

Minutes of Smisby Parish Annual Council Meeting 11th July 2023

Smisby Parish Council Attendance: Councillors Taft (Chairman), Cuming, Brooke and Dickens, Clerk Caroline Crowder (Councillor Waters once she was co-opted joined the meeting as a Councillor)

Members of the public and other organisations: District Councillors Haines and Lowe, County Councillor Muller and 2 members of the public.

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

None

2. To receive declarations of Interest on items on the agenda (under the Code of Conduct members are reminded that in declaring an interest you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is "personal" or "prejudicial").

None.

3. To determine which items if any on the agenda should be taken with the public excluded.

None.

4. Co-option

One application had been received by the clerk.

Councillor Taft proposed Victoria Waters to be co-opted as a Councillor, this was seconded by Councillor Brooke. Resolved, all agreed to co-opt Victoria Waters

5. Chairman's communications (if any)

Councillor Taft recommended that the new Councillors attended DALC training. **Resolved, all agreed to fund two places for the new Councillors.**

6. Clerk's report

- i. Clerk is on annual leave 7th – 8th September 2023
- ii. Report of mowing not being correct for the football pitch from Parochial Charity. Clerk has gone back to the grounds maintenance company and asked for them to confirm what activities they are doing and when.

7. Opportunity for public questions and comment (10 minutes)

The Lengthsman advised that SDDC have said they will not provide her with new refuse bags. District Councillor Haines is going to investigate.

8. Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meetings held on 9th May 2023

Resolved, all Councillors approved the minutes and the Chairman signed them as a true and accurate record.

9. Parochial Charity, District and County Councillors Communications

- i. District Councillor Haines, was asked by Councillor Brooke to check which litter bins were emptied by SDDC and which ones belonged to them as the map on their website was not accurate. District Councillor Haines agreed to this and would also chase up why the public map and the internal SDDC one as showing differently. There is a Safer Neighbourhood grant scheme, she encouraged people to apply for funding. The next area forum is 7th September, not known where this will be held yet.
- ii. District Councillor Lowe, advised there had been a change of senior staff at SDDC. Also, they had prosecuted someone for setting fire to a fridge in their garden. They signed a new lease with Rosliston Forestry Centre.
- iii. County Councillor Muller, there are boundary changes for wards as they are trying to level up. Freeport very slow progress. Devolution levelling up is moving along slowly. Highways has a new cabinet member, Charlotte Cupit. He has a small amount of money available in a Community Fund, should the Parish Council wish to apply for it. The Police Commissioner is getting more money for anti-social behaviour issues, trying to identify hotspots and put in extra police patrols. Councillor Cuming asked if County Councillor Muller could contact CREST as Smisby has been waiting for over a year to have a visit from them.
- iv. Parochial Charity Trustee Rob Hounslow provided an update via the clerk as he was unable to attend the meeting. They are still actively looking to purchase local land close to Smisby. They have transferred a substantial sum of cash into investments as the cash is giving a very poor return. It has been reported to us that the football field is not being mown according to the contract and is difficult to play on - perhaps this could be investigated. They have received an email from SDDC querying responsibility of insurance liability for the jubilee field and play equipment. The Clerk has provided a copy of the Council insurance to the Parochial Charity. Councillor Cuming wished to query the two Council nominated trustees to the Charity as although the dates had been confirmed for renewal, he could not find any evidence that Claire Hynam had been officially appointed. Clerk is to go back to the Parochial Charity.

10. Tree and Benches

Following the detachment of a large limb from the beech tree on Chapel Street, SDDC commissioned a report on its condition. Inspectors found the tree to be in an unstable/dangerous condition. As a result, they asked the Parish Council to remove two benches from beneath the tree and cordoned the area off, to mitigate the risk of personal injuries. Although the tree has since been pruned by SDDC arborists, it still presents a risk to the public and the Parish Council were requested not to return the two benches. SDDC could undertake further pruning and install props and web bracing, but the tree will never be considered safe enough to permit the return of the benches. The land beneath the canopy is therefore 'off-limits' to the public until the tree has been felled. SDDC asked whether the Parish Council wish to retain the existing tree (with further pruning and supports) or they would prefer to have it removed and replaced. After discussion the Parish Council **all resolved to respond to SDDC advising as it was their tree on their land, they would leave the decision with them. Councillor Brooke advised that he was speaking to SDDC tomorrow and the Clerk would formally respond via email. This information will go in the next newsletter to keep parishioners updated.**

11. Playground Annual Inspection and Works Needed

Councillor Taft after seeking the opinion of the other Councillors had advised SDDC to repair the items that had been identified as a moderate risk in the annual inspection.

