



BILSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Bilsthorpe Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday the 11th of December 2023

Present: Cllrs; Ross Stoneman (Chair), Tim Holloway, Arthur Pinnick, Paula Pestell, Steve Kemp, Flo Mitchell, Hannah Iwanejko, Brian Jackson and Alan Ward

Also present: V Arkell (Clerk & RFO) and Cllr Bruce Laughton (Nottingham County Councillor)

166/23 Welcome & opening comments

Cllr Stoneman welcomed the Councillors present.

167/23 Apologies for absence

Cllr Cooper and Cllr R Holloway sent their apologies.

168/23 Declarations of pecuniary and/or personal interest

Cllr Kemp – 180/23 as one of the quotes is his employer.

Cllr T Holloway – 182/23 as a member of Bilsthorpe Green Spaces Group.

169/23 Due to the nature of the business to be discussed it is recommended that agenda items 187/23 and 188/23 require the exclusion of public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 1(2)

The Council resolved to exclude public and press for item 187/23 and 188/23.

170/23 Chairmans Report

Cllr Stoneman informed the Council that the Crompton Road Park hedging works had been completed and that he is now corresponding with the fencing contractor to confirm the quote received is still valid.

171/23 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th of November 2023

The Council resolved to approve the minutes as accurate.

172/23 Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Laughton provided an update on the A614 upgrade. He explained that he had a meeting with the team on the Tuesday prior and the project had unfortunately been delayed by 6 weeks. This was due to the department of transport requiring new traffic data as the data submitted previously doesn't include post covid traffic, and the increase of people working from home. This has delayed the release of funding required. Cllr Laughton also informed the Council that on the Thursday prior, all Councils who are part of the East Midlands devolution deal passed the bill for the mayoral election to take place in May.

Cllr R Holloway sent her report and was read by the Clerk in her absence:

1) I held a Councillor drop-in session on Friday 1st December, I have picked up a couple of items I will be dealing with over the next few weeks.

Update on issue relating to lorries accessing Belle Eau Park in mistake for Lineage: Residents of Belle Eau Park are concerned about the number of lorries that are using the Belle Eau Park as an overnight stop, accessing B/E/P 'accidentally' and then having to turn around and exit but in the process causing damage to residents hedging and fencing. Lineage have refused to take the matter seriously or to help mitigate the issues. I have asked Mark Spencer to help to get involved and to speak to Lineage to get them to take this matter seriously.

2) I have requested a litter pick on Crompton Road at the A614 end.

3) Requested a street sweep of Kirklington Road

4) I am currently in discussions with Housing and the ASB team at NSDC over issues relating to a specific area of the village where there are concerns.

5) I collated and logged all the houses that were flooded during storm Babet and notified the Flood Team at NSDC so that our Village was in the system as one that floods and would then be included in any help offered by NSDC.

6) I got agreement from Dr. Mark Guy at NCC to cut back some of the trees on Stoneyfield Lane that were overhanging gardens and affecting some residents.

7) I have made a request to Planning that if Officers are minded to approve the 10 homes on Farnsfield Road then I will want that to be brought to the Planning Committee for decision rather than being made at Officer level. I have received confirmation that that will be done if the decision is to approve.

173/23 Questions from the public

None

174/23 Correspondence - to note receipt and agree on actions

None

175/23 To consider planning

a. 23/01252/OUTM (Amended) Proposed residential development up to 10 No. First Homes – submission date 12th December 2023

The Council resolved to maintain the same stance previously submitted and to encourage the planning department to seriously consider all comments made by all residents and consultees.

b. To note decisions made:

23/01764/TWCA – Approved

23/01186/FUL Amended – Refused

23/01731/ADV – Approved

176/23 To consider financial matters

a. To review the bank reconciliation and to note the financial/budget status at November 2023

The Council noted the bank reconciliation and Cllr Stoneman signed to confirm the bank reconciliation matched the bank statements.

b. To review the pre-approved payments and income received in November 2023, and to authorise any payments for December 2023

Cllrs; Kemp and T Holloway checked all the invoices for November and confirmed that they are all correct. The Council noted the invoice that was queried at the previous meeting which had now been reissued. The Council was happy with the new invoice and the refund of £51.50 for the one piece of wood not received.

