

Meeting of Treswell with Cottam Parish Council

Minutes of **Treswell with Cottam Parish Council Meeting** held on the 22nd Jan 2025 at Treswell Village Hall, the meeting commenced at 6:30pm.

Council Members & Officer Present:

Cllr Nicola Salter
Cllr Helen Cope
Cllr Rob Hardie
Cllr Fred Tomlinson
Cllr Steve Howard
Ed Knox
2

Chairman
Vice-Chair

Cllr Matt Bendall

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
Member of Public



Also, Present

➤ Adjournment – 10 Minute Public Forum

No Comments.

01/25 To Approve Apologies for Absence

After discussion, Cllr R Hardie **Proposed**, Cllr Cope **Seconded** and the council **resolved** to accept the apologies of Cllr K Hardie.

02/25 To Approve the previous meeting Minutes

After discussion, Cllr Cope **Proposed**, Cllr Salter **Seconded** and the council **resolved** to accept the minutes. The chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record.

03/25 To Record Declarations of Interest in any items to be discussed

None.

04/25 To Receive District & County Councillors Reports

County Cllr Ogle: Discussed the outstanding highways item of the siding up request for Rectory Road.

Dist Cllr Richardson: Did not attend.

05/25 To receive an update on Highways Matters Raised with Notts County Council/Bassetlaw District Council and to escalate a list of outstanding items with Notts County Council via the County Cllr where necessary

In the 1st instance, cllrs and members of the public should report all new highways matters (street lights, overgrown hedges/trees, pavement/road problems/drainage etc) on the on-line Notts County Council website or MyNotts App, themselves, then, should no action have been taken NCC, bring it to the Parish Council meeting for escalation. The following outstanding Notts County Council items have been chased by the Clerk in between meetings, and Cllr Ogle copied in to escalate issues where necessary:

County Council Item	Issue/Detail	Potential Solution	Progress Made
Treswell Wood - Treswell Wood Icy Road	7 car pile-up on black ice near Treswell Wood	Speed Limit lowered; road added to gritting route & ice awareness signs	Complete – Ice Signs recently installed.
Rectory Road	Grass & Earth build up in centre of the road	Members of the public had over the past 18 months tried to request that the vegetation is cleared from the centre of the adopted highway along the length of Rectory Road. The road starts and ends at the following two what3words locations https://w3w.co/snowstorm.verve.spelled & https://w3w.co/suggested.headline.visitors silt/earth/dirt has built up slowly over years in the middle of the tarmac and gradually got thicker, grass has self-set and it makes the road hard for cars to drive down and gives the wrong impression it might be a bridle path or unadopted road but it is a proper tarmacked road.	21/11/2024 - request sent in to Highways Manager to scrape away the centre chunk of earth and grass and remove the debris. 22/11/2024 – Highways Manager advised “Thank you for this, the team have logged it for highway inspection. Subsequent works will be ordered as necessary.” 22/01/2025 – County & District Cllrs to escalate the issue as no works undertaken so far.

New Items to escalate:

- None.

06/25 Finance:

Monthly Income & Expenditure

After discussion of the Financial Information circulated by email before the meeting, the council unanimously **resolved** to accept them as a true and accurate record. Cllr Salter signed the bank statement and bank reconciliation.

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Trans-Sport.TV	Blue Grit Bin, Shovel & White Road Salt for Jnc Green Ln/Cottam	£302.10
Zurich	Insurance Renewal	£411.91
Lengthsman	Lidsters Builders Ltd – Fencing parts for Cottam Play area	£119.31
Total Payments		£833.32

2. Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
None		
Total Receipts		£0
Bank Balance		

The Current Account Balance **£15,766.91**

Direct Debits, and Standing Orders for staff salaries including PAYE, already **approved** unanimously.

3. To Approve 2025/26 Budget & Set a Precept

The Council discussed the draft budget and in making the decision tonight, the Council members have studied the national average Band D precept amounts for Parish Councils, guidance from NALC, the individual Bassetlaw local parish council amounts and the data regards the precept at the Treswell & Cottam for the past 20 years. The annual Concurrent grant from Bassetlaw Council in the same period has reduced from £294 to £12. The Council saw how inflation has eroded the spending power of the precept, year on year 2023 saw this at 3.5%.

In the past 20 years Bassetlaw have reduced the Concurrent Grant. Explaining the reduction of the Concurrent Grant, Bassetlaw District Council advised each Parish Council that: *“we continue to reduce the concurrent grant; therefore, you need to factor in these reductions, you will see that Harworth & Bircotes Parish Council decided some years ago to substantially increase their precept and invest in their infrastructure for their local people.”*

NALC (National Association of Local Councils) and the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) advise that Parish Councils should not set any arbitrary, random figure for their precepts, the law requires parish councils to set a precept that is a ‘balancing figure’ known in legislation as the ‘council tax requirement’. The precept should be set to be the amount of money required to ‘balance’ the accounts after deducting all ‘other expected regular annual income’ in our case this is:

Other Income	Income Amount	Precept Saving per home @ Band D	Precept Saving per home @ Band A
Bassetlaw Concurrent Grant	£12	£0.09	£0.06
Bassetlaw Street Cleaning Grant	£297	£2.31	£1.54
Notts County Council Lengthsman Grant	£1,850	£14.37	£9.58
Total	£2,159	£16.78	£11.19

The national average last year, for a parish council precept for a band D home is £85. A large proportion of parishes across all of Bassetlaw have a precept of over £10,000 with many in the £10 to £25k range.

With Inflation for the previous 12 months at around 6% to 7%, in addition to the usual running costs, after taking into consideration the self-generated income, a precept rise is required to cover the balance of regular recurring expenditure, including inflation, a rise is necessary.

After discussion of the budget options, Cllr Cope **Proposed**, Cllr Tomlinson **Seconded** and Cllr Salter called for a vote, all members in favour, **resolved** to **1)** approve the budget as discussed, including confidential staffing element. **2)** to set precept of £11,016 = to Band D at £85.59 per year (£7.13 per month), which is still below the National Average. **Action**, the RFO to submit the completed Precept paperwork to Bassetlaw

District Council 2024/25 Band D amount was £85.87 per year (£7.16 per month), therefore the rise on the Council Tax in monetary terms it is only a rise at Band D of 3p a month next year.

It is also worth noting that 79 homes in bands A to C, will pay less than the Band D figure. Homes with only 1 adult occupant, are entitled to receive a further 25% reduction on the above figures, with additional reductions for residents in receipt of certain benefits. Details are found by contacting Bassetlaw Council regards Council Tax reduction.

In comparison with other parishes in Bassetlaw, this is still a modest precept less than parishes with a similar population locally, for example, at Band D, last year the following parish council's which have a similar electorate of between 200 and 300 had the following Band D precepts, Torworth £167.44, West Stockwith £139.09, Laneham £128.54 and Nether Langwith £105.94.

07/25 To note planning applications responded to via the Scheme of Delegation

Since the previous meeting the parish council responded via the scheme of delegation as follows and also discussed the following at today's meeting:

- **25/00017/VOC – Highfield Cottam Road Treswell to Amend Details of the Detached Garage** - The Parish Council responded as follows: *"The Council has no objections and supports the application."*

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 7:00pm.