

**South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm**  
**in the Small Hall, South Muskham Village Hall**

**Membership:** K Brown, D Catanach (Chair), R Gill, P Jarvis, G Shearing & E Tilbury

Together with District Councillor Mrs Saddington and 4 members of the public

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and welcomed them to the meeting.

136.23/24 **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Briggs-Price,

137.23/24 **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

138.23/24 **Planning**

Applications

**24/00304/FULM – Burr ridge Farm, Crab Lane, North Muskham – Change of use from agricultural to dog walking field. Erection of fencing.**

With permission of Members, the Chair brought forward agenda item 7.1. The meeting was suspended at 7.31pm to allow residents to participate.

The Chair advised that it was considered important that the view of residents affected by any planning application be taken into consideration by this Parish Council even if the residents concerned were living in the next Parish. The Chairman stated that it would not be right and proper to ignore our neighbours.

A resident spoke on behalf of those affected by the proposals.

It was noted that Environmental Health and Via had already considered the impact from traffic. The applicant had responded to those reports and made some concessions by slightly reducing the hours of work.

Residents considered that their concerns were genuine and reasonable. There were inconsistencies between the planning application and the website. They had found the process very difficult as they had never experienced any issues previously with work at the Farm. The letters of support on the portal were very offensive towards residents who lived opposite and experienced the site all day, every day.

It was considered unfair that people not impacted by the proposals were commenting on what residents could and could not hear. The noise from the field is intensive and intrusive due to the close proximity of the boundary to residents' properties. Residents were aware that another application had been submitted for Vicarage Lane in North Muskham that was not near any residential property.

Residents had not asked for the field to be closed but they wanted an opportunity for their concerns to be addressed and explore possible compromises, i.e, moving the proposed use of the field further back to the opposite side and therefore away from residents' properties.

The Chair thanked residents for expressing their concerns and reconvened the meeting at 7.37pm.

The Chair expressed his view that due to the impact on residents he could not support the application. If amendments could be made to alleviate that impact then that view could be revised.

After discussion, it was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Jarvis that objection be raised to the application on the grounds that:

- Its impact on the privacy enjoyed by neighbouring residential properties.
- The size and location of the field, so close to residential properties, exposed residents to noise and nuisance from users of the field and traffic accessing the site
- Inclusion of the dog agility field so close to residential properties, was a design flaw given the size of the land included within the application. Members considered that the applicant should look to revise their plans with a view to moving the opposite end of the field to lessen any impact.
- The opening hours were considered too long and, should planning permission be granted, a condition should be included to limit the hours of opening and the restriction of floodlighting.

This was unanimously AGREED.

Further, Members expressed concern that, should permission be granted, it would change the use of the land and expose it to potential residential development. Members would want to see a condition included to return the land to agricultural use, should the business fold.

Members noted that there was no provision for lighting included within the application. Members would not wish to see any lighting installed given the potential for light pollution in the area.

#### 139.23/24 **Open Session**

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.54pm for the open session.

Councillor Mrs Saddington referred to the changes recently made to the Scheme of Delegation and Protocol at Planning Committee and how they might impact on applications that the Parish Council did not support but Officers were minded to grant permission.

Members were reminded that the Mayoral Elections were scheduled for Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024.

The Chair thanked Councillor Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 8.15pm.

140.23/24 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

141.23/24 **Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda**  
There were none.

142.23/24 **Chair's Report**  
The Chair advised that efforts had been made to close the NS&I account. The Clerk would refer to this later on the agenda.

The Chair expressed concern that no response had yet been received from the Environment Agency regarding issues raised at the public meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

143.23/24 **Financial Issues**

143.1 To record Receipts  
There were none to record.

143.2 Invoices for payment:  
The following invoices were noted and approved:

- Norwell Groundcare – Beckett Field Mow - £90
- Notts Association of Local Councils – Subscription 2024/25 - £138.92

143.3 To note the Council's financial position as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and the submission of the accounts for Internal Audit  
The Clerk advised that the balance of funds in the current account as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 was £40,618.24. The balance on the NS&I account was required before the accounts could be complete. At the moment, there was an anomaly of £14 to balance.

NS&I had confirmed that a written request to close the account, signed by two signatories, was required. It was AGREED that the letter prepared by the Clerk be signed by the Chair and Councillor Gill and be submitted so the account could be closed.

144.23/24 **Planning**

144.1 Applications  
This item had been considered earlier on the agenda.

144.2 Decision Notices  
There were none to receive.

144.3 Tree Works  
There were none to consider. It was agreed that this item no longer needed to be included on future agendas.

145.23/24 **Parish Council Matters**

145.1 To receive details of changes to the Amended Scheme of Delegation to Officers and Changes to the Protocol on Planning Committee

Members noted the changes, as referred to during Councillor Mrs Saddington's report.

