



Sculthorpe Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 5 January 2022 at 7pm, Village Hall

Parish Councillors present: Brian Watkin (Chair), Tony Walters (Vice Chair), Roger London, Penny Ramm, Ken Dawson, Gillian White, Simon Read, Michael Dalby (County Councillor) Also in attendance: Jodie Bond (Parish Clerk). There were no members of the public.

1. Welcome and to receive and accept apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed those present.

There were no apologies received.

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations by Councillors

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensation were made.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 3 November 2021 to be approved

The minutes of the meeting were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting

- Clerk has reported the missing Crockley Pitt bollard to Highways.
- It was noted that the grit bins are currently full.
- Chairman will consider the quotation received from SSE and compare to our existing energy provider.

5. Receive reports from Local PC, NCC Cllr & NNDC Cllr, if attending

Tom FitzPatrick (NNDC Councillor)

Not present

Michael Dalby (NCC Councillor)

Report can be viewed via our website www.sculthorpepc.info

6. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public

Not present.

7. To receive update on the Governance Review (boundary change)

Rob Henry had advised that the NNDC full council meeting scheduled for 15 December 2021 was postponed, due to Covid, until the middle of this month. Therefore, we are still unsure what the decision will be regarding the boundary change. Chairman advised that all homes affected have been visited at least twice and approx. 37 responses from residents, wishing to remain in Sculthorpe have been forwarded to NNDC. The Chairman and Vice Chairman will attend the NNDC meeting.

8. To receive updates from council members (for information only)

8.1 Speed Watch report

Cllr London reported that the weather has restricted the team somewhat and no speeders have been caught. The team will recommence in February.

8.2 Village Hall Committee report

- Cllr Ramm reported that there is still an issue with the door.
- The roof is an ongoing issue as they have struggled to obtain quotes.
- It has been agreed that the hourly rate will reduce to £12 per hour and reviewed again later this year.
- Cllr Walters noted that there had been a car parked in the car park for more than a week. Cllr Read advised that it has now been removed by a transporter.

Cllr Watkin advised that this is a Hall Committee matter and similar issues can be reported to them and or the police if it happens in the future.

9. Open Spaces

The NNDC No Dog Zone signs for the play park, to include the toddler area, may have to be funded by the Parish Council. Cllr Watkin has kindly volunteered to install the signs. Clerk is awaiting confirmation of the cost.

9.1 Blacketts Pond Area update

- The NNDC Sustainable Communities Grant Panel responded as follows:-
'The Panel would like you to contact Nigel Stannett, Climate Change Project Officer, to discuss the wider environmental opportunities to enhance the project, such as tree planting, pond dipping. It was acknowledged that this could increase project costs but ultimately offer an improved outcome for the community and the environment'. The Council agreed to contact Mr Stannett. Clerk to make contact to arrange a site meeting. Update to follow.
- It was requested that the mole pest control contractor includes the Blacketts Pond area within their quotation for the coming year. Clerk to add this to the next meeting agenda for consideration and decision.

9.2 Play Area

The mole hills have been an issue recently.

Clerk has attempted to contact the contractor to obtain copies of outstanding invoices, which have not yet been received, so that payment can be made without further delay.

9.2.1 Zip Wire Platform update

The Clerk contacted NGF Play and the play area inspector to clarify the possibility of installing a ramp underneath the zipwire for easier access for younger children, however both parties agreed that this is not acceptable under current legislation, the legislation is changing all the time and even though this may have been deemed suitable in the past it is not now advisable. Based on this information the Council RESOLVED not to install a ramp underneath the wire unless the legislation changes again. Proposed by Cllr Watkin, seconded by Cllr Ramm. ALL AGREED.

9.2.2 Receive Quotations for Levelling the Playing Field

Clerk has requested a quotation from CGM Ltd to level the playing field, however they have not attended site yet. Quotation to follow.

