

South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 22nd May 2024 following the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting that started at 7pm in the Small Hall, South Muskham Village Hall

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

Also Present: Councillor Mrs Saddington

01.24/25 **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies – Received and accepted from Councillor Briggs-Price

02.24/25 **To Elect a Chairman for the Civic Year 2024/25**

The Clerk called for nominations to the position of Chairman for the Civic Year 2024/25. Councillor Brown proposed Councillor Catanach, seconded by Councillor Jarvis.

This was unanimously AGREED and the Clerk declared Councillor Catanach the Chairman. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

03.24/25 **To Elect a Vice-Chairman for the Civic Year 2024/25**

The Chair called for nominations to the position of Vice-Chairman for the Civic Year 2024/25. Councillor Catanach proposed Councillor Shearing, seconded by Councillor Jarvis. This was unanimously AGREED and the Chair declared Councillor Shearing the Vice-Chairman.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by Councillor Shearing.

04.24/25 **Declarations of Interest**

There were none to record.

Open Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.06pm for the Open Session.

Councillor Mrs Saddington reflected that the previous year had been a year of storms. Section 19s have been published from Storm Babet, with the Storm Henk ones expected in June.

A meeting had recently been held at Farndon with the County Council as the Lead Authority. The County Council were looking at introducing modular barriers to make it more difficult for drivers to remove road closures put in place during flooding.

The Chair referred to the difficulties with Trent Lane which was not closed quick enough and the manner of closure was not satisfactory. The other issue that impacts during flood events were the drains and gullies throughout the village.

Councillor Mrs Saddington advised that it was hoped that the drains and gullies would be cleaned throughout the County.

Councillor Mrs Saddington referred to an application to the Local Communities Fund that the Nottingham Piscatorial Society had requested support for.

The Clerk referred to documents received regarding the District Council's Planning Committee on 28th May that would be considering the appeals submitted for the two solar parks within the Parish boundary. The information would be considered during a closed session. The Clerk advised that the residents had been advised.

After discussion, the Clerk was asked to email the Planning Officer and express concern that the information was to be considered during a closed session. There had been significant objection to the original proposals from residents most affected by the applications, which had been supported by the Parish Council. It was not considered democratic or transparent to now consider information relating to the applications under an Exempt Item.

05.24/25 **Chair's Report**

There were no matters to report other than outlined in the Annual Parish Meeting.

06.24/25 **To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th April 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th April 2024 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

07.24/25 **Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda**

Referring to the Community Emergency Plan, the Chair asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Flood Wardens to review the proposed changes. The Chair offered to host the meeting at his home.

08.24/25 **Financial Issues**

8.1 To record Receipts

The following receipts were recorded:

- NSDC - 1st Half Precept: £6,858.50
- NS&I – Closure of Account - £13,772.16

8.2 Invoices for payment:

- WaterPlus - £14.81 & £17.82
- EDF Energy - £21.89
- Clerk's Wages (April) - £318.60
- HMRC PAYE (April) - £79.60
- Trent Valley IDB - £16.10
- Norwell Groundcare – Inv 1052 - £90
- Bank Charges - £8.00

8.3 To note details regarding the renewal of the Parish Council's insurance

Members received and noted the renewal of the Parish Council's insurance at a premium of £781.77.

8.4 To note the new tariff agreed with EDF for supply at Beckitt Field
The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Jarvis had now been added to the EDF Energy Account, in addition to the Clerk. A new tariff had been agreed with EDF for the supply which was substantially less than quoted previously. A Direct Debit was required for a tie in to a three year deal.

Members AGREED that a direct debit could be established and thanked Councillor Jarvis for his efforts in securing a competitive tariff for the Parish Council.

9.24/25 **Review and adoption of updated policies**

9.1 Standing Orders

Members reviewed and accepted the Standing Orders.

9.2 Financial Regulations

The Clerk advised that a new Model Code had been issued for the financial regulations. The Clerk asked for consideration of the financial regulations to be deferred until the June meeting to enable her to attend a briefing on the new Model Code. This was AGREED.

9.3 Model Publication Scheme

The Model Publication Scheme remained as previously adopted.

10.24/25 **Planning**

10.1 Decision Notice: 24/00149/AGR – Cordon Lodge, Bathley Lane, South Muskham – Creation of a new farm entrance

Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for the application as outlined.

10.2 Decision Notice - 24/00457/FUL – Thornholm, Church Lane, South Muskham - Change of Use of Land to Residential and Erection of Garden Outbuilding.

Members received and noted the decision notice refusing permission for the application as outlined.

11.24/25 **Parish Council Matters**

11.1 To receive the results of the GNR Solar Survey

The Chair advised that he had attended a joint parishes meeting on Thursday, 16th May at North Muskham. This meeting was Chaired by Cllr Harrison, Chair of North Muskham Parish Council and would begin to look at the response required when statutory consultation opened in the Autumn. Members were asked to consider engaging with Elements Green, as at the moment the Parish Council had taken a 'hands off' stance and had no information on what the company were offering in terms of financial support.

Members noted the results of the GNR Solar Survey which had been responded to by 75 people, which was only a 6.16% response rate. Of those responses the breakdown was:

South Muskham & Little Carlton	75	6.16%
Against	57	76.00%
For	12	16.00%
Undecided	6	8.00%

Members were disappointed with the poor response rate and considered it vital that further engagement was undertaken.

