

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting 9th January 2024

Smisby Parish Council Attendance: Councillors Taft (Chairman), Sullivan and Cuming, Clerk Caroline Crowder

Members of the public and other organisations: 2 members of the public.

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Councillors Dickens and Brooke, County Councillor Muller, District Councillors Haines and Lowe offered their apologies.

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. Chairman's communications (if any)

- i. On behalf of parishioners over 60 years of age, SPC wished to express gratitude to the Parochial Charity for the Christmas hampers. Sincere thanks are also conveyed to the volunteers who organised & distributed them, a significant undertaking that is greatly appreciated by the community.
- ii. SPC also wished to acknowledge the prompt support, provided by DCC Highways teams, in the clearing trees which had fallen during the recent storms. Particularly, to the crew who came out late on Christmas Eve to remove a fallen tree on Forties Lane.
- iii. The 'Repton Area Forum' is scheduled on the 24th Jan at 6:30 pm, in the Newton Solney Village Hall. Councillor Taft will attend.

5. Clerk's report

- i. Would like to back up the files to Microsoft One Drive. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed**
- ii. Response to the SDDC Budget Consultation, Repton Parish Council have asked if they would join them in a joint response. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed to support Repton's response and to also send in an individual response, Chairman to document the response.**

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

None.

7. Approval of minutes from Parish Council Meetings held on 14th November 2023

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

8. Parochial Charity, District and County Councillors Communications

- i. District Councillor Haines, submitted an update prior to the meeting. Budgets and S136 Concurrent Function Funding for Parish Councils: There is still time to feed back on the draft budgets for 2024/25 (consultation runs until 12th January - the feedback will be presented along with the final budgets next month. Hydrogen Hybrid Trial: This hybrid refuse lorry is finally on the road and will be trialled in the District until April 2024 - will let you know how this develops! Area Forum: The next Area Forum meeting will take place on Wednesday 24th January at 6.30 pm in Newton Solney Village Hall. If there is anything you'd like us to raise just drop me a line. Flooding: Following the recent challenging weather conditions, we've also been dealing with a number of flood related queries across our Ward.
- ii. County Councillor Muller, submitted an update prior to the meeting. The East Midlands Combined County Authority. On Monday the 18th December the draft East Midlands Combined County Authority Regulations were laid in Parliament. Consideration is expected in the Spring. The inaugural election for the East Midlands Mayor will take place on 2 May 2024. As known the EMCCA is set to bring in around £4 billion of funding for the region alongside devolved powers for transport, skills and adult education, housing and environment and economic development. If legislation is passed in the coming weeks it would come into force by March 2024 meaning the EMCCA will officially come into existence. The £2 single fare bus scheme. This is funded by Government and will continue until 31st December 2024. No 20 MPH limits for two Derbyshire towns. I think it's important to mention that two Derbyshire towns have rejected proposals for a 20 MPH speed limit. In Long Eaton a total of 306 responses were received with 63 in favour and 184 against. Pot Holes. Again, I have received a considerable number of complaints regarding potholes, road surface conditions and of course flooding in and around the Melbourne District. So far, I have reported everything I know about but please let me know of anything that come from the meeting. Freeport. Nothing new to report.

9. Tree and Benches

The damaged Beech Tree is scheduled to be felled week beginning 22nd January 2024. No further response has been received from SDDC about their plans for the area following this work. **Councillor Brooke to contact them, to discuss clearing the old Pinfold, prior to the planting of a replacement tree later this year.**

10. Playground Inspection and Repairs

Resolved, all Councillors agreed that no further repair work would be carried out on any equipment until future plans, for the field, have been confirmed. Any play equipment that fails their monthly inspection will be taken out of service.

i. Multi Play Repairs

Resolved, all Councillors agreed not to go ahead with proposed repairs.

ii. Fitness Trail Instruction Labels

Resolved, all Councillors agreed not to go ahead with proposed repairs.

11. Jubilee Field Grounds Maintenance

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to contact the current contractors SJL Landscapes to advise they do not wish any further maintenance to be completed by them this financial year.

12. Highways

Councillors Cuming and Taft have reported various potholes to SDDC and a signpost in Annwell Lane, that is concealed by vegetation. In response to community feedback, Councillor Taft will address issues of (alleged) inconsiderate parking on Chapel Street, with the party involved. Parish Clerk advised that any illegal parking should be reported to Derbyshire County Council Civil Parking Enforcement by email [contact_centre@derbyshire.gov.uk] or by telephone [01629 533190]. Finally, during recent storms, significant volumes of stormwater flowed down Forties Lane, into Smisby. Councillor Taft will continue to report blocked drains and request that DCC share information relating to their drainage gully cleaning schedule.