9.3 Report and Discuss any Highways Issues

- Cllr London reported the drainage issues along the roadside between the junction of Moor Lane and The Street, towards the A148. The ditches appear to have been cleared, however the clippings from the hedges that have been cut back have not been cleared from the ditches, which will cause flooding. Cllr Dalby agreed to follow this up with Highways on our behalf. Thanks, given.
- Cllr Walters raised the issue with poor parking outside the nursery on The Street. Cllr Read explained that is equally poor outside the school. Cllr Read reminded Councillors that these issues can be reported to the police, with photos where possible. Drivers should not be parking within a certain distance of a junction as per the highway code.
- Cllr Read had reported that the hedge has been cut back along the side of the footpath from The Street to Creake Road (along A148) which is good news, however the clippings have been left in a pile on the grassy verge and is a bit of an eyesore. If it was intended for wildlife habitat, that would be acceptable but not left in the current location. Clerk to report to Highways.
- Cllr Read raised the issue with the remaining overgrown hedge on Creake Road (heading towards the school). Part of it has been cut. Clerk to request Highways to cut the rest of the hedge. Cllr White could arrange for it to be cut if required, but there would be a small charge incurred.
- Another matter raised by parishioners to Cllr Read was the concern with the junction of New Road onto the A148. There are reportedly quite a few 'near misses' almost every day and there has recently been a very bad accident because drivers come over the hatching onto the wrong side of the road and is a danger for drivers exiting from the New Road junction. Solid white lines may be considered, however as there is already white hatching on the road this may not be considered. Clerk to contact Highways for advice on the safety at this junction

10. Planning Matters

10.1 To receive results of applications

RV/21/2435 | 1 The Street, Sculthorpe, Norfolk, NR21 9QD

Removal of condition 2 (permission only for the benefit of Mr W Tuddenham) of planning permission PF/89/1401 (alterations to outbuilding to provide annexe).

PC comment – Neutral | NNDC decision - APPROVED

PF/21/2439 | Dels Nursery, Barsham Road, Sculthorpe, Norfolk, NR21 9NA

Extension to storage building (approved under planning ref: PF/15/0880) for the storage of materials

PC comment – Neutral but with comments above | NNDC decision - WITHDRAWN

LA/21/2621 | Grove Farm, Creake Road, Sculthorpe, Norfolk, NR21 9NF

Internal and external works to main farmhouse, with associated works to north boundary wall

PC comment – Support | NNDC decision - PENDING

PF/21/2620 | Grove Farm, Creake Road, Sculthorpe, Norfolk, NR21 9NF

External alterations to main farmhouse including alterations to window openings, replacement of some windows & new porch, associated works to north boundary wall; erection of garden storage building in.

PC comment – Support | NNDC decision - PENDING

- 10.2 To receive and consider new applications
 PF/21/3059 - Sculthorpe - Oak Lodge, 51A Sandy Lane, Fakenham
 Conversion of loft space to provide further storage and ancillary living space (no external alterations)
 PC comment – None | NNDC decision - APPROVED

11. Receive and consider Correspondence

Donation request email received from Citizens advice Bureau.

12. Financial Matters

- 12.1 To approve the payment of accounts list
 The Council RESOLVED to approve the payments list (see below)

Sculthorpe Parish Council payment of accounts list (item 12.1)			
Payment to	Description		Payment (£)
K&M Lighting	Street Lighting	SO	22.17
Eon	Electricity	DD	52.42
CGM Ltd	Grass Cutting	100867	512.51
J Bond	Clerks Salary (Dec-Jan)	100868	363.48
Hempton Parish Council	Clerks Expenses	100869	31.69
Tony Walters	Expense for church lights	100870	6.00
J Bond	o/s payment for website hosting	100871	15.60
Total payments approved			£982.27
Receipt from	Description		Receipt (£)
Diocese of Norwich	School Annual Rental for use of Playing Field	DC	100.00
Barclays Bank	Interest on Reserves	DC	0.19
Total payments received			£100.19

- 12.2 To review and approve the budget and set the precept for 2022/23
 The Clerk presented a draft of the budget for discussion. The Council RESOLVED to approve the budget and set the precept at £9419 for 2022-23. This represents an increase of 16.5% from the previous year.

13. Receive items for next agenda and note the date of the next meeting

To ratify the decision to purchase 2 new 8ft benches for the play area.
 Confirm funding application for a SAM2.
 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2 March 2022.
 The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.28pm.

Signed by Chairman: Date: