

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting 11th January 2022

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

Members of the public and other organisations: District Councillors Churchill and Haines, County Councillor Muller, Parochial Charity Trustee Robert Hounslow and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Cuming submitted his apologies to the clerk, he is unable to attend due to work commitments.

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

Councillor Rushman had received an email from the Village Hall committee about jubilee celebrations advising they would be happy to help. No suggestions have been received from the newsletter request.

5. Clerks Report

None.

6. Public Questions and Comments

A member of the public reported that the potholes on Forties Lane are horrendous.

7. Approval of Minutes from Smisby Parish Council Meeting held on 9th November 2021

All Councillors approved and the Chair signed the minutes.

8. Parochial Charity Communications

Rob Hounslow, wished everybody happy new year. He advised that the Council deal with maintenance matters for the Jubilee Field and they could go back to the PCC for extra funding for any extra work needed. The PCC are considering a twice-yearly newsletter to ensure they get the correct figures for hampers and book tokens. They are still looking for local land to purchase. Councillor Brooke suggested electric vehicle charging points could be considered for PCC funding.

9. Budget

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the budget as agreed and documented in the Finance Meeting held at 18:30 on 11th January 2022.

10. Precept Setting

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to set the precept at £5,802.00. Chair and Clerk to sign the paperwork and submit to SDDC.

11. Parish Field

Clerk is to gain quotes for grounds maintenance, to include 16-18 cuts per year, pitch cuts every two weeks, wild flower area strimmed and clippings taken away twice a year. Council asked the Clerk to contact the church to see if they would take over the ground's maintenance of the village green and the area under the beech trees. If not, then these need to be included on the ground's maintenance quotes, along with two weed killers of the village green per year. The Council will make a decision in the March meeting.

12. Drains, Flooding and Highways

Councillor Taft, asked County Councillor Muller to look into all the outstanding issues with DCC for drains, flooding and highways. He has copied him into all the emails he has sent with the case numbers documented. County Councillor Muller agreed to look into the issues.

13. Smisby Lockup

Clerk is to chase up the estimates with a view to the work starting ASAP.

14. Community Speed Watch

Councillor Cuming provided an update to the Councillors before the meeting. There does appear to have been a reduction in speed when they are there, the crest team have been out twice. They still need more volunteers on the speed watch activity.

15. Planning Applications

After discussion, **All Councillors agreed to submit a comment on the planning application DMPA/2021/1286 with the comments that had been reported to Councillor Cuming. Clerk to submit to SDDC as follows:** 1. The specific proposal is very big, very obvious and very close to the road. And very visible against the skyline. 2. It's perhaps not very accurate to describe this as a redevelopment of existing sheds, in fact they are simply huge chicken-wire birdcages. So, it's really a 'Greenfield' development. 3. There isn't a local plan for development up Forties Lane and probably there ought to be one, in which case it would be easier to decide what is/isn't reasonable. 4. The ongoing developments on the adjacent properties, plus the recent other large planning approval only recently granted to Holmleigh, give rise to a suspicion of creeping development of an area which many villagers seem to regard as some sort of ancient monument. In this respect the Cedar Lawns and Mannocks building activity have been highlighted to the Councillor as somehow improper although they pre-date their time in the parish and they have no data either way. But they do seem to have triggered quite a lot of suspicion. 5. There is already an ongoing and unresolved drainage issue on Forties Lane and it may be imprudent to carry out further development there until the drainage is resolved.

16. District and County Councillor Reports

- a. District Councillor Churchill, advised that they are still struggling with staffing levels. A new conservation officer is starting, and they are constantly short of

planning officers. Should anybody experience any issues he advised to contact himself and District Councillor Haines who would try to assist.

- b. District Councillor Haines, advised that the area forum is now the community meeting and they are being held virtually.
- c. County Councillor Muller, apologised that he has not been to the last few meetings as they clash with the planning meetings. He believes that the covid situation will peak in 10 days. DCC are experiencing problems with staff in care homes, 100 staff have gone to help out. He is to look further into highways and flooding issues. He has some money that will become available to help ward members with the jubilee celebrations.

17. Dates of Future Meetings

8th March, 10th May, 12th July, 13th September and 8th November 2022.

18. Payment Approval

a. Clerks' salary	Clerk	£459.01
b. Lengthsman	H Salt	£60.00
c. National insurance and tax	HMRC	£86.40
d. Grounds maintenance	Bloomin' Gardens	£432.00
e. Lengthsman expenses	H Salt	£11.49

19. Payments Received

VAT reclaim	HMRC	£492.15
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20. Communications Received Since Last Meeting

- a. NALC: Chief executive's bulletin x 6; Newsletter x 3; New resources
- b. DALC: Newsletter – November; Wildflower planting; Civility and respect newsletter; December newsletter; IMPORTANT CHANGE TO SICKNESS REPORTING; Member question about use of IT - response from members; Budget news - no cap on precept increase; December Newsletter; Covid Plan B guidance for Parish and Town Councils
- c. DCC: Community News x 3; Email to Parish/Town Councils - objects in the highway; Mobile Library Routes 13 December 2021 to 4 March 2022; 2 December– Community News from Derbyshire County Council – live traffic cameras, link road to be completed, new care home, bird flu latest, leaving care, stay well in winter; Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Local Plan Update
- d. SDDC: Flood Liaison Meeting 02.11.21 – Reports; Proposed changes to South Derbyshire's Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for working-aged people; Repton Community Meeting - Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 6pm; Summer Scheme 2022 information and booking details; Carbon Literacy Training Invite from South Derbyshire District Council; South Derbyshire Community Meetings / Area Forums; Carbon Literacy Training Invite from South Derbyshire District Council - polite reminder
- e. District Councillor Churchill: My Position in the SDDC Conservative Group
- f. District Councillors Haines: Adrian Lowery

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- g. CVS: The Latest News from South Derbyshire CVS x 2, Community Development Updates; SDCVS and Partnership Events and Training; Funding E-Bulletin from South Derbyshire CVS
- h. Police: Police & Crime Commissioner - Budget Consultation 2022/23
- i. North West Leicestershire District Council: North West Leicestershire Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document

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 8th March 2022 in Smisby Village Hall.

Signed: *S. Husman* Date: *8-3-22*