

Southorpe Parish Council (SPC)

**Minutes of meeting held at Ufford Village Hall at 1900 hours
on Wednesday 6th March 2024**

Councillors present: Simon Little (SL) Chair
Carl Brown (ACB)
Corinna Blackmore (CB)
Peter Corder (PC)
Victoria Haynes (VH)

Parish Clerk: Alison Hurford (AH)

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declaration of interests from members

No declaration of interest was declared.

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th January 2024

The minutes of the last meeting held on 10th January were accepted as a true record and duly signed by SL. ACB noted that the finance report was recorded as Appendix 1 but was not attached to the Minutes. This will happen in the future and will be displayed on the noticeboard. A copy of the January finances is available on the Council website under the Finance tab.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Fogarty Trust SL reported that he had had a reply from Buckles Solicitors, who are representatives for the Fogarty Trust, to say that this fund has now closed but they would keep our details and put forward to any other trusts that may become available. SL to chase in a few months' time.

Action: SL

4.2 Footpath from Ufford Bridge along Walcot Road CB to chase the Highways Department to attend to the overgrown footpaths in the village. Many footpaths are flooded and impassable at present.

Action: CB

4.3 CLF funding AH has chased this and the money has been allocated to the Council. Further emails have been sent to ascertain the delay in payment. AH to monitor.

Action: AH

5. Parish Planning

5.1 24/00075/CTR Multi-stemmed acer reduce crown to 1.2m where phone line wire is located - Ermine Lodge - Permitted

5.2 24/00076/CTR (T1) Birch raise crown to 3.5 m and prune back laterals growing towards house to maintain 2m clearance, (T2) fell small tree in poor condition between holly and crab-apple, (T3) crab-apple light reduction of crown by 1.5m and (T4, T5, T6) raise crowns to 4m – Keepers Cottage – Permitted

5.3 24/00002/REFPP proposed single story rear extension to annex – Middle Farm – Appeal in progress

5.4 24/00002/REFLBC proposed single story rear extension to annex – Middle Farm – Appeal in progress

- 6. Ward Update** There was no update as no meeting had been held since the last SPC meeting.

7. Finance

7.1 Current Finance

AH gave an update of the current Council's finances, see appendix 1.

7.2 Clerks Expenses were proposed by SL, seconded by VH as follows:

Clerk's wages for March and April at £162 gross per month.

Travel 18 miles (2x9 miles) to meeting @ .45p per mile = £8.10 (paid 11.03.24)

7.3 It was agreed to appoint AH as the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) and to remove VH as a signatory on the bank account. SL and AH to be added as signatories along with existing signatory CB. Edward Ellwood to also be removed. Proposed by ACB, seconded by PC.

8. Environmental

8.1 SL has been in correspondence with Anglian Water about the flooding and drainage. SL has also written to Mr Vara, MP, highlighting the issue and asking for support.

8.2 James Collingridge, Head of Highways and Transport at Peterborough City Council, came for a site visit to look at the roads and ditches in the village. A full inspection of the drains will now take place. SL to follow up. He confirmed that the ditches were the responsibility of the landowner and PCC were going to write to them to advise them of their responsibilities with regard ditch maintenance.

Action: SL

8.3 CB reported that the gate to the meadows is padlocked. AH to contact the Wildlife Trust to enquire as to the reason for this.

Action: AH

9. Traffic

9.1 Dualling of the A47

There have been no update meetings with Galliford Try. PC has contacted Keeley Russell and a meeting will be organised but no date as yet.

Action: PC

9.2 Barnack Ward Traffic meeting

ACB and PC attended a meeting on 22nd February hosted by James Collingridge (JC) Head of Highways at Peterborough City Council.

The speed between the villages was discussed amongst all Ward Parish Councils and it was felt 50MPH should be adopted.

There was disappointment that data collected from Speed Watch was not used by the police to prosecute. The Police and Crime Commissioner to be invited to the next meeting to discuss this.

It was suggested that moving speed signs so that they are seen earlier prior to entering the village could help. JC to check where the signs could go from a legal and regulatory perspective. Potentially painting white lines at certain 'pinch points' through the village might also help to slow traffics down.

Ufford PCC have agreed to extend their 20 mph limit to cover Southorpe Terrace. PCC will apply for funding from the Combined Authority.

9.3 Funding for VAS (vehicle Activated Sign)

AH contacted the Police and Crime Commissioner who suggested we apply to Cambridgeshire County Council for funding.

Action: AH

10. Local Plan

SL confirmed that the responses from SPC had been submitted objecting to all three 'call for sites' following January's meeting.

11. Council Elections 2nd May 2024

VH confirmed that she would not be standing as Councillor at the next elections. Anyone wishing to join the Council is invited to contact Peterborough City Council Electoral Services or visit the following webpage www.peterborough.gov.uk/council/councillors/become-a-councillor. Alternatively, any expression of interest can be directed to the Clerk.

SL thanked VH for all her hard work and dedication over the years since she joined the Council.

AH to attend an information meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday 12th March and report back.

12. Any Other Business

12.1 ACB highlighted a potential scheme called Street Votes.

"The government has secured new powers in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 to introduce a new route to planning permission called street vote development orders.

Street vote development orders are an innovative new tool that will give residents the ability to propose development on their street and, subject to the proposal meeting certain requirements, vote on whether the development should be given planning permission. They will support the government's long-term plan for housing – facilitating housing delivery and growth across England in partnership with local communities.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/street-vote-development-orders-consultation/street-vote-development-orders>

This was open to public consultation but closed on 2nd February and is something to monitor.

12.2 Should Southorpe have a Neighbourhood Plan? This to be discussed at the May meeting.

13. Date of next meeting

Weds 8th May at Ufford Village Hall, Ufford 7.00 pm

Meeting closed at 8.42 pm