

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting 8th March 2022

Smisby Parish Council Attendance: Councillors Rushman (Chair), Cuming and Taft. Parish Clerk Caroline Crowder

Members of the public and other organisations: District Councillor Haines, County Councillor Muller and 4 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Das and Brooke submitted their apologies to the clerk, they are unable to attend due to work commitments. District Councillor Churchill, and Parochial Charity Trustee Robert Hounslow submitted their apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

None.

3. Any Agenda items that should be taken with the public excluded

None.

4. Chairman's Communications

The chair had received an update from Robert Hounslow as he was unable to attend. She has received some feedback about proposed jubilee celebrations.

5. Clerks Report

Pay rise for 2021-22 has been agreed, this will be processed in next month's payroll.

6. Public Questions and Comments

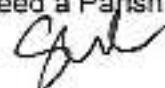
A member of the public thanked SDDC for their prompt removal of approximately fifty tyres after they reported this issue to them. A member of the public asked if there could be an increase in security such as CCTV, due to recent issues seen in the parish. The Chair advised that it was discussed previously, it is a complicated issue but it can be looked at again. Councillor Cuming advised that he could do some research and present back to the Council. A member of the public wished to thank the volunteers who are manning the speed watch.

7. Approval of Minutes from Smisby Parish Council Meeting held on 11th January 2022

Resolved, all Councillors approved and the Chair signed the minutes.

8. Parochial Charity Communications

The Chair read out an update from Robert Hounslow. "The Parochial Charity have reduced the qualifying age for Christmas Hampers to 60 for both men and women (plus transgender, etc). This is effective immediately. Hopefully the contract for the Jubilee field is with you for signing. One of the Smisby Parishioners suggested converting the Petanque Pitch to a hard standing and building a wall at one end (perpendicular to the houses in Chapel Street) that would have lines for both goals and tennis nets painted on it. This would allow one person to practice tennis or football on their own. It could also be used to house shelters, BBQs for village events. This would be supported by the Parochial Charity for funding (providing all the necessary forms, funding routes had been investigated). It would just need a Parish



Council member to run with this as a project, if they considered it worthwhile. We had an excellent zoom meeting with our investors (Rathbones) and by the time this Parish Council meeting is held, we should be completely severed from our previous investors - Clear Solutions. We have agreed to reduce our cash holdings significantly and convert the cash to equity investment, while retaining enough cash to purchase any land that becomes available and is considered a worthy investment to benefit the Parish of Smisby."

9. Grounds Maintenance 2022-23

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to award the work to SJL Landscapes Limited. The Chair asked the clerk to provide the quote to the Parochial Charity for reimbursement of the football pitch and wildflower area costs. Clerk to ask for padlock and code back from previous contractor.

10. Parish Field

The Council have not received the final lease from the Parochial Charity, Clerk to contact them. The Chair wished the Council to look at the whole field and how this could be utilised further, a strategic plan is needed. The Chair and Clerk had surveyed the area recently and although most areas are maintained there were a few areas of concern. The football posts need painting, there is still a lot of mole activity and the wooden/rope markings around the wild flower areas need repair or removal.

11. Drains, Flooding and Highways

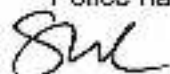
Councillor Taft provided an update. DCC have recently been out to look at the highways and drains issues. They now recognise the concerns that the Parish Council have with fields and drains. The drain cleansing team came to Smisby last week and they have unearthed 8 drains that were invisible. They will construct aprons around the drains to guide water into them. Issue still with storm water coming off the fields, waiting for DCC to come back. Ongoing issues with potholes need to keep reporting to DCC. Signposts work has been started. Weight limit signs are to be replaced and moved onto the B5006 to warn before turning in to the village. Derbyshire County sign is going to be repositing higher up and a 40mph repeater sign installed. Resurfacing work to complete before end of June. Rumble strips are only fake ones to prompt slow down, cannot make them full rumble strips due to close nature of properties. They are not going to take any proactive action on the B5006 pavement but will monitor. Reinstatement of pavement outside poplars, DCC Highways are pushing back as they say there has never been a footpath and they estimate cost to install of £50-70k. Councill Taft got a private quote, £3800-4300, but to proceed with would need to engage with highways. County Councillor Muller advised he has passed these costings on to DCC Highways and is waiting a response from them.

