

Sutton Bonington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Sutton Bonington Parish Council that was held on Monday 11th November 2024 at 7.00 PM in the pavilion

Present:

- Cllr Burgess, Cllr D Collings, Cllr Gillis, Cllr Hardisty, Cllr Harrod, Cllr Hood, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Jackson and Cllr White. The clerk and 3 members of the public were also in attendance

962/2024 – Welcome and introduction of co-opted councillors and completion of declaration of interest forms

- The chair welcome councillors to the meeting. It was noted that all documentation was up to date.

963/2024 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- Apologies from Cllr Watson and Cllr Barney were noted and accepted.

964/2024 – 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.
- All councillors (minus Cllr Burgess who lives outside of the village) declared an interest on item 969, as residents of Sutton Bonington and council tax payers.
- Cllr Cameron declared an interest on item 972 as a member of St. Michaels' Church.
- Cllr Gillis declared an interest on item 972 as a member of the pre-school committee.

965/2024 – Report from Police/County/Borough Councillors

- N/A

966/2024 – Public Forum

- A member of the public asked about the flood situation in Zouch and whether the parish council can offer any support. Cllr Collings reported that Zouch is in a flood plain, the parish council have an emergency plan in place and he has ongoing conversations with the environment agency. A resident asked if rebuilding the bridge at Zouch would have any impact. It was noted that Cllr Watson had provided a detailed report to the parish council and a response has been provided. The parish council will offer as much support and Cllr Collings will attend the next Zouch village meeting. Cllr Hood asked about the flood resilience scheme grant available to residents. A member of the public commented that there is a need for details of the emergency evacuation, Cllr Collings provided an update and will make residents aware of the plan but needs to check GDPR and that we can share some of the contact details.

967/2024 – Resolution to approve the minutes from the meeting held on the 7th October 2024

- A copy of the minutes from the October meeting were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Harrod proposed that they be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Burgess and all councillors who were present at the meeting were in agreement.

968/2024 – Resolution to approve payments

- The clerk circulated a copy of the financial summary to councillors prior to the meeting, which showed income of £175.00 and expenditure of £3,250.24. Cllr Collings proposed that the payments be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Harrod and all councillors were in agreement.
ACTION: Payments to be made.

969/2024 – Resolution to approve the 2025/2-26 budget and precept statement

- Following the finance working party meeting, the clerk circulated a copy of the draft budget. Cllr Hughes reported that the finance meeting was very thorough and councillors were in agreement with the spend for the year and that there were no major surprises to date.
- It was noted that costs for 25/26 had been reviewed and councillors agreed to rebuild reserves and cover expenditure. It was also reported that councillors felt the 25/26 budget was realistic as the parish council are having to take on more work due to service being cut by NCC/RBC.
- Cllr Jackson commented that the university is by far the biggest employer and asked if we get any rates from them and do individuals living at the university pay towards the precept. It was noted that the university maintain their own roads and empty their own bins. It was also reported that the university is a charity. They do maintain their own roads and emptying their own bins and the university is a charity.
- Cllr Hughes proposed the 25/26 budget and precept request of £55,696.00, this was seconded by Cllr Cameron and all councillors were in agreement.
ACTION: Clerk to submit precept request to RBC and ask about contribution from the university. Cllr Hughes to write an article on the budget/precept.

970/2024 – Resolution to approve request to use the pavilion and playing fields for the 2025 playscheme

- Cllr Collings proposed that we approve the request, this was seconded by Cllr Burgess and all councillors were in agreement. Cllr Hughes asked for financial information before making a decision on a donation.
ACTION: Clerk to confirm use and request financial information.

971/2024 – Resolution to approve request to use the pavilion and playing fields for the 2025 village show

- Cllr Cameron proposed that we approve the request and agree a fee of £450, this was seconded by Cllr Collings and all councillors were in agreement.
ACTION: Clerk to confirm use and fee.

972/2024 – To discuss the installation of a defibrillator near St Michaels and agree action

- It was noted that a letter had been received from a resident regarding the possible installation of a defibrillator near the pre-school, St. Michaels and/or The Anchor.
- Cllr Burgess reported that the current machines at that end of the village are within the recommended distance, however, there is a void at the other end of the village.
- It was noted that independent schools can apply for a grant for a machine.
- It was suggested that a machine could go in the porch at the church but it would have to be accessible 24/7.
- Cllr Hughes asked about whether there is a different level of training for children.
- Cllr Collings reported that the British Heart Foundation will provide free machines for a new site and the parish council or the church can apply for one.
- Cllr Hood proposed that we approach the church to see if they will house it in their porch and apply to the BHF for a free one and if not, we look to see if we can budget for one. All councillors were in agreement.
- Councillors were reminded about the defibrillator training sessions.
ACTION: Cllr Cameron will speak with the church and then Cllr Burgess to look at the grant application

973/2024 – To discuss the format and date of the annual parish meeting and means of promotion

- It was noted that the annual parish meeting should take place between the 1st March and the 1st June. Cllr Hood reported that we need to make sure we are prepared and communicate widely across the village in order to try to get the attendance levels up.
- Cllr Cameron commented that we could look to see if the Soar Valley Bus could help with transport.
- It was agreed that we need to engage with all community groups, businesses, developers and the university.
- The date of the annual parish meeting was agreed as Wednesday 23rd April 2025 at 7.00 PM in the village hall.
- Councillors agreed that the communication group should meet to look at ideas for how the event will be run and forms of communication.

