

SOUTH NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 28th November 2023 at 7.30pm
In the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Vanessa Doyle, Stephan Lucks, Michael Rapp, Graham Smith and Sarah Wilson-Medhurst.

Mrs Christine Coles (Parish Clerk) and three villagers

23/78. To receive apologies for absence

District Cllr A McHugh (work)

23/79. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

Cllr Lucks and Cllr Smith declared interests as neighbours of The Little Forge.

23/80. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26th September 2023

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

23/81. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda

HS2 lorries travelling through the village – An email has been sent to the HS2 representative in South Northants but no response received. Photographic evidence of the lorries is required.

Fourth Field – Another email will be sent around the village.

23/82. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor

Cllr McHugh had circulated his report. The main points included:

The move of Cherwell District Council from Bodicote House, Disposable Vape Recycling, Climate Change, Consultations and Budget Proposals. CDC has to make around £1,521,000 in year savings in order to deliver a balanced budget. Various different proposals are being considered to save money.

23/83. To receive an update on the work by Gigaclear

Some work has been done by Gigaclear but work was stopped in Green Lane. This was due to the road closure license expiring.

Action: The Parish Clerk to contact Gigaclear for an update.

23/84. To discuss works to the church and a donation request

Scaffolding is in place for work at the church but no donation from the PC is required.

23/85. To receive an update on leaf clearing, drains and salt bins

CDC came out and cleared leaves but now some drains are blocked. These will be reported on Fix My Street. The salt bins have been checked.

23/86. To discuss overgrowing hedges and vegetation by footpaths

It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that some properties have overgrowing vegetation by footpaths. It was agreed to write a letter to each household to ask them to cut it back.

Action: The Parish Clerk to email a draft letter to Councillors.

23/87. To discuss the lighting of the Christmas Tree on 9th December

A permanent tree has been purchased and will be lit on 9th December. The tree was purchased to celebrate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. A commemoration plaque will be purchased.

Action: An email to be sent around the village advising why the tree has been purchased.

23/88. To receive the Clerk's Report – circulated

Planning

- 23/02502/TCA, T1 x Leylandii – Fell at Applegarth, Moor Lane. No objection by PC.
- 23/02739/F, Roof lift to accommodate a loft conversion, introduction of two dormers to the front elevation and two conservation area roof lights to the rear, new porch to replace existing and internal alterations at Nobbys Cottage, High Street. Supported by PC.
- 23/03037/TCA, Tree work at The School House, Barford Road. No objection by PC.

Determined

- 23/02770/F, RETROSPECTIVE – Single Storey rear extension and loft conversion at 5 St Peters Close. PC object with comments. Refused by CDC.
Action: The Parish Clerk to ask CDC what the next steps are.

Other

- 23/00502/ENF, Unauthorised erection of outbuilding within a Conservation Area at The Little Forge, The Town. There continues to be concerns about work at this property including the windows. Concerns have been received from villagers. The CDC Conservation report refers to the style of windows matching the original ones. This has an impact on nearby heritage assets. It was agreed to take this up with Planning and Enforcement.
Action: The Parish Clerk to email CDC Enforcement.

Finance

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

- £65.00 to the RBL (wreath)
- £133.85 to Cherwell District Council (Dog bin emptying)
- £80.34 to Parish Clerk (new pads for defibrillator)
- £36.00 to Sort It (October maintenance)
- £301.20 to N Prickett (grass cutting)
- £354.00 to N Prickett (grass cutting)
- £36.00 to Sort It (November maintenance)
- £375.50 to G Smith (Christmas Tree)
- £35.00 to Community First (membership)

Correspondence

From

- OCC, To agree and sign the amendment to the Section 101 Grass cutting agreement between OCC and SPC. In February 2023 OCC adopted a Highway Verge and Vegetation maintenance policy. As a result, Schedule 1 was reviewed and amended in line with that policy. It was agreed to accept the amendment as it enhances biodiversity and undertakes a nature led and risk based approach to verge maintenance.
Action: The Parish Clerk to sign the amended document.
- CDC, Banbury 2050 Survey launch.
- CDC, Budget Consultation 2024-25. Residents are encouraged to respond to the consultation which closes on 22nd December.

23/89. Councillors Reports

The damaged village gate heading towards Chipping Norton will be repaired in December.

The 20mph signage was discussed as the new limit starts by the Wigginton Road. There is no sign to make drivers aware.

Action: The Parish Clerk to report.

23/90. Public participation session (*Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of fifteen minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes*)

A villager asked for an update on the gym equipment. The Parish Council are looking at ideas and suitable funding.

There is no update on the removal of overhead power lines. Previously a villager had written to the Department of Energy and he agreed to forward details to the Parish Clerk.

Action: The Parish Clerk to get further advice from Cllr George Reynolds and Cllr Andrew McHugh.

23/91. To note next meeting date and time

Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 7.30pm.

Meeting finished at 8.20pm.

DRAFT