

# Southorpe Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at Barnack Village Hall at 7.15 pm

Councillors Present: Carl Brown (ACB), Corinna Blackmore (CB), Peter Corder (PC)

Clerk: Alison Hurford (AH)

Members of Public: Adrian Billing, Gareth Brown, Danica Brown, Vanessa Edwards, John Shaw, Liam Curran, Simon Little, Donna Little, Doug Harmer, Nicola Bell, Chloe Bell

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| <b>24/43</b> | <b>To appoint a Chairperson for the meeting</b><br>Carl Brown was unanimously appointed as Chairman for the meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |    |
| <b>24/44</b> | <b>Apologies for Absence</b><br>Apologies were received from Councillor Irene Walsh (IW) and Councillor Clare Peacock                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |
| <b>24/45</b> | <b>Declaration of Interest</b><br>There were no Declarations of Interest                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |    |
| <b>24/46</b> | <b>Minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated)</b><br>The minutes of the last ordinary council meeting on 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2024 were unanimously agreed and signed as a true and correct record by ACB                                                                                                                                       |    |
| <b>24/47</b> | <b>Matters Arising from meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September</b><br><b>47.1</b> Footpath near Ufford Bridge – CB reported that the footpath has now been cleared successfully<br><b>47.2</b> Update on purchase of benches from CLF – AH reported that two picnic benches and one standard bench had been purchased and were now in place at the village field |    |
| <b>24/48</b> | <b>To co-opt Gareth Brown as a new councillor</b><br>Unanimously agreed to co-opt Gareth Brown (GB) as a Councillor for Southorpe Parish Council with immediate effect                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
| <b>24/49</b> | <b>Planning</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |    |
|              | <b>49.1</b> 24/28/1 24/00810/HHFUL - Removal of railings to south boundary and installation of black galvanized steel gate and fencing (Part retrospective) – The Old Diary Barn, Main Street, Southorpe. Approved                                                                                                                                             |    |
|              | <b>49.2</b> 24/01084/CTR - T.1 - Willow x2 (red) - Crown raise to 3m, T.2 - Alder (blue) - Reduce by approx. 1.5m and shape. Decision pending – Rose Cottage, Main Street, Southorpe. Approved                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
|              | <b>49.3</b> 24/01408/CTR T1 - White Poplar - Remove 2 westernmost stems which overhang neighbours garden to 5ft (1ft below fence) and repollard all other stems, T2 - Small Cherry – Fell - The Granary, Main Street Southorpe                                                                                                                                 |    |
|              | <b>49.4</b> To discuss any update on Nest Storage – no update from Peterborough City Council. AH to chase.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | AH |
| <b>24/50</b> | <b>Ward Update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |    |
|              | <b>50.1</b> Report from Ward Councillor Irene Walsh                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |    |

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|              | No report as Ward Councillor was not present                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
|              | <p><b>50.2</b> Report from Ward meeting on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October<br/>ACB attended the meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> October, and reported that the Neighbourhood Policing, scheduled to talk about Law and Order, did not attend.</p> <p>Speed Restrictions: No real update. Several Parishes have had a consultation but no feedback. Southorpe has not yet had a consultation, IW to chase both these issues.</p> <p>Flooding: No update from Ward see item 24/53.1</p> <p>Nature recovery: There was discussion regarding roadside verges and the maintenance provided by PCC. This did not involve Southorpe”.</p> <p>Fly tipping: Now have some tape to use if this occurs.</p> <p>Planning: The Ward has received several documents which have been circulated and help support opposition to the Local Plan</p> <p>ACB reported that Southorpe was the only Council in the Ward that has received an additional application in the latest Call for Sites. There was reassurance that the Ward would support each other should any sites reach the consultation stage in the Plan.</p> |    |
| <b>24/51</b> | <b>Finance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |    |
|              | <p><b>51.1</b> To receive and discuss finance report with bank reconciliation<br/>This was received and approved. The current account has £1137.98 and savings £6438.35 (see agenda item 24/51.5) Finance Report attached and on website</p> <p>AH confirmed that she had spoken to Inland Revenue and the VAT reclaim should be in the account within the next few days</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
|              | <p><b>51.2</b> To discuss current banking arrangements<br/>AH confirmed that Victoria Haynes has now been replaced as Primary User by AH. All signatories are correct. Next action is to apply for dual authorisation on payments in line with audit requirements and then to apply for a Council bank card for purchases</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | AH |
|              | <p><b>51.3</b> To discuss clerk’s pay increase in line with national pay scales<br/>It was agreed to increase Clerk’s pay to £14.13 an hour. This was agreed to be back paid from April 2024 again in line with national agreements</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
|              | <p><b>51.4</b> To discuss the budget proposals for 2025/26<br/>AH presented the Budget projections for 2025/26. Proposed Budget attached and on website under Finance</p> <p>The budget was agreed which will mean a 15% increase in the Precept to cover expenditure. Precept to be £4188.30</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |    |
|              | <p><b>51.5</b> To discuss grant from Hopkins Charitable Trust<br/>AH reported that last October the Council put in an application to the Adrian Patrick Fogarty Trust for a grant to purchase two VAS monitors. This wasn’t successful but the application was held by Buckles Solicitors for any future grants that may become available. Subsequently, we received notification that we had been successful from the Hopkins Charitable Trust and have received £5000 for this purpose. GB to continue to liaise with Elan City with regard to the purchase of these.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | GB |

