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South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 20th September 2023 at 7.30pm
in the Main Hall, South Muskham Village Hall

Membership: K Brown, D Catanach (Chair) and P Jarvis

Also Present: One member of the public

50.23/24 **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Briggs-Price, Gill, Shearing and Tilbury together with County Councillor Loughton and District Councillor Mrs Saddington

51.23/24 **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

Open Session

Although District Councillor Mrs Saddington had given her apologies, she wanted to remind Members of the public engagement event on the future of urgent care in Newark which will be held at the Muskham Rural Community Centre on 12th October between 11am and Noon.

52.23/24 **Chair's Report**

The Chair welcomed Members back from the Summer break. While there was not much to report, it was good to see that the Southwell Ploughing Match would be held in the parish on 30th September.

The Chair remarked that it was good to see the Old Great North Road having surface treatment and noted that it would be finished in late September.

53.23/24 **To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2023**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19th July 2023 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

54.23/24 **Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda**

There were none.

The Clerk advised that funding for an interactive speed sign had been pushed back to November 2023. A request had been made to determine the location of the speed sign so that it could be put in place as soon as funding was available. A response was awaited.

The Chair referred to Minute No 40.23/24, 4th and 8th paragraphs, and asked if the information had been received from Inspector Ellam. The Clerk confirmed it was still outstanding and would chase for a response.

55.23/24 **Financial Issues**

55.1 **To record Receipts**

Email: clerk@smlcpc.org Tel: 07946 601364

There were no receipts to record.

55.2

Invoices for payment:

- Bank Charges - £16.00
- Clerk's Wages (July) - £301
- HMRC Payment (July) - £75.20
- WEL Medical – Defib Battery - £279.54
- WEL Medical – Defib Pads - £71.94
- Trent Valley IDB – Drainage Rates - £16.10
- Norwell Groundcare – £90
- WaterPlus Bill – Beckett Field - £17.69
- Arthur J Gallagher – Insurance Renewal - £750.02
- Clerk's Wages (August) - £300.80
- HMRC Payment (August) - £75.40

The Clerk was asked to investigate a more accessible investment account than NS&I for the Parish Council's reserves and bring a report back to the October meeting.

55.3

To consider amendments to the Parish Council's bank mandate

Members noted the request from HSBC to complete further documentation as signatories were still showing on the account that needed to be removed. This was despite changes being made online last year. Members present signed documentation as required, with the Clerk to approach remaining signatories with a view to updating the mandate.

56.23/24

Planning

56.1

Applications

23/01329/FUL – Land at Former Ashleigh, Great North Road, South Muskham - Erection of 3 dwellings. Resubmission of approved application 19/00782/FUL to allow extended time to commence works.

Members noted that this application was before them again following a recent sale of the land.

After consideration, Members again considered that their views had not changed regarding development on the site and the objections and comments made on previous applications for the site remained.

It was unanimously AGREED that the application be objected to on the grounds that:

- there is a lack of local need identified
- there is a lack of amenities and facilities in the village, which therefore makes it an unsustainable development
- it will have an adverse effect on traffic levels and highway safety, given the site location on the B6325

In 2019, concern had been expressed that the plans showed access to open space to the rear of the proposed development at that time which the Parish Council were concerned may lead to a future application. They would continue to resist any application on this site and for additional dwellings that may be submitted.

- 56.2 Decision Notices
There were none received.
- 56.3 Tree Works
23/01168/TPO – South Muskham Village Hall - Undertake works to Walnut tree protected by TPO N419 2023 identified as T1 1. 20% Crown thin 2. 30% Crown reduction 3. Crown brace upper Crown All works to comply with BS 3998
Members noted that permission had been granted for works to the tree as outlined. Timescale for the work was unknown but it was presumed this would be once leaves had fallen.
- 57.23/24 **Parish Council Matters**
- 57.1 To note changes being implemented by the Parish Council’s website provider and the introduction of charges
The Clerk advised that the Hugo Fox platform that hosted the Parish Council’s website were introducing a charge with effect from 4th October 2023. After discussion it was AGREED that the Bronze Package in the sum of £9.99 per month be accepted.
- 57.2 To consider an offer of winter salt from Nottinghamshire County Council
After discussion it was not considered that this offer was required this year.
- 57.3 To consider the works done to date on the Great North Road
The Chair queried when the rest of the resurfacing works were scheduled to be undertaken. The Clerk outlined that the resurfacing work had already been completed, with just replacement of cats eyes and linings to be put back in place.

The Clerk was asked to seek clarification on the further work that is planned to take place next week. The Clerk was also asked to raise concerns on the new surface as, in the opinion of Members, if it was the top coat, it has made the road worse, rather than better, as it was very uneven and there are already places where it was down to the tarmac below.
- 57.4 To note arrangements put in place for the Southwell Ploughing Match, including the temporary prohibitions of driving on Kelham Lane and Trent Lane
Members noted the arrangements for the Southwell Ploughing Match as circulated.
- 57.5 To receive details on the District Council’s Warm Homes on Prescription Initiative and consider ways in which to highlight to the community
After discussion it was AGREED that a link to documentation be created on the Parish Council’s website and circulated on social media. Information to also be circulated to the Parish Council’s distribution list.
- 57.6 To discuss the Police response to speeding vehicles
This item had been considered earlier on the agenda.
- 57.7 To consider a revision to the start time of the Parish Council meetings

This item was deferred for consideration at the October meeting to allow debate with more Members.

58.23/24 **Beckitt Field**

To note the renewal of the licence with Muskham Cougars for the 2023-24 season. Members noted that the licence had been issued to Muskham Cougars but a signed copy had not yet been returned. Payment of the licence fee was expected shortly.

Discussion took place on the expectations of the Muskham Cougars regarding grass cutting. Members noted that there was a contract in place with Norwell Groundcare that allowed for cutting every two weeks between April and September. There had been requests for more frequent cuts of the field by the Cougars, some of which had been at very short notice.

It was AGREED that Muskham Cougars be advised that, in line with the contract with Norwell Groundcare, the Parish Council would meet the cost of cutting Beckitt Field every two weeks between April and September. Should Muskham Cougars wish to have additional cuts during this time, they should arrange this direct with Norwell Groundcare and meet the costs direct. Further, should Muskham Cougars require the field to be cut between the months of October to March again they should arrange this direct with Norwell Groundcare and meet the costs direct. No contractor, other than Norwell Groundcare, to be retained to cut Beckitt Field.

The Clerk would discuss this with Norwell Groundcare to ensure that they were in agreement with that arrangement and, if so, communicate that to Muskham Cougars.

59.23/24 **Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning**

There were no issues to note.

60.23/24 **Highways**

60.1 Roadworks Bulletin – Great North Road, South Muskham

Members received and noted the bulletin outlining the overnight road closures to enable work on the Great North Road. The Clerk confirmed that the diversion route was via the A1, A46 and Great North Road to the A616.

A request to be made to Via for adequate signage to ensure that inappropriately sized vehicles did not try and take a short cut through the villages.

61.23/24 **Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils**

61.1 De Montfort University request for feedback on 2023 local elections - NALC / De Montfort University Local Council Elections Survey 2023

The Chair asked that the link be circulated to Members to enable them to complete the survey as requested.

62.23/24 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**

There were none.

Next Meeting – Parish Council – Wednesday, 18th October 2023 at South Muskham & Little Carlton Village Hall

The meeting was closed at 8.20pm

Minutes approved as a true record –