The Council resolved to approve the outstanding invoices to be paid.

c. To approve the draft 2024/25 budget and review the predicted precept request

The Council reviewed the budget and requested some changes to be made, the Council to finalise the budget and precept once the tax base has been received.

177/23 To accept the Section 115 licence for hanging baskets and a paved base to be added to the brazier

The Council accepted the Section 115 licence as drafted. Cllrs Stoneman and T Holloway signed the document on behalf of the Council.

178/23 The Village Hall; to review and discuss:

a. The draft feasibility study as presented by the Village Hall regeneration working party

The Council noted the base research completed and resolved for the document to be used to move forward to obtain a professional feasibility report.

b. The progress of the Ecological Appraisal and Preliminary Roost Assessment

The Clerk informed the Council that the assessment had been completed and the invoice needed to be paid before the report would be issued. The Council resolved for the invoice to be paid.

179/23 To discuss the volunteer groups working with the Parish Council:

a. Community speed watch

Cllr Kemp shared concerns that the Parish Council have contributed towards the equipment and no speed watch sessions have been conducted.

The Council requested the Clerk write to the lead of the speed watch team to request a schedule of when the next sessions are due to be held, a list of trained members and an update report on the monitoring.

b. The flooding wardens

Cllr Kemp held a meeting and 10 people attended. The flooding team are awaiting signage and will create a plan for if/when flooding happens.

180/23 To discuss/approve the proposal to install paving to the base of the Brazier

Cllr Kemp explained the proposal to the Council. Cllr Kemp asked 5 different companies to quote, most said it was too small of a job to quote for. Only one quote was received at £3600+VAT from ANV Squires. The Council resolved to accept the quote. The Clerk to arrange installation by late February.

181/23 To discuss/approve the proposal to investigate replacing the Christmas Tree on Sparrows Green with a more permanent feature

Cllr T Holloway explained his proposal to the Council the Council approved for Cllr Holloway to speak those concerned. The Council resolved to add £6000 for the Tree Memorial project in next year's budget.

182/23 To discuss/approve the proposal for the village planters, currently maintained by Bilsthorpe

The Green Spaces group proposed to donate the village planters to the Parish Council for the Council to maintain. Tim Holloway explained that new plants had just been planted and the cost per year to the Council would be approximately £240. The Council resolved to accept the donation and will maintain the planters in the future.

183/23 To discuss the initial costings to renew the gravel and slabs in front of the seats at the war memorial to see if this is a project the Council wish to move forward with

Cllr Pinnick explained the proposal to the Council. He has approached 4 companies to quote and only 1 had provided a quote. The Council requested for Cllr Pinnick to obtain further quotes (can be from the same company) with various options on how the project can be completed for longevity in mind, with no to minimal costs in the future.

184/23 To discuss if the Council will organise an event for the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings along the Normandy coast during World War II on the 6th June 2024.

The Council discussed the option of an event, the Council to consider ideas to be discussed at a future meeting.

185/23 Councillor reports

Cllr P Pestell – Cllr Pestell asked the Council to consider a Christmas display for next year. She also explained that she had had some reports of a lack of bins on the new estates. Cllr Pestell and the Clerk to investigate further with the developers.

Cllr Ward – Reported that all the defibs are working but the welfare one is still not back. The welcome to Bilsthorpe sign has fallen again and he will go and repair.

Cllr Kemp – CCTV on Crompton is working well with no outages.

Cllr Stoneman – Cllr Stoneman thanked everyone for their hard work this year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

186/23 Date of the next monthly meeting – Monday 8th January 6.30pm, Burton Court

The Council confirmed the next meeting for Monday 8th January

187/23 To approve the appointment of a RFO and a Parish Clerk to cover maternity leave

The Council approved the appointment of the RFO and the draft contract proposed. The Council approved the appointment of the Parish Clerk and the draft contract proposed.

188/23 To note the correspondence with the tenants of the squash court building re the fire system

The Council noted the correspondence sent and received. The Clerk to continue to try and organise a meeting with the tenants.