

South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 21st June 2023 at 7.30pm in the Main Hall, South Muskham Village Hall

Membership: C Briggs-Price, K Brown, D Catanach, R Gill, P Jarvis, G Shearing and E Tilbury

Also Present: Councillor Mrs Saddington and two members of Muskham Cougars; Mr Jones and Mr Bratton

20.23/24 **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**
No apologies for absence had been received.

21.23/24 **Declarations of Interest**
There were none to record.

22.23/24 **To consider a proposal by the Muskham Cougars**
With the permission of Members, the Chair brought forward agenda item 8.1 and suspended Standing Orders to allow representatives from Muskham Cougars to present their report, a copy of which had been circulated to Members for information prior to the meeting.

The Muskham Cougars had enjoyed a long relationship with the Parish Council, using Beckitt Field as a training ground for the team. An opportunity had arisen to apply for funding through the Football Foundation, the charitable arm of the Premier League, to improve the pitch. This would mean undertaking a pitch management survey, then the Foundation would recommend work to be done and make a funding offer to the club.

Beckitt Field is currently set up for 9 a side games, but the club would want to change that to an 11 a side, which could then accommodate U15/16 teams. The Foundation would also want the club to demonstrate security of tenancy, ideally for 10 years.

The Chair asked for clarity on whether any extra facilities would be needed on site, should funding be granted. It was considered that 10 years was too long a tenancy to agree as the field had been left as open space for the village to use.

It was confirmed that no extra facilities would be required, i.e., changing rooms. Parking could continue to be contained within the field after any pitch adjustment. There may be a requirement to move the cutting of the field into the Winter months, which would require a discussion with the Council's contractor.

The Football Foundation funding was front loaded as more work would be required in the first 2 years. It was not expected that the ongoing maintenance would be funded once work was complete.

The Chair advised that the Parish Council had requested changes to the 'No Dogs Allowed' public space protection order to 'Dogs on Leads'. That change was

expected to be made legal shortly. If dog fouling became a problem on the pitch, some delineation may be required so residents knew where dogs could not go.

Members noted that the current agreement ran from 1st August 2022 to 31st July 2023.

Discussion took place around current liability for costs on site. The Clerk confirmed that the Cougars paid a nominal annual fee of £150, with the Parish Council picking up all costs for electricity, water and grounds maintenance (including grass cutting). The Cougars would like to understand the costs incurred by the Parish Council. The Clerk to provide details of the annual cost to 31st March 2023.

Councillor Brown expressed a concern at the increased age range, and the potential impact on adjacent residents with stronger ball kicks. Cougars confirmed that they would work with the Parish Council if this became a problem.

After discussion, Members were unanimous in their support for the proposal put forward by the Muskham Cougars.

Open Session

The Chair suspended the meeting to allow Cllr Mrs Saddington to present her report.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mrs Saddington for attending the site meeting on the Walnut Tree earlier, and for her swift response in liaising with the Trees & Woodlands Officer regarding the Tree Preservation Order.

Cllr Mrs Saddington advised that the next Planning Committee would be held on 6th July 2023.

The sustainability of Caunton Dean School was currently being reviewed, with a possible closure due to dwindling pupil numbers.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 8.30pm.

23.23/24 Chair's Report

The Chair extended his congratulations to the Village Hall Committee for a very successful Coronation Party on the 6th May.

The Chair acknowledged the recent sad loss of life on the GNER line last week, and also a resident of North Muskham through a road traffic accident on Norwell Road.

It was noted that speeding remained an issue throughout both communities, with speedwatch monitoring determining 10% of drivers were over the 40mph limit.

24.23/24 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2023

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 18th May 2023 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

25.23/24 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

There were none.

26.23/24 **Financial Issues**

26.1 To record Receipts

There were no receipts to record.

26.2 Invoices for payment:

- Bank Charges - £8.00
- Clerk's Wages (May) - £301
- HMRC Payment (May) - £75.20
- WaterPlus Bill – Beckett Field - £73.13
- Names – Renewal of smlcpc.org for 1 year - £32.89
- Norwell Groundcare – 20th May & 11th June - £180
- Trent Valley IDB – Agricultural Drainage Rates - £19.53

26.3 To note completion of the Internal Audit of the financial accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023

The Clerk advised that the Internal Audit could not be completed as there was a difference in interest on the Scottish Widows account. A statement going back to 2021 to date had been requested but not yet received.

As soon as the information was available, the AGAR would be updated and resubmitted for Internal Audit. A short meeting of the Parish Council would need to be convened to consider the accounts.

26.4 To consider the Annual Governance Statement for the 2022-23 Financial Year

This could not be considered due to the Internal Audit not yet being complete.

26.5 To consider the Accounting Statement for the 2022-23 Financial Year and the Certificate of Exemption

These could not be considered due to the Internal Audit not yet being complete.

27.23/24 **Planning**

27.2 Applications

23/00898/HOUSE – Burridge Farm, Crab Lane, North Muskham – Demolish conservatory and boot room. Single storey rear extension

It was AGREED that no objection be raised to the application as outlined.

28.23/24 **Parish Council Matters**

28.1 To receive notification of a Tree Preservation Order on the Walnut Tree at South Muskham Village Hall

Members noted the Tree Preservation Order that had been placed on the Walnut Tree. Objections or comments needed to be submitted by 3rd July 2023. Members were all in agreement that they would prefer not to see the tree cut down. No comment would be made on the Tree Preservation Order.

28.2 Little Carlton Defibrillator – Replacement Battery

Cllr Jarvis advised that the battery in the defibrillator at Little Carlton was coming to the end of its life. It was AGREED that the Clerk purchase a replacement.

- 28.3 To ratify spend on new shelving for the Telephone Box, South Muskham
It was AGREED that a quotation to install new shelving in the Telephone Box be progressed.
- 28.4 Safer Neighbourhood Group Meeting – Previous Minutes & Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting would be held at 5.30pm on Thursday, 20th July. Cllr Jarvis would attend.
- 28.5 To note concerns regarding the Level Crossing at South Muskham to raise with Network Rail
Members discussed the recent concerns around the Level Crossing barriers coming down people were crossing, despite assurances being given previously that this could not happen due to monitoring of the barriers.

It was AGREED that the Clerk request a representative from Network Rail attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.
- 29.23/24 **Beckett Field**
- 29.1 To consider a proposal by the Muskham Cougars
This item had been taken earlier on the agenda.
- 30.23/24 **Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning**
There were no items to consider.
- 31.23/24 **Highways**
- 31.1 To receive an update on interactive signage for the A616
The Clerk confirmed that Via had advised an interactive sign should be provided by the end of the financial year.
- 31.2 To receive notification of essential maintenance works on the A46 - Winthorpe Roundabout to Brough.
Members received and noted the notification outlining the works on the A46 in August and September.
- 31.3 Other Highways Matters
The Chair referred to a number of issues relating to
- Condition of road surfaces in and around the villages
 - Resurfacing of Great North Road from A46 to South Muskham & surface dressing of Great North Road from South Muskham to A1 roundabout
 - Condition of A1 roundabout surface
 - Speeding through Little Carlton & South Muskham
- The Clerk was asked to raise all these issues with County Councillor Laughton.
- In terms of the recent roadworks on Great North Road, it was appreciated that the traffic lights had been removed after 5pm.

- 32.23/24 **Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils**
32.1 To note the date of the 2023 Annual General Meeting
 Members noted that the Annual General Meeting would be held on 11th September 2023.
- 32.2 To note correspondence regarding D-Day 2024
 Members noted information outlining national proposals to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day on 6th June 2024. The Clerk to forward details to the Village Hall Committee.
- 33.23/24 **Correspondence Received**
33.1 Letter from Robert Jenrick MP
 Members noted a letter received from Robert Jenrick MP extending congratulations on being elected to serve in the Local Elections.
- 34.23/24 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**

Next Meeting – Parish Council – 19th July 2023 at South Muskham & Little Carlton Village Hall

The meeting was closed at 9.03pm

Minutes approved as a true record –