

South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20th January 2021 at 7.30pm

This was a virtual meeting conducted via Zoom.

Membership: D Catanach, C Brightmore, K Brown, R Gill, G Gilroy, P Jarvis, G Shearing (A)

Members of Public: 1

60.20/21 **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies – Cllr Gill

Declarations of Interest – None

Open Session

There were no matters raised.

61.20/21 **Chair's Report**

The Chair expressed his condolences to the family of Sandra Akerman, Clerk to the Council, who had passed away suddenly at the end of December. Members were grateful for her service, support and dedication to the communities of South Muskham and Little Carlton. She will be sadly missed.

After discussion it was agreed that if a collection were held a sum of £25 be donated, otherwise the Chair would source a commemorative rose and planter for the family.

Members would consider a suitable commemoration to be sited in the parish at the February meeting.

The Chair expressed his thanks to Councillor Brightmore for the PR work undertaken with British Sugar in getting the lorries delivering to the sugar factory to reduce their speed. Thanks to be sent to the two members of staff for their help and co-operation in achieving this as it had made a great difference in the village.

The Chair referred to the need to seek a replacement as Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer. The role was currently being covered by the Clerk to North Muskham Parish Council.

After discussion it was agreed that the post be offered to the Acting Clerk, given the skills and experience that could be brought to the role and the connection with the neighbouring community. A welcome letter and employment contract to be issued.

62.20/21 **To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2020**

The Chair expressed his thanks to Councillor Shearing for covering in his absence.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Gilroy, seconded by Cllr Brown and approved by all and will be signed by the Chair at a later date.

63.20/21 **Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda**

63.1 The fly tipping mentioned at the previous meeting to be followed up.

63.2 Speed gun for South Muskham – A, follow-up email had been received from Truvelo regarding a quotation for a speed gun. Councillor Gilroy confirmed that one had

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already been received. Councillor Brightmore confirmed that no monitoring was currently being undertaken due to lockdown.

64.20/21 **County Councillor Session**

The Chair suspended the meeting to allow County Councillor Laughton to present his report.

Councillor Laughton extended a Happy New Year to Members.

The Newark Showground was now open for COVID-19 vaccinations, there had been a few issues initially with booking, but these had now been sorted. Rates of infection for Newark & Sherwood were beginning to drop off. Of concern was a higher level of outbreaks in care homes with the new strain which the County Council were addressing.

A number of people had contacted Councillor Laughton about the potholes on the Great North Road between South Muskham and the A1 roundabout. Photographs of a number of tyres burst in potholes had been forwarded, and the email to apply for compensation had been circulated. The resurfacing was still in the ITM budget for structural resurfacing.

There was a concern from Members that the downgrading of the road from A to B had impacted on the funding available, however Councillor Laughton reassured Members that was not the case now. The road was declassified to secure the 30 mph speed limit. This part of the Great North Road had been prioritised for funding. The Chair referred to notification of essential safety maintenance works on the A1 Newark to North Muskham from 5th April to 3rd July 2021, which would be undertaken between 8pm and 6am, Monday to Friday. There was a concern that this would see more pressure on the road surface on the Great North Road if the work led to more traffic using the route. Councillor Laughton was asked if County Highways could influence any diversion route or signage to prevent the traffic from using it as a diversion.

On the above points, Councillor Laughton advised that he would speak to the Senior Manager at County Highways regarding the resurfacing and the problems the A1 essential works could create.

Councillor Gilroy also referred to the condition of the pavements on the Great North Road with vegetation overgrowing and uneven surfacing.

Councillor Laughton confirmed he would also raise the problems on the footpath with the team.

Finally, Councillor Gilroy referred to a complaint received from the resident who live in the Police house at the junction of Crow Lane. The junction floods all the time and the resident had tried to make a soakaway at the side to get the water away.

Councillor Laughton asked for his mobile number to be given direct to the resident so that the matter could be discussed and a way forward planned.

The Chair thanked Councillor Laughton for his report and input.

64.20/21 **Financial Issues**

64.1 To record Receipts - None

64.2 To approve invoices for payment

i) Direct Debit for £8 – EDF Energy

After discussion it was AGREED that the Acting Clerk cancel the regular payments made to the former Clerk for wages. There would be a payment for PAYE but HMRC were having to review the database as it was not loading correctly so the amount was unknown at this time. The address for bank statements, etc, to be changed.

64.3 Budget 2021/22 – proposed figures were circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair referred to the conclusion of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan, with no funds being required in the immediate future. The only major investment that may be needed in the future would be related to Beckitts Field.

After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Catanach (Chair), seconded by Councillor Jarvis that an increase of 2% be applied to the Precept for the 2021-22 financial year. This would see a Precept of £13,064 levied (£66.26 Band D). This was unanimously AGREED.

65.20/21 **Planning**

65.1 New Applications:

20/02302/HOUSE – Field View, Bathley Lane, Little Carlton - The erection of a single storey rear and side extension to attach the existing garage, and the conversion of existing garage to a habitable room.

