

Southorpe Parish Council (SPC)

Minutes of meeting held at Ufford Village Hall at 1930 hours
on Wednesday 8th May 2024

Councillors present: Simon Little (SL) Chair
Carl Brown (ACB)
Corinna Blackmore (CB)
Peter Corder (PC)
Clare Peacock (CP)

Irene Walsh (Barnack Ward Councillor)

Parish Clerk: Alison Hurford (AH)

Members of Public: Nick Lodge

24/1 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

24/2 Declaration of interests from members

ACB declared a declaration of interest in a Parish Planning item number 24/00589/CTR-Abbots Barn, Main Street, Southorpe

24/3 Acceptance of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th March 2024

The minutes of the last meeting held on 6th March were accepted as a true record with one minor amendment in that item 8.3 CB was amended to VH, the minutes were then duly signed by SL.

24/4 Matters Arising

24/4/1 Local Elections Four Councillors (SL, ACB, CB, and PC) were uncontested in the local elections and continue for another term. SL welcomed CP as a new Councillor.

24/4/2 Footpath from Ufford Bridge along Walcot Road CB reported that an order had been raised by the Public Rights of Way Officer to engage contractors to clear this. CB to monitor.

Action: CB

24/4/3 CLF funding This money was allocated to the Council in November. AH/SL to liaise to source a suitable bench.

Action: SL/AH

24/4/4 Wildlife Trust – Meadows AH received an email response from the Wildlife Trust saying the gate had been locked on a temporary basis to protect the meadow during the extremely wet weather and would be open again as soon as possible.

24/5 Parish Planning

5.1 24/00002/REFPP proposed single story rear extension to annex – Middle Farm – Appeal in progress

5.2 24/00002/REFLBC proposed single story rear extension to annex – Middle Farm – Appeal in progress

24/00589/CTR-Abbots Barn Main Street Southorpe – There was a brief discussion regarding this application which excluded ACB in accordance with his declaration of interest. The outcome was there were no objections raised to this application. It was

noted that it was a late addition to the Agenda due to the Peterborough City Council's computer system and an urgent 7 day decision was requested from SPC.

5.3 Neighbourhood Plan – it was acknowledged that there is probable merit in SPC having a neighbourhood plan at some point in the future but not necessarily at this point in time. There is a Conservation Plan for the village, which is very comprehensive, that Peterborough City Council adopted in the past.

Local Plan: There was no update on the Local Plan and in particular the "Call for Sites" IW volunteered to ask for an update on the Call for Sites situation from PCC Head of Planning.

Action: IW

- 24/6 Ward Update** SL congratulated IW on her recent election win as Barnack Ward Councillor. IW reported that the leadership of Peterborough City Council will be decided at a full Council meeting on 20th May. IW asked the Council's opinion on the regularity of the Ward meetings, and it was suggested that they could be every two months to help with communication, consistency and to maintain momentum particularly as there are presently a number of important issues on the agenda for example: speeding, flooding and the "Call for Sites".

24/7 Finance

24/7/1 Current Finance

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

24/7/2 The following clerk's expenses were agreed by the Council.

Clerk's wages for May and June at £129.60 net per month.

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

Colour Ink for printer £25.47

24/7/3 The following payments were agreed and approved:

- CAPALC membership £209
- PCVS £36.00
- Ufford Village Hall £175
- Budget of £50 was approved to go towards the village picnic

24/7/4 SL presented the Council with a forecast of the Council's budget for the forthcoming years and touched on the fact that with the current cost of living inflation it is highly likely we would need to continue to increase the precept each year above national inflation levels to balance the accounts.

AH to enquire as an alternative venue for the meetings, in order to reduce costs, and to transfer most of the balance in the current account to the deposit account to maximise the interest paid.

Action: AH

24/8 Environmental

Flooding: NL updated the Council on the history and the current issues with regards the problem re the flooding in the road by Brook House and opposite Rosemead. There are a number of issues which are likely to be contributing to this and need to be picked up with PCC and others to resolve. SL thanked NL for the background detail which is very helpful and updated everyone on his continued discussions with PCC. SL to contact James Collingridge to ask him to come out again and advise.

Action: SL

Flooding and Sewage: PCC and AWG are hosting a multi-agency meeting to discuss the flooding and sewage situation across the Barnack Ward. SL and CB will attend the multi agency meeting (Anglian Water, Bainton, Barnack, Ufford and Southorpe PCs and Peterborough City Council) on 15th May to represent Southorpe.

Action: SL/CB

ACB queried whether there was any funding from the John Clare project available. CB/CP to investigate.

Action: CB/CP

24/9 Traffic

24/9/1 Dualling of the A47

PC has been in contact with Keeley Russell from Galiford Try for an update. The archaeological works have been hampered by the wet weather so work is behind schedule. She did mention that there would be an Archaeological Open Day on 7th July but we are awaiting confirmation of this and how it will be communicated to residents.

24/9/2 Barnack Ward Traffic meeting

There has been no update on this due to the recent elections. PC to chase.

Action: PC

24/9/3 Funding for VAS (vehicle Activated Sign)

This has been halted as it was being dealt with as a Ward issue. AH to contact Buckles, Solicitors to see if there has been any more funds identified from any Trusts which we might be able to apply for.

Action: AH

24/10 Date of next meeting

Weds 10th July at Barnack Village Hall, Ufford 7.00 pm