM BATTERIES

RESOLVED To respond that we do not give permission for the Sileby Parish Council logo to be used but will consider supporting specific requests.

056/24

CONTENT FOR NEWS ARTICLE

Redlands School Council Visit – Cllr E Jones

057/24

TO REVIEW ACTION STATUS REPORT

This was reviewed and updated accordingly.

058/24

FUTURE PLANNING

Christmas Working Party Date

Unsafe Memorials – next stage

Boulders at the Gibson Road entrance to the Memorial Park

Meeting closed at 7.44pm

Chairman's Signature: Date: