

# Kirklington Parish Council Meeting

Minutes for Parish Council meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 7.30pm

Attendees: Cllr Bob Radford (RSR)(Chair), Cllr Ian Woolridge (IW), Cllr Graeme Wheatcroft (GW), Cllr Andrew Twidale (AT), Cllr Sarah French (SF), Cllr Nigel Chattin (NC); District Cllr Penny Rainbow (PR), Helen Cowlan (HC)(Clerk)  
Public: Colin McGarrigle

## 1. Apologies for absence

Cllrs Rainbow and Laughton sent apologies.

## 2. Formal welcome to the new Parish Councillor

A formal welcome was given to Nigel Chattin who has joined as Parish Councillor.

## 3. Declarations of interest

None.

## 4. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were approved as a true record. Unanimously approved.

## 5. Adjournment for matters to be raised by the public for future consideration, and County/District Councillor items

*Speedwatch* – Mr McGarrigle gave an overview of the support that can be given to set up a Speedwatch Scheme including training and equipment. **Action – CMcG to draft an email for HC to circulate to residents to encourage volunteers, and to add to website (22-10).**

*Village Hall support* – formal thanks has been received from Peter Emerson for the financial contribution to the Hall.

## 6. Planning

- i) 23/02258/TWCA - The New House, Southwell Rd – felling and pruning of three trees. **Outcome – permission granted (info only).**
- ii) Licensing Application – Maxey's Farm. **Action – decision needed by 7/2.**
- iii) 24/00203/S19LBC – Mill Farmhouse, Southwell Rd – variance to condition 2 of 22/01189/LBC to amend glazing style and arrangement of replacement of the approved replacement garden room. **Action – decision needed by 7/2.**

## 7. GNR Solar Park

Cllr Wheatcroft gave an overview of the webinar attended – lots of information is available online. There will be proposals to build a solar farm of 800mw and this first stage is to gather information via public consultation, before a formal consultation in the Autumn. It will take 2900ha / 7500 acres of land, half of which will be permanently out of use with the rest as access / for cabling. The location has been chosen due to the grid connection at Staythorpe, and coal fired energy will be decommissioned across the county. Proposals avoid the use of high grade agricultural land, and provide allowances for flood prevention measures and improving landscapes. Existing hedge boundaries will be maintained and panels will not be within 100m of residential properties. Other areas under consideration include:

- Removing 250k tonnes of CO2
- Contributing £1m p/yr for 40yrs to a community fund
- Improving road networks
- Reviewing new flood alleviation measures
- New footpaths and bike trails
- Business taxes generates income for local authority
- Generation of energy rather than importing
- Planting trees
- Increasing employment
- Micro generation schemes
- Education days for local communities

It is unlikely to generate additional traffic which will affect Kirklington. It is a case of assessing whether or not this is taking the right form for developing renewable energy.

Cllr Twidale attended a face-to-face meeting in Eakring where the superb presentation was well prepared with information and facts (already two years in the making). The Government have said

that they want to have windmills to be offshore, and so solar panels will be developed inland. The area will link to Staythorpe (currently gas). AT highlighted a concern that some of the land would not be considered to be 'low grade', and they are only leasing from landowners who would have to give permission for changes e.g. footpaths. It is accepted that there is a need to move away from coal / gas but the amount of land involved is concerning, and visual impacts need to be considered (e.g. glare).

Both Councillors had mixed views, and could see pros and cons. Landowners will generate more income from this rather than growing crops, but the loss of arable land could create instability in markets (on a larger scale). It is not known if or how the intense coverage could impact local house prices.

No further action is needed until formal planning proposals are submitted.

## 8. Flooding

Cllrs Wheatcroft and Woolridge met with the head of County's Flood Resilience Programme and gave the following updates:

- i) A meeting will be set up with key affected residents to look at future resilience / alleviation including flooding modelling for the village; investigating what can be done to stop those that cause the most damage.
- ii) Dykes, gullies and drains – Cllr Woolridge is chasing Via to request urgent review of drain cleansing (inc Church Lane/Southwell Rd). Inspection will be carried out to review and investigate drains along the A617, public footpaths and connections to the southern dyke.
- iii) Hall Farm Lane – causes of flooding to be investigated
- iv) The Mill – it was identified that flooding was caused by the river itself (not field floods)
- v) Northern dyke – looking to divert water by adding an 'apron'.

It was felt that issues are being reviewed holistically and together, rather than each issue in isolation, and a survey will be carried out for the full length / stretch. There are a few areas for which routes and conditions are not known – surveys will identify whether infrastructure is performing as it should in a number of areas.