Members noted that this application had recently been granted planning permission. No objection would have been raised in any event.

20/02148/FUL – Sunningdale, Bathley Lane, Little Carlton - Removal of Leylandii trees and replacement with front and side boundary walls and fence including gates and pillars.

The Chair referred to a letter received from a resident objection to the removal of the row of Leylandii trees included in this application. It was noted that these concerns had been submitted as an objection by the resident as part of the consultation process.

After discussion, Councillor Brightmore proposed, seconded by Councillor Brown, that the application be supported.

Land Rear of Maple House, Bathley Lane, Little Carlton

The Chair referred to correspondence received regarding proposed development at land to the rear of Maple House, Bathley Lane, Little Carlton. This had been circulated to Members for information.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Acting Clerk respond that Members could not pre-determine applications and the Parish Council would be happy to review any application once submitted through Newark & Sherwood District Council's Planning Department.

65.2 Decisions (for information only) –

- Permission Granted - 20/02113/HPRIOR – 7 Forge Cottages, Main Street – Householder prior approval for single storey rear extension.

66.20/21 **Beckitts Field**

66.1 Booking Request – 16th July 2022

A request had been received for a wedding reception to be held on the field on 16th July 2022. The applicant live in the village. A copy had been circulated to Members for information.

Members understood that a request for a wedding reception had also been received for 28th August 2021.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Acting Clerk review information held on file regarding any criteria issued for the 2021 event and circulate to Members. The Chair would give some consideration to what conditions should be in place to ensure that the Parish Council were covered for all eventualities so that a template could be created. Members were happy to support the booking, subject to agreed terms and conditions.

It was noted that this was the second request for an event on Beckitts Field. Members were conscious of the impact events could have on neighbouring properties. It was AGREED that Members would support a single annual event on Beckitts Field, on a first come/first served basis, with the criteria that requests would only be considered from residents of the village.

67.20/21 **Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning**

Information received from Nottinghamshire County Council had been circulated to Members and the Emergency Planning Team.

It was noted that water in all areas was flowing very fast at the moment.

Councillor Brightmore asked if Trent Lane and Kelham Lane could be closed if the flooding led to the closure of the A617, to prevent traffic from taking shortcuts to the A616.

68.20/21 **Highways**

68.1 A46 Bypass – Consultation Response

The deadline for response to the consultation for the dualling of the A46 bypass was 2nd February 2021.

Two options were proposed, Option 1 with an additional bypass diverting traffic from the A616 to a new roundabout and back down to the Cattle Market; Option 2 included a flyover over the Cattle Market roundabout.

Members could respond individually, but a response could also be submitted by the Parish Council. After discussion it was AGREED that Option 2 was the most viable, as it would provide a free-flowing route with the flyover. The Chair to make a submission on behalf of the Parish Council, with Option 2 as the supported route. The Chair suggested that a clear message be included in the submission that the Parish

Council does not have and would never suggest an opinion as to a proposal that affects another neighbouring Parish – unless it directly affects this Parish - as that should be for the relevant Parish to decide upon. In this case, Option 2 affects Winthorpe Parish. Members agreed to this being made clear.

- 68.2 Temporary Road/Level Crossing Closure – Bathley Lane – 29th January 2021
Temporary Road/Level Crossing Closure – Church Lane – 12th February 2021
Members noted the closures as outlined.

69.20/21 **Correspondence Received**

- i) Dog Fouling – an email complaining at the amount of dog fouling in the village was shared with Members. The resident to be advised that this was a problem Members were aware of and were monitoring. This led to a discussion generally about dog fouling and the exercising of dogs on private land along the flood bank. Councillor Brightmore to speak to the owner regarding signage. The Acting Clerk to forward signage to the Chair to produce. The area near to the entrance to the flood bank to be reviewed to see if another dog bin could be installed. Members to consider if other area would benefit from a dog bin.
- ii) NSDC Free Trees – a request had been made for free trees through the District Council initiative. These had now all been allocated but the Parish Council's request would be put on the reserve list.
- iii) Request from Muskham Magazine – Photos/short biographies of Members had been requested by the Muskham Magazine. Images to be sent to the Acting Clerk if Members wished to participate. A request had also been made for funding. The current advertising rate for one page in 10 editions was £200. After discussion it was AGREED consideration of this request be deferred to the February meeting.
- iv) NALC Planning Training – online training through Nimble had been arranged, at a cost of £16.80 per Member. Councillor Brown indicated she would like to do the training. The Acting Clerk to liaise direct.

70.20/21 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**

The Chair referred to information circulating in the community regarding the NextDoor initiative. A concern had been raised this was a scam, but this was not the case. It was a matter for individuals if they wanted to join it. The Parish Council would continue to use the Muskham Messenger and its own website to push messages out to the community.

Next Meeting - Wednesday 17th February 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom. Any residents wishing to join the meeting should contact the Clerk.

The meeting was closed at 9.10pm.

Minutes approved as a true record –