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| <b>24/52</b> | <b>Payments – the following payments were agreed:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |
|              | <b>52.1</b> Clerk mileage for November 18 miles @ .45p a mile                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | £ 8.10  |
|              | <b>52.2</b> Clerk wages for November and December @ £129.60                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | £259.20 |
|              | <b>52.3</b> Payroll provider PCVS for October, November and December                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | £ 36.00 |
|              | <b>52.4</b> Refund AH for Ink Subscription for October                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | £3.90   |
|              | <b>52.5</b> Agree to refund AH for November and December for ink subscription                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | £7.80   |
|              | <b>52.6</b> Refund AH for A4 paper                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | £2.99   |
| <b>24/53</b> | <b>Environmental</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
|              | <p><b>53.1</b> To discuss Multi Agency Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October<br/> CB represented Southorpe at the above meeting. MAG comprises Anglian Water, PCC Highways Drainage, Internal Drainage Board and councillors from the Barnack ward to investigate and where possible find solutions to sewer and flooding issues in the villages. CB accompanied Anglian Water (Oct) and PCC Highways Drainage (Nov) on surveys of the village to reiterate issues affecting each household and area of the village. As a result, a number of actions have been agreed including investigation of the filled in ditch opposite Rosemead.</p> <p>Anglian Water: camera the sewer again to check for ingress; check the previous 'mis-connections' project to identify any properties where roof drainage is entering the sewer; seal an instance of groundwater ingress to sewer from a property observed during the survey; carry out modelling work to provide information about sewer capacity; discuss potential for existing ditches to take water away from the village.</p> <p>PCC Highways drainage: surveys manholes and gulleys to ascertain drainage routes and condition of existing infrastructure - repair/maintain where necessary; speak to landowners about maintaining ditches and possible investigative work regarding field drainage.</p> <p>Next meeting is on 27 Nov 2024. CB to attend</p> |         |
| <b>24/54</b> | <b>Traffic</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |
|              | <b>54.1</b> To discuss speed restrictions<br>Nothing to report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |
|              | <b>54.2</b> To discuss A47 improvements<br>This is delayed and no date to recommence has been received so can be removed from the Agenda                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         |
|              | <b>54.3</b> To discuss Barnack Ward Traffic Group<br>No update                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |
| <b>24/55</b> | <p><b>Local Plan – to discuss latest call for site applications</b></p> <p>ACB gave an update on the latest Call for Sites from Peterborough City Council whereby Southorpe has received another nomination for 40 houses to be built on a site called Middle Farm Fields Site reference no: 5010. This is a site of 6 acres of open fields with 2 access routes by 2 private roads of which one is shared by the applicant.</p> <p>ACB opened the floor for consultation and the following comments were received:</p> <p>Resident 1: raised concerns about the environmental site that backs onto the site. Access is also an issue as the Applicant only has shared ownership of one of the access roads.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |         |

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|              | <p>Resident 2: Neither access road is wide enough for constant traffic and does not at present, have a path for pedestrians.</p> <p>Resident 3: Has no problem with a single dwelling but is opposed to 40 houses in a development. There are services on the shared access road which may need to be accessed from time to time and this would be difficult if the road was in constant use for an estate for 40 houses.</p> <p>Resident 4: Has concerns about the shared driveway. There is some land where a gate has been installed by the applicant with no negotiations with the neighbours. This site is the lowest point in the village and has concerns about flooding.</p> <p>Resident 5: Commented on the installation of the gate without permission. Stated that after 10 years it becomes permanent whether it is legal or not. Suggested that the applicant remove the application via the Call for Sites process and put in for Planning Permission via the usual route. Stated that we need to fight all the applications submitted for Southorpe once we know if they have reached the next stage.</p> <p>At the end of the public consultation the council discussed the matter and agreed unanimously to oppose the application. ACB and AH to submit an objection using the form supplied by the Council</p> | ACB/AH |
| <b>24/56</b> | <p><b>Risk Assessment – to discuss implementing a Risk Assessment for the Council in line with audit requirements</b></p> <p>A draft Risk Assessment had previously been distributed to Councillors. CB to continue working on this and present at January meeting</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | CB     |
| <b>24/57</b> | <p><b>.GOV Domain – to discuss the update to the application</b></p> <p>AH reported that most Councillors and Clerk were now using the new .gov.uk email account. AH to now look at transferring the website to the new .gov.uk address</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | AH     |
| <b>24/58</b> | <p><b>AEGAN funding -To discuss possible funding application to AEGAN</b></p> <p>AH to investigate prices for a new noticeboard for the village and submit an application to the above fund</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | AH     |
| <b>24/59</b> | <p><b>Date of next meeting</b> It was agreed that the date of the next Parish Meeting would be Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at Barnack Village Hall at 7.15 pm</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |        |