## 9. Action points review

Number	PC member	Subject	Date Raised	Status
19-57	RSR/IW	<p><u>School Playing Field</u></p> <p>RSR and IW met with the School's Head; now awaiting update from NCC legal team; School has no issue with PC insurance (PLI) but does have concerns about unauthorised usage; PC offered to fund a combination lock with number only given to locals who are 'authorised' to use the field (not hardstanding areas). No update received as at Feb meeting.</p> <p><b>Action: HC chase NCC for response and follow up on user agreement.</b></p>	Nov-19	ongoing
20-25	GW/IW	<p><u>Flooding / drainage projects</u></p> <p>see agenda item 8 (Feb) for full update. GW and IW continue to lead and co-ordinate the flood group and provide updates via WhatsApp and email as urgency requires; updates also to be brought to each meeting.</p> <p><b>Action: PR to speak to BL to establish if any additional funding is available; HC to speak to NSDC (AH) about grants / funding for projects that may fit, and also see if NALC have any advice.</b></p>	Oct-20	ongoing

20-26	HC	<u>Potholes/road issues</u> Awaiting update from County / BL about surface issues on Eakring Rd. Claims for damage to tyres/vehicles should be made via NCC Customer Service.  <b>Action - will be reviewed once updates received. Siding up on A617 to be reviewed and reported.</b>	Oct-20	ongoing
21-22	HC	<u>National Grid</u> <b>Action - HC to chase up contact from office of Chairman of National Grid; also request a speed check / Speedwatch in the area; see if the local Policing Team can offer help.</b>	Sep-21	ongoing
22-10	IW/HC/PR/CMcG	<u>Speeding in village</u> Monitoring strips were due to be placed during Sept - none have been seen as yet. NSDC and local Policing Team can provide training and equipment for Speedwatch scheme  <b>Action - IW to chase plans to monitor traffic on A617; Mr McGarrigle to draft message for residents to ask for volunteers for Speedwatch Scheme - HC to send and update website; PR will speak to BL about what can be done about cameras.</b>	Apr-22	ongoing
23-04	IW/PR	<u>The Mill</u> Recent site visit from NCC included a review of the area; possibility of interactive speed signs is being reviewed.  <b>Action - IW is still monitoring / cashing for updates; PR to chase possibility of interactive speed signs</b>	Feb-23	ongoing
23-05	HC/all	<u>CIL Funding</u> Due to recent flooding, it was agreed that there should be a refocus of attention with the potential to use (some) CIL funding on related projects. Some funding may also be allocated to Belle Eau Park (to be confirmed)  <b>Action - Cllr Chattin will research what grants / funding might be available e.g. match-funding</b>	Feb-23	ongoing
23-09	HC/PR	<u>Belle Eau Park issues</u> After an initially positive conversation with Linage, no further updates have been received. It has been established that BEP does not have formal status of industrial estate - private land but enforcement is a problem. Parish/District Cllr for Bilsthorpe is involved. Cllr Radford to represent KPC as needed e.g. future meetings.  <b>Action - HC to continue to chase Lineage for progress and contact NSDC to see if any funding would be available to support BEP residents e.g cameras for monitoring parking and staying 'illegally'. Need to establish overnight policy. Arrange meeting if possible.</b>	Apr-23	ongoing
23-11	HC	<u>Policy Review</u> <b>Action - HC to amend 'last reviewed' dates on policies and ensure up to date on website.</b>	Jul-23	ongoing
23-13	HC	<u>Village Welcome Letter</u> <b>Action - HC to add in updates about current Cllrs, bin days (brown on Wed, rest on Thurs), and OnDemand bus service.</b>	Sep-23	ongoing
23-14	HC	<u>Footbridge surfaces</u> <b>Action - HC will chase Footpaths Team to see if anything can be done to improve slippery surfaces.</b>	Oct-23	ongoing

23-15	HC	<u>Vacancy</u> All actions have been completed	Oct-23	closed
23-17	HC	<u>Dog Fouling</u> <b>Action - HC to chase NSDC for advice and support.</b>	Nov-23	ongoing

**10. WINGS**

There have been some siting of staff following students who have left the site. There have been instances of smoking outside the Hall (possibly staff) and feedback will be taken back to the School.

**11. Financial matters**

- i) Balances – current account £5793.80, deposit account total £21011.01 (inc CIL £12438.30 and ringfenced flood reserve element). It was agreed to allocate £4000.00 from CIL to used for flooding, which will be replaced when future precept funds are received – proposed RSR, seconded AT.
- ii) Clerk payment – payment for January approved – unanimously approved.
- iii) Review any payments due – £110.32 NottsALC subs – unanimously approved.

**12. Traffic Report**

- i) 27/1 6am – Eakring Rd bends – van hit tree, no known injuries, vehicle towed away (no emergency vehicles attended).

**13. Lockwell Hill Development**

No planning requests have been submitted / information received about the solar farm development.

**14. Bilsthorpe Incinerator**

No updates have been received.

**15. Gravel for Church Gates**

Proposals will be reviewed when the weather improves.

**16. Footpath Maintenance**

The A617 needs siding up on the south side. **ACTION – HC to check location with NC and report (20-26).**

**17. Kirklington Village Signs**

Due to escalation of flooding-related issues in the village, it had previously been agreed that consideration of new village signs would be revisited at a future date. **ACTION - Cllr Chattin will research what grants / funding might be available e.g. match-funding (23-05).**

**18. Correspondence**

All correspondence of note had been circulated at the time of sending the agenda – nothing additional received since.

**19. Date of next meeting**

4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm

Additionally:

It is hoped that PPE will be obtained and can be used for flood issues and Speedwatch schemes. MP Mark Spencer may be visiting on 8<sup>th</sup> March to understand issue faced by the village.

Meeting ended 9.15pm

.....Signed (Chair)

.....Date