



**MINUTES OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER 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 Mr T Cox  
Councillor Mrs E Jones

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

**NOT PRESENT**

Councillor Mr J Walker (Apologies received)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mrs R Richardson - Clerk  
Mrs J Lovatt – Deputy Clerk  
Miss L J Richardson (Admin Officer)

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**189/24**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BY COUNCIL**

Apologies received from County Councillor R Shepherd, and Borough Councillors N Bottomley and G Lawrence

**RESOLVED** to accept and approve apologies from Councillor J Walker

**190/24**

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

Councillor A Higgs Minute No 195/24(b)

**191/24**

**CLERK'S REPORT**

No report

**192/24**

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

No police present.

**193/24**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None present.

**194/24**

**TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 OCTOBER**

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

**195/24**

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) To note the Income

**RESOLVED** to note the Income in the sum of £153,994.81

(b) To approve the Expenditure

**RESOLVED** to approve the Expenditure in the sum of £50,775.19 less the Water Plus invoices that are in dispute.

(c) To approve purchasing a Christmas Tree for the Cemetery, at a cost of £185 (plus delivery)

**RESOLVED** to approve this purchase and decorations.

**196/24**

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

The Clerk read County Councillor Shepherds' report, as follows: -

I have been responding to enquiries from Councillor McRae about two matters in Sileby.

One is the safety and future of Cygnet Bridge in Cygnet Close; Councillor McRae has details.

The other is the emergency access route at 94 Ratcliffe Road. Earlier today I forwarded initial informal observations from the Local Highway Authority (LHA) to the Parish Council. Since then, I have been copied into a Response from the LHA to a consultation on Planning Application P/24/1707/2, and in accordance with my usual practice I have forwarded that to the Council.

I continue to forward media releases and other items of general County interest and am grateful to the Clerk for circulating them to Councillors.

The Deputy Clerk read the Borough Councillors' Report, as follows: -

**Ratcliffe Gardens Walkway to Ratcliffe Road**

Following reports that motorbikes and cars have used the walkway as a short-cut from the estate to Ratcliffe Rd, and multiple requests from Geoff, Davidsons belatedly placed a planter on the walkway as a temporary barrier at the bottom end of the walkway. Geoff advised one of the neighbouring residents to contact Charnwood's ASB Team and visit the Police Beat Surgery if there are any further incidents of motorcycles being ridden up and down the walkway. Davidsons' application to vary their original plan for the installation of bollards &

removable barriers is under consideration by Planning; comments from LCC Highways are pending. Geoff attended the case officer's site visit on 9<sup>th</sup> October with Councillor McRae and County Councillor Richard Shepherd.

### **Cemetery Road Development Site**

Following Elemento's action to extend the bund protecting Kendal Road properties from surface water running off the site, the heavy rain on 2<sup>nd</sup> October resulted in the garden of a property not previously affected being flooded. Geoff has raised this with Elemento's site manager.

### **Coats For All event -16<sup>th</sup> November**

Already we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the local community; further donations can be made at Sibley Library, Redlands and Highgate Schools, Lime Trees Nurseries and Chine House Vets.

Naomi and Geoff continue to advise and support residents in relation to various matters relating to Charnwood's services.

Councillor Higgs asked if there was an update on the mowing of the open space wildlife areas in Sibley. Clerk to chase an update from the Borough Councillors.

### **197/24**

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

Councillor J Jones reported that the Finance & General-Purpose Working Group had met earlier to review the new Model Financial Regs; Standing Orders; Business Continuity Plan; General H&S Policy Statement of Intent and HR Terms of Reference. These amendments will go on the next agenda for approval.

Councillor A Higgs had attended a meeting with Councillor J Walker, Cara Baker (CBC) and the Project Manager and Architect for the Pavilion project. He reported that it was a very productive meeting.

Councillor K MrRae had met with James Walker (Builder) to discuss the outstanding issues of the Cemetery wall. James Walker has agreed to rectify outstanding issues within the next two weeks.

Councillor E Jones had attended the LRALC AGM, which was very interesting.

Councillor M Wilson-Knight reported that the risk assessments for the Pinfold and Martin's Walk had been carried out. Clerk to put these assessments on the next agenda.

Councillor A Higgs reported that the electrician that had been appointed to do the Christmas lights will be starting work next week checking the lights and what needs replacing.

**198/24**

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

**P/24/1707/2** Non-Material Amendment to Planning Application ref: **P/17/1578/2** Outline application for up to 170 dwellings with associated open space, landscaping, extension to cemetery, new allotments, access, surface water attenuation and associated works including demolition of 94 Ratcliffe Road and conversion of existing farm buildings. (Access only to be considered at outline stage). Amendment to consist of retention to details of the Emergency access/Secondary pedestrian and cycle access.

**RESOLVED** Sibley Parish Council supports LCC Highways comments.

**199/24**

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

(a) Re Mechanical & Electrical systems as regards the refurbishment of the Sports Pavilion: to consider giving Councillors Higgs, Walker and the Clerk the authority to upgrade the building to modern ecological standards.

**RESOLVED** to agree to give Councillors Higgs, Walker and the Clerk the authority to choose initial options to upgrade the building to modern ecological standards. Final decision will then go to full council for approval.

**200/24**

**TO AGREE WHAT ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITH 100-YEAR-OLD MEMORIALS AT THE CEMETERY**

The Admin. Officer explained the issues outstanding with these graves, due to broken kerb sets etc. She suggested that the Council could arrange for the stones to be laid down safely, and the broken kerb sets covered in soil and seeded. This way there is still a monument in place, and nothing has been removed from the grave. If the family then come forward, the kerb set and stones are still in situ and can be renovated at a cost to the family who are financially responsible for the headstone and kerb set. This would also look tidier in the Cemetery.

**RESOLVED** To accept this suggestion. Grounds Maintenance Contractor to lay the headstones down, and the Admin. Officer would look into the covering and seeding of the plots.

Councillor K McRae and the Council thanked Councillors N & M Matlock for the lovely job they have done clearing the weeds at the side of the Cemetery.

**201/24**

**TO CONSIDER ACTION FOR OTHER REMAINING GRAVES UNDER 100 YEARS OLD WITH REMEDIAL WORKS OUTSTANDING**

**RESOLVED** To do the same for the graves under 100 years old – as per minute 200/24.

**202/24**

**TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN EMAIL RE URBAN VERGE WILDLIFE SCHEME**

**RESOLVED** To participate in this scheme by planting at the entrances to the village, by the planters.

**203/24**

**TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR A PIZZA VAN AT THE CHRISTMAS SWITCH ON**

The Deputy Clerk reported that the business had their Food Safety rating from Charnwood Borough Council which was 5\*.

**RESOLVED** To allow the pizza stall at the Christmas switch. They must ensure that they have the relevant licence/permission. Council also said that it would be worth suggesting selling pizza slices as well as pizzas, to make it more affordable for residents on the night.

**204/24**

**TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS SWITCH ON**

The Deputy Clerk reported that official approval had been given for the installation of the festive lights and the road closure for 2024 and 2025. Road signage has been ordered. Stallholders notified and reserved and sweets for children purchased.

Councillor A Higgs had met with the schools to discuss the songs for the children to sing at the event, which would be a joint effort this year.

**205/24**

**CONTENT FOR PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ARTICLE**

Project Park! Update (with photographs) – Cllr A Higgs

**206/24**

**TO REVIEW ACTION STATUS REPORT**

This was reviewed and updated accordingly.

**207/24**

**FUTURE PLANNING**

Approval of documents from Finance & General-Purpose Working Group

**Meeting closed at 7.33 pm.**

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