

South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 7.30pm

This was a virtual meeting conducted via Zoom.

Membership: D Catanach, C Brightmore, K Brown, R Gill, G Gilroy, P Jarvis, G Shearing
Members of Public: 1

In the absence of Cllr. Catanach, Cllr. Shearing agreed to chair the meeting.

49.20/21 **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies – Cllr. Catanach, Cllr. Brightmore, Cllr. Jarvis (after the meeting)

Declarations of Interest – None

Open Session

County Cllr. Laughton provided feedback from Via East Midlands following the last meeting:

i) A616 speed limit reduction - the DfT criteria which are assessed when speed limits are set have all been reviewed. One of the key criteria within this assessment is the average speed of vehicles. As the average speed at this location narrowly misses the requirement to recommend a 40mph limit, a trial is proposed to establish if, by just amending the posted speed limit to 40mph, average speeds will reduce to within acceptable limits. The 40mph limit, which will initially be introduced under an experimental Traffic Regulation Order, will be in place for 12-months to enable speed readings to be taken before and during the trial to establish its effectiveness. Should any concerns be raised about safety during the trial, the experimental order will enable the 50mph speed limit to be reinstated without delay. This proposal will need the approval of the Police and a Safety Audit before it is implemented. Should approval not be granted from either of these bodies the trial will not go ahead. At the end of this trial, a decision will be made regarding the appropriate speed limit (40 or 50) based on the evidence gained throughout the trial.

As this will be a trial to measure compliance to the posted speed limit, the scheme will consist of signing and road markings only, to assess the effectiveness of this experimental approach. There is no commitment from NCC to carry out further work at this location, should this trial not meet the expectations of the Parish.

As discussed at the meeting, the Parish need to aware that changing the speed limit is only likely to achieve a reduction in speeds of 2 – 3 miles an hour. Unfortunately, it will not stop the concerns identified by residents, such as being overtaken whilst turning into their properties, preventing vehicles running onto the verge or reduce the incidents of verbal abuse.

It is anticipated that any reduction in the speed of vehicles resulting from this proposal will have a positive effect on vulnerable road users and enable pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders to feel more comfortable using the A616 at this location.

A recommendation will be made to the Communities and Place Committee to include this trial in the 2021/22 programme.

Cllr. Laughton commented that whilst the trial is in place it is important that the Community Speed Watch volunteers continue to operate and record speeds.

ii) B6325 Great North Road Carriageway maintenance - regarding the section of the carriageway on the Great North Road that was highlighted as causing undue vibrations, the section from Crow Lane to the A1 roundabout has been recommended for inclusion on the 2021/22 Capital Maintenance Programme as a large-scale structural patching site for future surface dressing. At the time of writing we are not aware of the capital allocations yet for 2021/22 but there is no reason to suggest this section of the Great North Road will not still be on the programme when it goes to Communities & Place Committee for approval in the Spring.

iii) B6325 Great North Road Formal crossing request - a traffic and pedestrian count are needed to establish if a formal crossing facility is justified, before the design and costing of a scheme can commence. As traffic and pedestrian volumes may not be representative during the current restrictions on movement due to Corvid, carrying out a survey now may not give meaningful readings. As a result, the count will be deferred until traffic and pedestrian movements are back to normal.

iv) B6325 Great North Road Mini roundabout layout - having reviewed the layout of South Muskham mini roundabout, in terms of the concerns raised that people are exiting the roundabout on wrong side of refuge, the current configuration optimises the many conflicting demands at the location

Cllr. Shearing commented on the disappointing news that the number of letters being issued to speeding offenders is only approx. 5%. Cllr. Laughton agreed to follow this up.

Cllr. Laughton advised that VIA EM had reported an incident of fly tipping on Cold Harbour Lane to NSDC and provided the Clerk with details.

District Cllr. Saddington confirmed that she has a virtual meeting scheduled with Network Rail for the 19th November to discuss the ongoing issues further. Cllr. Saddington is now also on the NSDC Planning Committee.

