

Sutton Bonington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Sutton Bonington Parish Council that was held on Monday 22nd July 2024 at 7.00 PM in the pavilion

Present:

- Cllr Burgess, Cllr Cameron, Cllr D Collings, Cllr Gillis, Cllr Harrod, Cllr Hood, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Jackson, and Cllr White. County Councillor Barney, 2 members of the public and the clerk were also in attendance.

900/2024 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- N/A

901/2024 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

- Councillors agreed that if a declaration of interest had been noted then that councillor could take part in the discussion but could not vote.
- Cllr D Collings and Cllr Hughes declared an interest on item 914 as an allotment holder.

902/2024 – Report from Police/County/Borough Councillors

Cllr Barney's report included:

- Thanks to Ruth Edwards for her service and to recognise the events of the new MP, James Naish and that it is important that we get him into the village.
- A review of the on demand bus service and that 2 additional buses have been appointed to cover Costock, Rempstone, etc. Cllr Hughes asked if the buses can go over the border. Cllr Barney commented that it can normally only be used in the geographically area where the funding came from but that there has been a special dispensation so that it can go into Leicestershire. Cllr Collings commented that the 866, which is a NCC service and runs twice in the morning and at night and links with the Skylink at Hathern and to the airport.
- That with the masses of development in East Leake the current sewage system cannot keep up and that there needs to be a massive engineering project to upgrade the sewage works but a new sewage works needs to be built first. It was noted that NCC have put a permit in place to stop any development and that this has now gone to the planning committee. Cllr Cameron asked if there is any link with Sutton Bonington and it was noted that there isn't but that it will stop the sewage going into Kingston brook and will improve the car park flooding at the co-op.
- The solar farm application at West Leake/East Leake/Gotham has been turned down by the planning inspectorate.
- The Sutton Bonington primary school development is exciting and that the school are trying to get academisation.
- Cllr Cameron asked about the power station and the lorries using the site. Cllr Barney commented that this has slowed down but that they do have extraction right to remove all the gypsum so this will continue.

903/2024 – Public Forum

- A member of the public that lives on Melton Lane commented on the speed and volume of traffic and asked whether it would be possible to look to have the speed limit reduced to 30 mph. There is no safe footpath and suggested that if the Landcroft Lane footpath could be linked it would create a safe place for people to walk. It was noted that the plot opposite The Star is being sold for development and that will generate a lot of construction traffic. The Chair commented that with the support of Cllr Barney we could ask those questions. It was commented that there a lot of very large agricultural vehicles using Melton Lane so the 30 mph speed limit would help.
- A member of the public asked about the footpaths being diverted along the hedge but that no one is maintaining the areas. It was noted that this issue has been reported to NCC but we will chase it up.
- A resident from Zouch commented on the recent flooding and that it has never been as bad and asked about the flood wardens and their availability. Cllr Collings commented that Zouch has three flood wardens and that Zouch does have its own allocation of signage and equipment. It was noted that all the flood wardens are on a WhatsApp group and that there is regular communication and that they are available 24/7. The resident commented that this is not widely known in Zouch. Cllr Cameron commented that we perhaps need to look at how we communicate what is being done and who is available and perhaps arrange a flood meeting for all residents. Cllr Barney commented that NCC have been looking at the impact of storm Henk and it has triggered a statutory response to feedback to central government. Cllr Barney suggested that personnel from NCC attend the flood meeting.

904/2024 – Councillor co-option applications

- The clerk circulated copies of the co-option application forms to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors agreed that they had enough information to vote.
- Vacancy one – all councillors agreed to co-opt applicant A.
- Vacancy two – all councillors agreed to co-opt applicant B.
ACTION: Clerk will contact both applicants, arrange for them to have parish council email addresses, provide them with all the relevant information and to arrange a meeting with the chair and vice chair.

905/2024 – Resolution to approve the minutes from the meeting held on the 10th June 2024

- A copy of the minutes from the June meeting were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Collings

proposed that they be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Harrod and all councillors who were present at the June meeting were in agreement.

906/2024 – Resolution to approve payments and update from finance working party, including CIL

- The clerk circulated a copy of the financial summary to councillors prior to the meeting, which should income of £425.00 and expenditure of £3,291.98. Cllr Hughes proposed the payments, these were seconded by Cllr Burgess and all councillors were in agreement.
- It was noted that the first meeting of the finance working party had taken place and a report will provided under the working party item on the agenda.
ACTION: Payments to be made.

907/2024 – Resolution to approve request for donations towards the Strawberry Wood

- Additional information regarding the Strawberry Wood project was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Cameron proposed that the precept for Sutton Bonington should stay in the village so that we can continue to support the village, all councillors were in agreement.

908/2024 – To discuss the conservation area draft plan and agree actions

- The chair thanked Cllr Jackson for a very detailed plan. Cllr Jackson reported that all comments had been submitted to Andrew Langley and he has responded and that the plan will be out for consultation in October.
ACTION: Cllr Jackson to circulate the updated plan to all councillors.

909/2024 – To discuss the play area reports and agree actions

- The clerk circulated a copy of the new play area report along with quotes for immediate repair works. Councillors agreed that it was a good report and Cllr Harrod proposed that we proceed with the identified works, this was seconded by Cllr Collings and all councillors were in agreement. It was noted that CIL funding can be used for the repairs.
ACTION: Clerk to arrange for the repairs to be carried out.

910/2024 – To discuss the NALC AGM and completion of forms

- The clerk circulated a copy of the NALC newsletter to all councillors prior to the meeting and this included details of the AGM that will take place on the 12th October.
ACTION: Clerk to re-circulate details of the NALC AGM to all councillors and to book places if anyone wishes to attend.