The Chair proposed that an open session Parish Meeting be called on a Saturday and a leaflet be delivered to every household to ensure that all parishioners were aware of the meeting. Displays of the current proposals would be available for parishioners to view and an exit poll would be undertaken to establish whether they were for or against the proposals.

It was AGREED that the Chair and Clerk liaise outside of the meeting to put together an invitation to residents and a format for the day to circulate to Members for approval.

11.2

To consider an invitation from NG+ to attend a meeting of the Parish Council

After consideration it was AGREED that the parish meeting should be held first, prior to any engagement. The Clerk was asked to thank NG+ for their invitation and advise that a parish meeting was currently in the process of being arranged to further gain the views of parishioners. The invitation would be further considered after that meeting was held.

11.3

Email sent to Ryan

To receive information from the New Community Energy Group

After discussion, it was AGREED that this was not a matter for the Council to promote. The Clerk was asked to refer the Group to the Muskham Magazine.

11.4

Email sent to group advising to contact Muskham Magazine

Safer Neighbourhood Group Minutes – 18th April 2024

Members received and noted the minutes of the Group held on 18th April 2024.

12.24/25

Beckett Field

12.1

Cricket Pavilion

Councillor Jarvis advised that a number of the windows in the pavilion are in need of replacement.

Appointment made with Sherwood Windows on 3rd June

The Clerk was asked to arrange for a quotation to bring back to the June meeting.

12.2

Other Matters

The Clerk referred to a response received from the Cougars regarding the incident with a vehicle collision on 23rd March. While unaware of the event, parents had been reminded to take care entering and leaving the field.

The Cougars had confirmed that the field was currently being used for matches on a Saturday morning, which was most weekends between September and May with a few games during June. Training was currently on a Monday and Wednesday evening between 6-7pm, normally within school term dates which would see training finishing mid-July. Members noted that the agreement with the Cougars only stipulated use of the field on a Wednesday and a Saturday.

Email: clerk@smlcpc.org Tel: 07946 601364

After discussion, it was AGREED that Councillor Brown and the Clerk meet with representatives of the Cougars to discuss use of the field in the 2024/25 season.

Email sent to Cougars asking for times for meeting

13.24/25

Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning

13.1

To receive an update from Severn Trent Water regarding issues in South Muskham & Little Carlton

Members received and noted the update from Severn Trent Water regarding issues in South Muskham & Little Carlton.

Members asked the Clerk to request an itemisation of the work undertaken in both communities by Severn Trent.

Members were grateful for the deployment of the tankers which had ensured residents could continue to access all services but wanted to ensure the problem was not repeated, and remained concerned that the capacity of the pumps was insufficient given the increase in properties since the pumps were installed.

13.2

Drains blocking Brammersack Close, Little Carlton

Members noted the response from Via regarding the blocked drains on Brammersack Close. It had been outlined that, as Brammersack Close was not adopted, Via would be unable to be involved in the clearance of the drains. On unadopted highways it is the resident's responsibility to maintain where there was no management company.

The Clerk was asked to update the resident who had raised the initial enquiry.

13.3

Update regarding removal of the flood bank in South Muskham

The Clerk referred to an email received from the Asset Performance North Team of the Environment Agency.

The Clerk had requested an update on the matter logged in October 2023 regarding the removal of part of the floodbank at 'Thornholm', Church Lane. However, the response received appeared to relate to the location of the boards that the Chair had enquired about at the Town Hall event in March, i.e., the boards that were used to close the Brammersack, where they were located and how were they deployed during a flood event.

The Clerk was asked to seek clarification from the Environment Agency and also express concerns that a two year decision process, as outlined in the email, was not reassuring. A firm contact number was also required to be included within the Emergency Plan to ensure that there was direct contact available in an emergency situation.

14.24/25

Highways

14.1

Highways Issues Logged

Members noted that the Via had carried out an inspection of the drains logged and a decision would be made on the necessary action to be taken. The Parish Council will be notified as soon as this decision has been made.

The Chair noted that during the latest heavy rainfall all drains were overflowing. The Clerk was asked to liaise direct with Officers to establish what work was being proposed and a timescale.

14.2 Interactive Speed Sign

The Chair referred to concerns expressed by a resident who lived adjacent to the proposed interactive speed sign at Little Carlton. Those concerns had been highlighted to the Assistant District Highways Manager at Via.

It had been confirmed that the sign would be situated 10m from the driveway of the property which would provide sufficient available space for vehicles to access and egress. It would be situated 450mm from the edge of the carriageway to prevent it from being hit by passing vehicles, and to ensure that it did not lose its effectiveness in logging traffic.

Members expressed concern that householders indicating right to access their properties could be at risk from speeding traffic, if drivers concentrated on the sign at this location and not on the road. The Clerk was asked to establish whether Via had taken this into consideration when determining the position of the sign.

15.24/25 **Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils**

15.1 May Newsletter

Members received and noted the Newsletter as circulated.

16.24/25 **Correspondence Received**

16.1 There was none to note.

17.24/25 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**

17.1 The Clerk was asked to log the issue of HGVs parking on the pavement outside Briggs Metals on Great North Road.

Next Meeting – Parish Council - Wednesday, 19th June 2024 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, South Muskham

The meeting was closed at 8.57pm

Minutes approved as a true record –