The Chair expressed his concern that although the changes could be seen as a way of trying to speed up the application process, the likely outcome would be to the detriment of the local community.

145.2 To consider a response to the Planning Application Local Validation Checklist Consultation

Members noted the Planning Application Local Validation Checklist Consultation and the changes regarding bio-diversity requirements. No response was considered necessary.

145.3 To consider a response to the Statement of Community Involvement update

Members did not consider a response to the update was required.

145.4 To note the date of the next Cauntton, Muskham, and Sutton on Trent Safer Neighbourhood Meeting - 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Members noted the date, but Councillor Jarvis was unable to attend on this occasion. The Clerk would establish if the Group were aware of the recent burglary attempt at the Village Hall.

146.23/24 **Beckett Field**

Councillor Jarvis referred to the proposed changes to the tariff charged by EDF when the Parish Council came out of contract on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Estimated increase in charges were from £235 to either £847 or £671 (depending on tariff).

The Clerk was asked to establish what electrical equipment was used by the Cougars in the pavilion as this appeared to be an excessive amount given the low usage.

The Clerk was also asked to add Councillor Jarvis onto the account in order that he could negotiate with EDF.

Reference was made to damage caused to a resident's car by a vehicle exiting Beckett Field. The Clerk was asked to contact the Cougars to establish if they were aware of the incident, and to request dates of training and matches in order that residents could be advised.

147.23/24 **Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning**

147.1 To note progress with the changes made to the Community Emergency Plan

Members noted the sad loss recently of Charlie Carr, husband of Karen Carr, a former Chair of the Parish Council and sent their condolences to the family.

The Clerk was asked to amend the Emergency Plan to ensure all reference to Mr Carr were removed.

Members noted the recent burglary attempt at the Village Hall. The generator needed to be moved into the container and a way devised of securing it to the building when in use.

The Clerk advised that the Village Hall Committee had given permission for a concrete path to be installed from the container to meet with the existing path. The Chair also considered that a concrete pad needed to be put in front of the container and asked the Clerk to seek additional permission for that work. The Clerk was asked to seek quotations for this work from local builders.

Members noted that the flood wardens would need to be apprised of the changes and, once the plan was complete and agreed through Council, a meeting be arranged.

147.2 To receive a further update from Severn Trent on the situation within South Muskham & Little Carlton

The Clerk referred to an update received from Severn Trent regarding the continuing presence of tankers in South Muskham.

Severn Trent had advised that tankers were still being used for sewage to help the system recover. Most of the village had been surveyed and Severn Trent report that the sewers appeared to be in a good condition but some infiltration had been found on Main Street which is being assessed for repair. This will involve inserting a structural liner into the pipe to seal it from the inside.

The discharge pipe will also be checked for any obstructions to ensure it is clear and delivering as it should. Some work will be required on the discharge chamber, that is based in North Muskham, before access can be gained to check. This work should be undertaken prior to week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Once checked, the rising main will be cleansed if required.

Severn Trent considered that there was more infiltration entering the system that has not yet been located, so the rest of the village will be surveyed to ensure all information was available.

Severn Trent extended their apologies to residents on Main Street that had been affected by the tanker operations and asked the Parish Council to assure them that they were trying to resolve this difficult problem as soon as possible.

The Chair asked that thanks be extended to Severn Trent for their update and that the Clerk also establish what the situation was with Little Carlton.

148.23/24 **Highways**

Councillor Tilbury referred to the number of lorries that continued to park along Great North Road while trying to access the British Sugar factory. This caused damage to the verge and, due to the busy nature of the road, was a traffic hazard. Members were disappointed to note that this was ongoing and asked the Clerk to raise concerns direct with British Sugar.

The Clerk was also asked to raise the amount of soil and sugar beet on the carriageway and concerns that this was entering the surface water drainage system.

- 148.1 Update on the Interactive Speed Sign for Little Carlton  
The Clerk advised that a request for an update had been made but no response had been received as yet. Any response received would be circulated to Members.
- 148.2 To receive an update on issues logged with Via  
The Clerk advised that no further update had been received. When any work was undertaken on the issues logged notification should also be sent as an update to the Clerk.
- 149.23/24 **Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils**  
149.1 April Newsletter  
Members noted the April Newsletter as circulated.
- 149.2 Code of Conduct Training  
Members noted the training session that had been arranged on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 regarding the Code of Conduct.
- 150.23/24 **Correspondence**  
(a) Great North Road Solar Park and NG+  
Members noted correspondence received from the NG+ Community Benefit Engagement Manager asking if the Parish Council would like him and a colleague to attend a future meeting.
- After discussion, Members did not consider that they required any attendance at a Parish Council meeting at this time.
- The Clerk was asked to determine the present position with the online survey recently undertaken and when results would be made available.
- 151.23/24 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**  
There were none.

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 at 7.30pm. – Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30pm

The meeting was closed at 9.02pm

Minutes approved as a true record –