

Southorpe Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2025 at Barnack Village Hall at 7.15 pm

Councillors Present: Carl Brown (ACB), Corinna Blackmore (CB), Gareth Brown (GB), Peter Corder (PC), Clare Peacock (CP)

Clerk: Alison Hurford (AH)

25/01	To appoint a Chairman for the meeting Carl Brown was unanimously elected Chairman for the meeting	
25/02	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Irene Walsh	
25/03	Declaration of Interest There were no declarations of interest	
25/04	Minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated) Minutes of the last ordinary council meeting on 13 th November 2024 were unanimously agreed and signed by ACB	
25/05	Matters Arising from meeting on 13th November There were no matters arising.	
25/06	Planning - To receive details of planning applications and note or resolve council responses	
	06.1 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	
	06.2 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. Approved	
	06.3 24/01567/FUL – Change of use of agricultural land to dog walking paddocks including formation of gravel car parking area, fencing and landscaping – Land to East of Wittering Ford Road, Barnack. It was noted that there were several errors, namely: the address for both the applicant and the location of the site on the planning application are identified as Barnack and not Southorpe; all documents submitted are addressed as Barnack, not Southorpe; and the Planning, Design and Access Statement submitted refers to the Barnack Neighbourhood Plan 2020 – 2036 which is irrelevant to this application as Southorpe parish is not covered by this plan. In addition, Peterborough City Council has listed the application on the Barnack search site and not Southorpe. AH to write to the planning department to query this. The Council has no objections to the application.	AH
	06.4 To discuss any update on Nest Storage. Correspondence has been received from the Principal Planning Enforcement Officer, Heather Wakefield, confirming that a planning enforcement case was	

	opened in September 24/00212/ENFCOU for alleged breach and unauthorised change of use of agricultural land to site and use storage containers for commercial use, to investigate this matter and the case remains open.	
	06.5 To receive and note any new applications arriving after the agenda issued and discuss as appropriate No new applications were received	
25/07	Ward Update	
	07.01 Report from Ward Councillor Irene Walsh There was no report from Councillor Walsh ACB reported on the recent Ward meeting he attended. The Local Plan was discussed. Southorpe was the only parish in the Ward that had received another site application in the latest round of Call for Sites. It was discussed that the Ward should all work together to support each parish should any of the Call for Sites reach the next stage when the next document is published.	
25/08	Finance	
	08.01 To receive and discuss finance report with bank reconciliation The bank reconciliation had been circulated prior to the meeting and CP signed this as a true record. (Appendix A under Finance on website) The current account has a balance of £925.10 and Reserve Account £6458 inc £5000 grant see item 25.11.3	
	08.02 To discuss the budget proposals for 2025/26 This is an addendum to the Budget item 24.51.4 and Precept was discussed again. The budget still stands as £4121 net so to cover this the Precept needs to increase by 22.07%. The Council is paying £500 from the Reserve Account. The current figure for a Band D property is £40.05 per year so with this increase it will be £48.89 a year. Full details of the budget can be found under Finance on the website	
	08.03 To discuss grant from Hopkins Charitable Trust See item 25.11.3	
	08.04 Update on dual authorisation and bank card Dual authorisation is now in place, and it was decided not to apply for a bank card as the Council doesn't have the need for this. All payments seem to be made by BACS payment and this is sufficient at present.	
25/09	Payments – the following payments were agreed unanimously	
	09.01 Clerk mileage for January 18 miles @ .45p a mile	£ 8.10
	09.02 Clerk wages for January and February @ £135.56	£271.12
	09.03 Refund AH for Ink Subscription for January and February	£6.45
25/10	Environmental	
	10.1 To discuss Multi Agency Meeting held on 27 th November CB reported on this and felt that progress was slower than expected. A list of outstanding actions for Southorpe had been minuted and progress against these is expected at the next meeting. CB to monitor and feed back. Next meeting is 29 th January CB to attend.	CB

	10.2 To discuss Carbon Neutral Training and Net Zero correspondence from PCC 10.2 CB has attended 3 out of the 4 modules of the Climate change training and is awaiting a date for the outstanding module. CB to pass on some initiatives and ideas for personal climate change actions to the village via the WhatsApp group in the first instance. Wothorpe PC also attended the training and CB will follow up on possible joint opportunities to engage both parishes. The training suggested sources of funding that could be available for climate change/carbon reduction projects which as a parish may be useful. SPC would like to thank CB for attending the training.	CB
	10.3 To discuss John Clare Countryside Update (JCC) CP attended the recent John Clare Countryside Conference on 10th December. The main focus of the conference was “How to engage city residents in the countryside” There is also a nature recovery strategy which goes to public consultation in July. Cambridgeshire is the most nature neglected county in the UK so JCC are looking to increase nature in the area. A newsletter has been received and AH to put the link on the WhatsApp page. CP to contact JCC to ask them to visit the village field to ascertain how it could be best used and how nature could be encouraged there.	AH CP
25/11	Traffic	
	11.1 To discuss speed restrictions An update has been received from Councillor Walsh but no mention of Southorpe. GB to chase.	GB
	11.2 To discuss Barnack Ward Traffic Group See 25.11.1	
	11.3 To discuss VAS monitor (vehicle activated speed) purchase with funding from Hopkins Charitable Trust GB present three quotes for speed monitors and it was decided to go for the Elan City solar speed monitor. This company has been used by several other Councils in the Ward. GB to contact PCC to ask the next steps	GB
25/12	Parish Liaison Meeting PC to be the representative at this meeting. AH to email to find out the date of the next meeting	AH
25/12	Local Plan – to discuss latest call for site applications The view of the Council and residents on the latest application have been submitted. No further update until the next document is published in February.	
25/13	Risk Assessment – to discuss implementing a Risk Assessment for the Council in line with audit requirements CB to report on this at the next meeting in March	CB
25/14	.GOV Domain – to discuss the update to the application AH to change the website over to the .gov.uk address	AH
25/15	AUGEAN funding -To discuss possible funding application to AUGEAN AH presented three quotes for a new noticeboard. At present the funding is closed and will re-open in 2025. AH to monitor this and when it is open decide on the type of noticeboard required.	AH

25/16	Parish Charter This was distributed and read by Councillors	
25/17	Remembrance Tool Kit As a Council we do not organise a Remembrance Day service but represent Southorpe at the Barnack Remembrance. SPC will provide a wreath to be laid in memory of military personnel lost from Southorpe	
25/18	Horse Riders GB raised the point that more horse riders were going through the village and felt that a sign at each end warning drivers to take care could be appropriate. GB to speak to Peter Tebbs at PCC to advise on this.	GB
25/19	Council Contact Information An audit of council contact information is needed. AH to contact the Parish Magazine/Village Tribune to update details.	AH
25/20	Date of next meeting To agree that the date of the next Parish Meeting is Wednesday 12 th March at Barnack Village Hall at 7.15 pm	