974/2024 – To discuss the play area reports and agree actions

- It was noted that the latest report had not yet been received. It was reported that the grass mats are being installed on the play area this week so the area is out of action.
- It was agreed that the clerk will source an alternative company quote and see what PFL would quote for just installing the bench if we purchase them.

975/2024 – To discuss the Best Kept Village 2025 competition and agree actions

- It was noted that a working party meeting had taken place to look at the entry for the 2025 competition, the map of which areas would be in and out.
- It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged for the end of January and to invite as many people from the village to explain the process and to get everyone onboard with completing tasks to get the village ready.
- It was noted that Zouch residents feel that they are not ready for 2025 but would like to be considered for a future year.
- Cllr Hood commented that we need as many councillors as possible to be involved and we need to be the 'Best Kept Village' for 365 days of the year.
- Councillors agreed to do a walk round in April prior to the competition.
- Cllr Hughes asked if we can share the judging criteria share the guidelines and what the judging criteria is. It was agreed that this will be made available.
ACTION: Arrange a meeting at the end of January and share judging criteria.

976/2024 – Update on the village wide task list

- Cllr Hood reported that he had met with Cllr Barney and VIA and provided an update to all councillors.
- It was noted that if there are more lines outside the school it would just push the traffic further down the village. There is a camera car that can enforce fines and Cllr Hood will speak with the Headteacher about this.
- Cllr Hood reported that the grit box on Marle Pitt Hill will be replaced and that a bus stop sign will be painted on the road outside St Michael's. It was reported that the road markings on Hungary Lane have faded away and will be re-painted and extended to prevent parking.
- Cllr Hood reported that NCC will look to reduce the speed limit on Hungary from 60mph to 40mph.
- It was reported that highways have identified a location for the bench in Zouch but that we need to review this and check ownership of the land. Cllr Jackson agreed to check ownership of the land.
- Cllr Jackson reported that the bin at Zouch still needs removing.
- It was noted that there are a couple of bins that still need cleaning, two on College Road and one at the top of Marle Pitt Hill.

- Cllr Hardisty reported that yellow lines are going to be painted round the corner of Bollards Lane. It was noted that the ongoing issues with parking need reporting to the police.
- Cllr White asked about the letter regarding the removal of the memorial. It was noted that Cllr Barney has presented the letter from the parish council to NCC and it was hoped that they would adopt a policy.
- Cllr White reported that he had sourced quotes for the dug out shutters and would try to source some more before a decision could be made.
- Joe asked about the letter to removing the memorial, this has gone to RBC via Matt Barney and they are looking at a policy.
- It was noted that the oven at the pavilion is not working and we need to ensure that we do have a working oven.
ACTION: Continue to report issues and follow up on tasks.

977/2024 – Planning & Land

- Cllr Jackson reported that conservation area public consultation was well attended. It was noted that a good report had been submitted on behalf of the village and that the final report will come out in early 2025. It was reported that the land at the bottom of Marle Pitt Hill, which could be a possible scheme for housing, has been included in the plan.
- Cllr Jackson reported that he and Cllr Cameron had met with colleagues from The Guild at the university and that they were very enthusiastic and discussed parking tree guards, etc. It was noted that they want to connect with the village and the parish council and to attend a future meeting/annual parish meeting.
- It was reported that Network Rail are hoping to get funding agreed for the replacement wall at Marle Pitt Hill and if approved, work will start in early 2025 and will be completed by April. Cllr Jackson commented that if funding is not agreed then it will need resolving in conjunction with the electrification of the Midland Mainline.
- Network Rail hope to get funding agreed for the replacement wall at Marle Putt hill and if so work will start in January February and to be completed by April. If not, they need to resolve it in conjunction with electrification of midland mainline.
- It was reported that the A6006 bridge work has to start by May 2025 and it will be closed for 11 months.
- Cllr Jackson commented that with all the works there will be total disruption in and around the village from January 2025 for over two years. It was noted that there would be a public consultation.
- Details of the Nottinghamshire Strategic Plan had been circulated to councillors and that the Kingston estate is identified as an option for development.
- Cllr Jackson commented that if we can prove that the pavilion plans have been initiated then we do not have to do the Biodiversity Net Gain. It was agreed that Cllr Jackson will contact the architect to discuss this.

978/2024 – Working party updates

- Cllr Collings reported that we have been unable to get a vehicle onto site to rotovate the allotments but this is being reviewed. It was also noted that there is an issue with the tree roots by the hedge side and we may need to review the locations of the plots.

979/2024 – Agenda items for the December meeting/future agenda's

- Mowing tender for 2025
- Bench installation
- Pavilion update
- Dug out shutters
- Network Rail

980/2024 – Date of next meeting

- The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 9th December at 7.00 PM in the pavilion.

Closed at 20:30

AGREED AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING	
NAME:	
SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	