911/2024 – To discuss the village walk round and agree actions

- The chair thanked all councillors that attended the walk round and confirmed that the entire has been done and that quite a few things have been identified that require action. It was noted that a spreadsheet has been created to keep a record of each task and the action against it. The chair reported that quite a few actions have already been reported via the NottsApp.
- It was agreed that we would try to complete as many task as possible over the next 6 months, particularly those that we can do ourselves but anything that is the responsibility of highways may take longer. Cllr Cameron suggested that we look to break the list down into sections and Cllr Hughes suggested that this should be a regular agenda item.
- Cllr Barney commented that if there are any areas that we are not sure on the ownership, then NCC can provide details on this. It was also confirmed that bus stop on the A6006 is going to be demolished.
- Cllr Jackson asked highways mowing the grass verges outside properties and also at the university.
ACTION: The clerk will circulate the task list and if councillors see anything that has been done or needs doing to report it to clerk so that the list can be updated.

912/2024 – Update on the village show

- The chair reported that councillors have met with members of the village show committee and identified what needs doing at the playing fields prior to the show.
- It was noted that the Air Cadets are no longer allowed to help with village show and the committee are looking for volunteers to help with parking, etc. It was suggested that they could approach the university. Cllr Barney suggested that they contact the Police to see if they can offer any support with the event.
ACTION: Clerk to ensure that all the tree/hedge work is carried out prior to the show and that the notices are put up.

913/2024 – Update on the pavilion on agree actions

- Cllr White reported that he has spoken with the architect regarding clarification on the invoice but is not convinced that they have done that amount of work. It was noted that we are paying a higher rate for a qualified architect but the person that has been involved is not.
- It was noted that all the plans are ready for submission, the charge for this will be 7 hours work, and councillors discussed whether we stick with the same practice for look for an alternative.
ACTION: Cllr White to arrange a meeting with the owner of the practice and for them to explain what is what, what their plans are going forward and what our expectations are. It was agreed that a site visit is needed for whoever is taking on the project.

914/2024 – Update on allotments/allotment extension/AGM and acknowledgement of the minutes from the allotment holders meeting

- It was noted that all plots on the current site are in use and being monitored.
- Cllr Collings reported that the extension has now been fenced off and the trees cut back. The grass will be cut and then the area will be rotavated and marked out and then we will need to look at signage. The clerk confirmed that everyone on the waiting list has been approached about a plot and everyone has responded to confirm if they want one or not. It was noted that we have advertised the extension via the village news, on the noticeboards, website and social media.
- The chair reported that the allotment AGM had taken and was well attended, the minutes have been circulated to all councillors.

ACTION: There will be no requirement for a deposit moving forward and the finance working group will review the tenancy agreement and the fees for 2025.

915/2024 – Planning & Land

A copy of planning applications/decisions/withdrawals were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

- Cllr Jackson reported that the contents of the letter regarding the cancellation of the bridge works on Marle Pitt Hill are atrocious and that we need to get in touch with the Rushcliffe Borough Council MP, James Naish, and ask him to visit the site and to get this queried. It was also noted that he could help with the broadband in the village. Cllr Barney agreed to look into this.
- It was noted that university footpaths and diamond wood are not passable and that even with broken equipment and being short staffed they need to find an alternative contractor.

ACTION - Cllr Barney to contact James Naish, MP regarding a site visit to Marle Pitt Hill and Cllr Hood to contact the university regarding mowing, etc.

916/2024 – Working party update

- The chair thanked councillors for submitting the following reports and reminded all working parties that it would be good to see meetings taking place or a 'nil' response if they have not met.
- A copy of the minutes from the biodiversity work party were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that the orchard is owned by the parish council but that the biodiversity group have taken over the management of this and that they did buy a mower (but that is now broken) and was being done by a volunteer. It was agreed that a quote should be sourced for clearing the orchard and that the group should be asked to clear the gooseneck.
- Cllr Collings reported that members will be aware the proposed repairs to the wall on Marle Pit Hill have now been postponed by Network Rail, despite our representation to them, they have not given any assurances as to when it will be re built, we believe it is down to lack of funding.
- Cllr Collings reported that we believe all gullies in the village have been cleared including Soar Lane which has been jetted all the way through to the brook, allowing water to flow through for what we believe to be for the first time in ten years. In addition, the ditch at the rear of Gables Lea, which is fed from Hungary Lane has been cleared out, as it was silted up and flooding the adjacent field. This was done using the CIL monies as previously agreed at a considerably reduced price to the last time it was done around three years ago. It was also reported that WD have done more work and doubled the size of the pipes which should remove any flooding that occurred last year.
- Cllr Burgess reported that she has the final two defibrillators waiting to be installed.
- Cllr Hughes commented that the finance working party had met to review the accounts and to carry out quarterly checks. It was noted that the finance sheet has been update but if councillors want more information to let the clerk know before the next working party meeting on the 22nd August. Cllr Hughes reported that he will write an article regarding the precept for the village, this will include what the money is for, why the percentage increase, etc. Cllr Hughes will also look for a higher interest rate account for the reserves/CIL monies and that a regular review of the CIL monies and applications will be done within the group as some of the applications are now obsolete.

ACTION: Clerk to source quote for contractor to clear the orchard.

917/2024 – Agenda items for the September meeting/future agenda's

- Report from finance working party
- Allotment update
- Christmas lights
- PTA Bonfire
- Planning/land

918/2024 – Date of next meeting

- The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 9th September 2024 at 7.00 PM at the pavilion.
- Future dates include: 7th October, 11th November and the 9th December.

Closed at 20:50

AGREED AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING	
NAME:	

SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	