13. Speed Watch

No update.

14. Portable Noise Monitor

A report has been sent from EMA this week; Councillor Cuming is to review this. He will also draft a response to the current noise consultations.

15. Newsletter

Bluebell Arboretum wish to continue advertising, waiting on responses from other local business.

16. Replacement Bin

Resolved, a majority of Councillors agreed that the damaged litter bin, located in the Parish Field Play Area, needed replacing. SPC to approach SDDC, to see whether they would be willing to supply and install a replacement bin. If SDDC declined, Councillor Taft offered to install a new one, funded by SPC.

17. Grounds Maintenance 2024-25

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to award work to Shed Grounds Maintenance Ltd. SPC would like them to re-quote for 9 months maintenance rather than 12 months, due to plans for the field currently being uncertain. Parish Clerk to contact them accordingly.

18. Budget Approval

Resolved, all Councillors agreed that they would like this to be agreed at the next meeting in March 2024.

19. Precept

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to set at £7,822. Paperwork signed by the Chairman and Clerk. Clerk to submit to SDDC. Although this represents a 15% rise on the previous year, it results in a monthly increase of £0.32 for Band A properties, £0.48 for Band D properties and £0.97 for Band H properties.

20. Clerk Annual Leave

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to pay the clerk for 4 weeks annual leave that she is unable to take due to the volume of work.

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

No comments.

22. Dates of future meetings

12th March, 14th May, 9th July, 10th September, 12th November 2024.

23. To approve payment of accounts as follows:

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the payments:

Date	Method of Payment	to whom paid	Particulars of payment	Total £	VAT £	Already paid under Clerk and Chairman Delegated Authority
01/12/2023	Bank transfer	Clerk	Salary (November 23 and backpay)	375.55		Y
13/12/2023	Bank transfer	SDDC	Playground inspection and maintenance (November 23)	65.69	10.05	Y
09/01/2024	Bank transfer	HMRC	NI and tax	172.00		
09/01/2024	Bank transfer	H Sell	Lengthsman	60.00		
30/01/2024	Bank transfer	S.J.L Landscapes	Grounds maintenance (July, August, September)	1,738.30	289.72	
30/01/2024	Bank transfer	Clerk	Salary (December 23)	254.52		

24. Payments Received

None

25. Communications received since last meeting

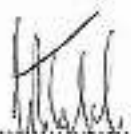
- i. NALC: Chief executive's bulletin x 7; Newsletter x 6

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- ii. DALC: Newsletter x 1; Forum; SDDC and Concurrent Funding; Community Ownership Fund Application window open; Letter from PCC regarding waiving Council Tax for Special Constables
- iii. DCC: Newsletter x 3
- iv. SDDC: Playground Inspection Report x November and December; Our Draft Council Plan 2024-2028; Personal Security Briefings - Elected Officials and Faith Leaders; Flood Liaison Meeting questions for agencies; Details of the 2024 Summer Holiday Provision for Parish Councils; Notification of Parish Precepts 2024/25 - Smisby Parish Council; Playground Repair Quotes; SDDC Budget Consultation 2024-25 x 2; Repton Area Forum minutes; Area Forum Dates and Venues
- v. South Derbyshire CVS: Funding Bulletin x 2; Health and Wellbeing Bulletin x 2; Winter Giving Campaign; Christmas Foodbank
- vi. District Councillor Haines: Storm Babet Flood Recovery Schemes; Concurrent Funding
- vii. District Councillor Lowe:
- viii. County Councillor Muller:
- ix. Martin Buckley SDDC: Beech Trees
- x. East Midlands Airport: EMA Parish Forum - 13th November 11.00-13.15; East Midlands Airport Airspace Change Stage 2 - Gateway outcome; East Midlands Airport Future Airspace - Stage 2 information sharing/Q&A sessions
- xi. Concurrent Funding x 2
- xii. URGENT Special Constable Council Tax Discount - Commissioner Angelique Foster
- xiii. East Midlands Audit Services Newsletter
- xiv. Grounds Maintenance Quote

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 March 2024 at 19:30, in Smisby Village Hall.

Signed



Date:

12/3/24