12. Smisby Lockup

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the quote from ASBC Heritage & Conservation Specialists. Clerk to advise them to agree a time to attend site with Councillor Taft.

13. Community Speed Watch

Councillor Cuming advised that this has now been going for six months. They have had 19 sessions and in general 12% of vehicles they have surveyed have been speeding. The Police have issued out 250 letters. He is hoping for evidence that a vehicle activated sign



would be useful. He is doing some research on this and will report back to the Council. He has also given some details to the crime commissioner.

14. Annual Review of Policies and Risk Assessments

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the proposed changes to the Asset Register, Council Meeting Risk Assessment, Financial Regulations, Play Area Risk Assessment, Annual Risk Assessment, Website Accessibility and Standing Orders. All agreed to no change after reviewing Code of Conduct, Complaints Policy, Data Privacy Notice and Equality Policy.

15. Jubilee Celebration Planning

Councillor Rushman advised that the beacon lighting is scheduled for Thursday 2nd June at 21:45. Offers have been received from two people offering the use of their fields for this. Her suggestion is that people bring their own refreshments. It was discussed that Saturday afternoon for the street party, which would be held outside the Village Hall on the street, with use of the Village Hall facilities. Members of the public agreed to meet with Councillor Rushman to discuss this in more detail and organise the celebrations, covering items such as road closure, food, decoration, memorabilia and invitations.

16. Planning Applications

None.

17. District and County Councillor Reports

- i. District Councillor Haines, issues still being experienced with staffing levels in the planning department. There is a back log of 700 applications. This is due to issues such as Covid and an upsurge in the number of applications received. SDDC have a Community and Environmental Partnership Grant, applications they have received so far range from £10k for tree planting, storage container for a field, paddle tennis court, improvement of playing surface for bowls. The District Council are anticipating noise problems to be reported from places like pubs as there has been a change in permitted development rights, allowing them to have temporary structures like gazebos for up to 180 days a year without permission needed.
- ii. County Councillor Muller advised that rates have gone up 3 %, 1% of which is for Adult Care. Freeport news, on the 1st March the East Midlands Freeport has secured formal Government approval for its plans to offer businesses locating in the Freeport special incentives. This will be the UK's only inland Freeport delivering 61,000 jobs for the East Midlands and an extra £8.4bn for the local economy over the next 30 years. Highways, he asked to be kept informed.

18. Dates of Future Meetings

10th May starting at 19:00 with the Annual Parish Meeting, 12th July, 13th September and 8th November 2022.

19. Payment Approval

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the payments

a. Clerks' salary	Clerk	£458.81
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b. Lengthsman	H Salt	£60.00
c. Litterbin servicing	SDDC	£141.65
d. Travel Expenses	Clerk	£122.85

20. Payments Received


Concurrent Expenses	SDDC	£1,842.15
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21. Communications Received Since Last Meeting

- a. NALC: Chief executive's bulletin x 7; Newsletter x 4; New Year Open Letter
- b. DALC: Newsletter x 4; DALC Spring Seminar - April 5th confirmed
- c. DCC: Community News x 3; Covid vaccines and Transport
- d. SDDC: Civic Service - Save the date; Summer Scheme 2022 - deadline reminder; Active Communities and Health Team Newsletter - Winter edition; Safer Internet Day - Cyber Awareness Webinar
- e. Royal British Legion Industries: Planting a Tree for the Jubilee
- f. District Councillor Churchill: SDDC Planning Portal
- g. North West Leicestershire District Council: North West Leicestershire Local Plan Review: public consultation (Regulation 18) x 2
- h. District Councillors Haines: Re: Application ref. DMPA/2021/1286: Notification of planning application
- i. CVS: Your Invite to the South Derbyshire CVS AGM; Funding E Bulletin
- j. East Midlands Airport Community Fund Session
- k. National Forest: Forest Society Grants Open
- l. Police: Police & Crime Commissioner - Budget Consultation 2022/23; Derbyshire alert and Derbyshire talking
- m. PCC: Jubilee Field Lease
- n. Smisby Lockup
- o. Canon David Edwards: Maintenance of the Village Green and grassed area under the Beech Tree

The Chair thanked the Parish Councillors for attending and declared the meeting closed. The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 10th May 2022 in Smisby Village Hall, this follows on after the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting to be held the same day starting at 19:00

Signed:



Date:

10.5.22 .