12. Playground Inspection/Weekly Checks

The Councillors discussed this and wished to know what SDDC were providing for the monthly regular maintenance that the Council were funding. They also agreed that they would cover weekly visual inspections between themselves.

13. Highways

Councillor Taft advised that he would chase DCC Highways as they should have resurfaced the B5006 bend last year. He advised all to keep reporting any potholes identified to DCC. Councillor Brooke also asked if DCC could provide a definitive map of all the public rights of way in the Parish. The Clerk is to write to County Councillor Muljer and request this

14. Footpath

Councillor Taft advised that work has started today.

15. Speed Watch

Councillor Cuming is reviewing all previous quotes received for SIDs and will ask DCC for any funds available.

16. Portable Noise Monitor

Councillor Cuming advised this had been installed and has been there about month, will be there for approx. another 2 months. There is a nationwide noise consultation into flight paths and routes, the next stage will go out to the public. He will collate all the information and provide a summary to the Councillors. He advised that people should still report any issues directly to East Midlands airport. He will ensure the link on how to do this is put into the next newsletter.

17. Newsletter

It was discussed if the newsletter could go back to a paper copy. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed that for the next newsletter it would be printed and all Councillors would hand deliver to the addresses within the Parish. Councillor Cuming agreed to write the next newsletter. Costs for the newsletter were agreed at a maximum of £50.**

18. To discuss and agree any response to any current Planning Applications

None.

19. Dates of future meetings

12th September 2023, 14th November 2023

20. Bank Signatories

Resolved, all councillors agreed to that Councillors Dickens and Water were to be added and ex Councillor Rushman to be removed.

21. To approve payment of accounts as follows:

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the payments except for the ground's maintenance payments. Once the Clerk has received details of the schedule and previous work completed the decision to pay is delegated to the Chairman and Clerk.

Date	Method of Payment	to whom paid	Particulars of payment	Total £	VAT £	Already paid under Clerk and Chairman Delegated Authority
01/06/2023	Internet transfer	Clerk	Clerk salary (May 2023)	247.60		Yes
01/06/2023	Internet transfer	SJL Landscapes Limited	Grounds Maintenance April 2023	578.43	96.57	Yes
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	The Parochial Charity	Jubilee Field Rent 2023	500.00		No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	Clerk	Clerk salary (June 2023)	247.68		No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	HMRC	NI and tax	146.40		No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	Amazon (via clerk)	Printer ink	17.96	3.00	No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	SDDC	Annual Playground inspection	90.00	15.00	No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	SJL Landscapes Limited	Grounds Maintenance May 2023	578.43	96.57	No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	Clerk	Audit mileage	11.70		No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	East Midlands Audit Services Ltd	Audit	88.25		No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	SJL Landscapes Limited	Grounds Maintenance June 2023	579.43	95.57	No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	H Sell	Lengthsman	60.00		No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	Hama Bargins (via H Sell)	Refuse bags	2.99		No
11/07/2023	Internet transfer	Timson (via C. Tatt)	Keys for field access	27.00		No

22. Payments Received

i. 07/07/2023 SDDC Precept £3,401.00

23. Communications received since last meeting

- i. NALC: Chief executive's bulletin x 8; Newsletter x 8
- ii. DALC: Newsletter x 2
- iii. DCC: Newsletter x 4; 2023 06 07 Public Rights of Way Minor Maintenance Agreement 2023-24; Parish & Town Council Liaison Forum 18 September 2023
- iv. SDDC: Co-option; New South Derbyshire Community Grant Fund Launched; Damaged Tree; Annual Playground Inspection Report
- v. South Derbyshire CVS: Funding Bulletin x 2; Health and Wellbeing Bulletin
- vi. District Councillor Haines: Updated SDDC Management Structure; Download Festival - information for local communities
- vii. Mercia Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) - May 2023; June 2023
- viii. EMA Noise Action Plan 2024-2028 Consultation
- ix. Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter Issue 3

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 12th September 2023 in Smisby Village Hall at 19:30.

Signed:



Date:

12/09/23