



BILSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Bilsthorpe Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14th August 2023

Present: Cllr Ross Stoneman (Chair), Cllr Arthur Pinnick, Cllr Tim Holloway, Cllr Steve Kemp, Cllr Cris Cooper, Cllr Flo Mitchell and Cllr Hannah Iwanejko, Cllr Brian Jackson & Cllr Alan Ward

Also present: V Arkell (Clerk & RFO), District Cllr R Holloway and County Cllr Bruce Laughton

75/23 Welcome & opening comments

Cllr Stoneman welcomed everyone to the meeting

76/23 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Pestell

77/23 Declarations of pecuniary and/or personal interest

Cllr Kemp declared an interest in 97/23, Cllr T Holloway declared an interest in 98/23 and Cllr Iwanejko declared an interest in 88/23

After Co-Option, Cllr R Holloway declared an interest in 98/23

78/23 Co-Option

Due to the death of Cllr Melanie Ward, there was one vacancy advertised. The vacancy had been advertised meeting the statutory requirements and there was no request for election. The Council were informed by NSDC that they were free to Co-Opt. One application had been received from Cllr Rhona Holloway.

Cllr Stoneman proposed for Cllr R Holloway to be co-opted, this was seconded by Cllr Iwanejko. The Council resolved to co-opt Cllr R Holloway onto the Council.

79/23 To appoint a Vice Chairman

Cllr Stoneman proposed for Cllr T Holloway for Vice-Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Kemp. The Council resolved for Cllr T Holloway to be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council.

80/23 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2023

The Council resolved that the minutes were accurate and approved the minutes for publication.

81/23 Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr R Holloway as District Councillor informed the Council that she had been looking into grants available from NSDC, and had enquired into an allowance for District Councillors to have small amounts of funding to distribute. She also explained that a new community plan is in process to be ready for in October 2023. Cllr R Holloway took the opportunity to remind the Council that the online reporting system for reporting overgrown trees, road issues etc could, and should be used by everyone to ensure that they are resolved promptly – The Clerk to send out a reminder of the links to the reporting systems and post the same on social media.

82/23 Chairman's report

Cllr Stoneman reported that he attended Melanie Wards funeral which was well attended. He also informed the Council that he had met with contractors to obtain quotes to replace the fence on Stoney Field Lane and collected the brazier with Cllr T Holloway. Cllr Stoneman explained that he is now waiting on an installation date and the Brazier is being stored safely until then. Cllr Stoneman had met with Mark Guy at NCC regarding trees overhanging the war memorial and is awaiting an update on the works.

83/23 Questions from the public

Mrs S Smith explained that she had previously written to the Council requesting that the gate at Maid Marion Park is assessed as it is regularly either being left open or that the bolt is down and being dragged over the path. She also explained that the "bear bin" is broken and needs to be repaired or removed. The Council agreed that the broken bear bin should be removed and will speak to the fence contractors regarding the gate to see if anything can be done to resolve the issues raised.

Mrs S Moody questioned if the Village Hall is being demolished and what the plan to rebuild was. Cllr Stoneman explained where the Council was with the project and that the public will be kept as informed as possible.

84/23 Correspondence - To note receipt and agree on actions

Two pieces of correspondence were received and responded to by the Clerk, the Council noted the correspondence, and no further action was required.

Additional correspondence had been received about speeding and noise during the bike night at the Copper Beach, the Copper Beach had reacted to comments on social media and the Council were satisfied that the pub were wanting to resolve the issues and were working with the correct agencies.

85/23 General Power of Competence

a. To agree that the Parish Council meets the criteria for eligibility

The Council agreed that they met the criteria for eligibility with at least 2/3 of Councillors being elected and the Clerk holding a suitable qualification

b. To agree to adopt the General Power of Competence

The Council resolved to adopt the General Power of Competence

86/23 To discuss delegation to the Clerk to authorise repairs to playground equipment and Council owned property

The Council resolved that the Clerk could authorise any repairs to the playground equipment and Council property. All repairs should be reported to the Council by email and within the Clerks or Chairmans report at the next meeting.

87/23 To review Incinerator status, plans and any RAGE funding applications

A representative from RAGE updated the Council on the status of the incinerator plans. He informed the Council that no planning applications had been submitted however they were preparing the objections for when it was finally submitted.

88/23 Discuss actions for Tour of Britain 2023

The Council resolved to order 8 wooden bike displays on top of the 4 being donated by NSDC and to purchase fittings, and paint, to decorate the bikes with a total budget of £500.

The Council resolved for Cllr Iwanejko to take the lead on the project including decorating and placement of the bikes. Several Councillors volunteered to assist with the project.

89/23 Discuss arrangements for Remembrance Day

Cllr T Holloway confirmed that the wooden cut outs had been ordered and the Clerk confirmed that the poppy illumination would be installed at the end of October. Cllr Stoneman confirmed that Revd Margaret Groves was happy to carry out the service at the war memorial and that Cllr Kemp was organising the music. The Council resolved to go ahead with the road closure with the same supplier as the previous year and requested the Clerk organise the contractor and TTRO as well as confirming the Councils insurance cover for events.