The Clerk raised an issue from a resident regarding fly tipping, details of which were provided to NSDC along with photographic evidence. It appears that no action is to be taken. Cllr. Saddington agreed to follow this up and the Clerk to provide details.

Cllr. Laughton and Cllr. Saddington left the meeting at 7.45pm

The Village Hall is supporting a local business during lockdown by opening its car park to The Peel, a mobile wood fired kitchen making and selling pizzas or order and collect. First session is on Friday 27th November from 5pm to 7.30pm. Payment by card only. Contact Tom Yates on 07852 781115
Details of the menu will be posted

50.20/21 **Chair's Report**

The Chair sent his sympathies to Cllr. Catanach during his period of isolation and thanked Cllr. Brightmore and volunteers for the litter pick and signage. Thanks also go to Cllr. Jarvis for putting up and taking down the lamppost poppies. The Chair also commented on the document circulated by the Clerk on his behalf regarding village speed limits. Cllr. Catanach previously asked the Clerk to record his thanks to the Community Speed Watch volunteers and his disappointment in the police response to the work being carried out and the number of letters being issued to speeding offenders.

51.20/21 **To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2020**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Gilroy, seconded by Cllr. Brown and approved by all and will be signed by the Chair at a later date.

52.20/21 **Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda**

- 52.1 Speed gun for South Muskham – the Clerk advised a gun has been purchased and will be given to Cllr. Gilroy in the next couple of days. Volunteers are not able to go out at this time, but will be able to if the lockdown is lifted on December 2nd, even if we remain in Tier 3 subject to social distancing rules being applied.

53.20/21 **Financial Issues**

- 53.1 To record Receipts - None
53.2 To approve invoices for payment
i) Waterplus for period 14th Aug to 6th Nov at £28.56 (Direct Debit)
ii) Clerk expenses for July to Nov at £269.28 (incl purchase of speed gun)
53.3 Online banking – the Clerk confirmed Cllr. Catanach has been registered as a second user
53.4 Budget 2021/22 – proposed figures were circulated prior to the meeting. **All agreed** to defer a full discussion on the figures until the January meeting.

54.20/21 **Planning**

- 54.1 New Applications – None
Cllr. Shearing raised a query regarding application 20/02113/HPRIOR – under Prior Approval certain works are allowed within the curtilage of a property without formal consultation.
54.2 Decisions (for information only) – None

55.20/21 **Beckitts Field**

- 55.1 Criteria for possible resident hiring of the facilities
Cllr. Brown suggested that fireworks be added to the criteria as being banned from the site due to the proximity of a number of horses. The Clerk also suggested Chinese lanterns be added. **All agreed**

56.20/21 **Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning**

Nothing raised

57.20/21 **Highways**

- 57.1 Resident request to review safety at bus stop on A616 opposite Bathley Lane
Preliminary investigations have been carried out with Notts CC deciding that a detailed feasibility study should be undertaken to consider options and costs. This may take 6

months due to limited resources at this time and a report will be provided before May 2021.

57.2 Road sweep of Church Lane – requested by a resident and carried out

57.3 Cllr. Gilroy mentioned the deteriorating condition of the footpath from Church Lane along the Great North Road near the crash barriers. The Clerk to take photos and report to Via.

58.20/21 **Correspondence Received**

i) Notts CC and NSDC updates regarding Covid-19 and second national lockdown – noted and circulated via parish distribution list

ii) NSDC Parish Conference held on 14th October - presentation slides and YouTube link

iii) Advance Notice of essential maintenance at A46 Winthorpe Roundabout to A1/A46 junction from 6th November for one month – noted and circulated via distribution list

iv) Advance notice of overnight road closure at Church Lane level crossing on 4th December – noted and circulated via distribution list

v) Notice that the next meeting of the Newark Healthcare Consultative Group will be in the Spring

59.20/21 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**

Nothing raised

Next Meeting - Wednesday 20th January 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom. Any residents wishing to join the meeting should contact the Clerk.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and as this is the last meeting of the year wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year. The meeting was closed at 8pm.

Minutes approved as a true record – 20th January 2021