90/23 Consider planning matters

a. 23/01186/FUL: Demolition of existing detached garage and outbuildings. Erection of single storey dwelling, new boundary wall and carport. The Coach House, Church Hill, Bilsthorpe

The Council had reviewed the planning application and resolved to support the planning application

b. 23/01304/ADV: Retain existing 1No. illuminated Totem sign. Lincolnshire Co-operative Bilsthorpe Stanton Avenue, Bilsthorpe

The Council have reviewed the planning application; the Council shared their disappointment that the Co-Operative had chosen to install the sign when planning was previously refused by Newark and Sherwood District Council. The Council were also concerned that the comments made by the planning authority on the previous application have not been addressed by the applicant. The Council resolved that they had no choice but to object to this planning application as it sets a precedent to ignore planning requirements and concerns outlined by the planning authority.

c. 23/01252/OUTM: Proposed residential development up to 10 No. First Homes. Land At Farnsfield Road, Bilsthorpe

The Council had reviewed the planning application as well as the comments made by neighbouring residents and have several concerns regarding this application.

The first was that the ownership of the land that has been outlined as pedestrian access within the plans has been questioned, and the public footpath link shown in the plans does not currently exist, as this is the only pedestrian access to and from the properties, this would need to be resolved or redesigned in final plans to ensure the safety of pedestrians. Secondly, from the initial plans, the Council noted that the proposed houses haven't been placed with the neighbouring properties in mind and the design style isn't in keeping with the houses built on Ivy Gardens. The Council resolved to submit the concerns raised and request that NSDC investigate the concerns raised by requested all neighbours and consultees.

Decision notices – None

91/23 To consider financial matters

a. To review the bank reconciliation and to note the financial status at July 31st 2023

The bank reconciliation was reviewed by Cllr Stoneman and signed as accurate.

b. To review the pre-approved payments and income received in July 2023 and to authorise any payments for August 2023

The payments and income along with the original invoices were reviewed by Cllrs; T Holloway and Kemp who signed the invoices as accurate. There were no further payments to authorise.

c. To consider savings account options

The Clerk presented the Cambridge Building Society Council Saver as a good savings option as it was easy to access by the Council if required, easy to administer and had a reasonable interest rate. The Council resolved for the Clerk to apply for the account with Cllr T Holloway as the secondary signatory. The Council will review all signatories when the new savings accounts are up and running.

92/23 To agree the location of the new defibrillator and to purchase a heat-controlled lockable housing

This item was postponed to the next meeting whilst more enquiries regarding location could be made. Cllr Kemp to speak to some local businesses to see if they would be open to housing the defibrillator.

93/23 To form a working party to approach community groups to discuss the development of village facilities

The Council resolved to form a working party of Cllrs; Stoneman, T Holloway, R Holloway, Kemp, Pestell and Iwanejko. Cllr R Holloway requested permission to enquire and apply for any further funding that was available from NSDC to fund the project. The Council were happy for Cllr R Holloway to make enquires and obtain any funding available to towards the project.

94/23 To review the quotes received for the demolition of the Village Hall and to consider moving forward with the planning permissions require

The Council received 4 quotes which had been previously circulated to all Councillors. The Council discussed the 4 quotes in detail. The Council resolved to accept the quote from Total Reclaims Demolition, as well as requesting for them to organise the disconnection of service in addition to the quote provided.

95/23 To consider the quotes received to plant a tree in memory of Cllr Melanie Ward

The Council considered the quotes received. The Council resolved to accept the quote from ViaEM for a Quercus Robur Oak Tree of approx. 18-20ft to include installation and watering. The tree to be planted in a suitable place within Crompton Road Park.

96/23 To note the erection of fencing around Crompton Park and if any further action is required

Gleesons have installed the fence as required by planning with a trellis top. The Council discussed that some panels had already been taken to create a gap. The Council resolved to have the fence repaired and monitor the issue. The Council requested for the Clerk to enquire about the option of further CCTV cameras to deter crime and anti-social behaviour.

97/23 To consider the quotes for replacing the fencing along Stoney Field Lane

The Council reviewed the 3 quotes presented. The Council resolved to accept the quote from 360 fencing for 1.5m green security mesh fencing and a utility access gate. Cllr Stoneman to liaise with supplier for further references and a start date for the works.

98/23 To consider the grant application from Bilsthorpe Community Green Spaces Group

Cllr T Holloway left the room due to an interest in the application

The Council resolved to award a grant of £131.04 to Bilsthorpe Community Green Spaces to fund the insurance cover for the village planters and litter picking events.

99/23 To consider requesting to change the use of the safer and greener grants

The Council asked for the Clerk to request if the grant could be reallocated to fund the new fencing to be erected on Stoney Field Lane and additional CCTV cameras to deter crime and anti-social behaviour.

100/23 To review the request from the Newark & Sherwood Community & Voluntary Service to use the grass area behind the Heritage Museum to run a free weekly outdoor social group

The Council were happy for the voluntary service to run the social sessions within the grassed space behind the heritage museum however requested that they run the days the museum is open as the Council doesn't have provision to open the gate to allow access.

101/23 Councillor reports

Cllr Ward explained that he is still working on the repairs on the goal posts. The Council authorised for the purchase of bolts and drill bits required to the job.

Cllr Kemp reported that the CCTV has been glitching – the Clerk to follow up

102/23 Clerk's report

The Clerk reported that she had been working on the accounts package and correcting some of the coding.

103/23 Items for a future agenda

None

104/23 Date of the next monthly meeting – Monday 11th September 2023 6.30pm, Burton Court

The Council confirmed that the next meeting would be Monday 11th September 2023 6.30pm