

## SOUTH NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm  
In the Village Hall

### **Present:**

Councillors: Vanessa Doyle, Graham Smith and Sarah Wilson-Medhurst

Mrs Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), Cllr George Reynolds, Cllr A McHugh and one villager

#### **24/01. To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Lucks (personal) and Cllr Rapp (work)

#### **24/02. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**

Cllr Smith declared an interest as a neighbour of The Little Forge.

#### **24/03. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

#### **24/04. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda**

Fourth Field – Another village email to be sent out asking for responses.

Email re Christmas Tree – This was sent out before Christmas explaining how and why the tree was purchased.

Damaged village gate – This was repaired before Christmas.

20mph missing signage on the Main Road near Wigginton Road – The missing sign on the Main Road was put up.

#### **24/05. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor**

Cllr Reynolds reported that OCC are trying to move to Speedwell House from County Hall. The idea of mini hubs is being explored.

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

Flooding, Clean & Green and Armed Forces Veteran. Cllr McHugh referred to the military service taking place at St Marys Church, Banbury for the late Cliff Stoor at 3pm on 31<sup>st</sup> January. Anyone can attend. He has also helped Milcombe with a flooding problem and offered the same in SN. The village have had a similar problem but due to blocked drains which have been reported.

#### **24/06. To receive an update on the Christmas tree**

The tree looks lovely and a plaque will be purchased.

#### **24/07. To receive an update on the work carried out by Gigaclear**

All work is complete now in the village.

#### **24/08. To receive an update on the HS2 HGV lorries**

A response was received about HS2 lorries which have been seen travelling between Banbury and Chipping Norton. EKFB are the main contractors for HS2 in Buckinghamshire, West Northants and the border of Warwickshire. They are using two quarries at Rollright and Enstone. Using this section of the A361 is permitted and no restrictions on movement numbers are in place south of Banbury.

If residents witness any concerns regarding driving behaviour they can contact the HS2 helpdesk on [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk).

*Action: The Parish Clerk to ask for a village email to be sent out.*

**24/09. To discuss the building work at The Little Forge**

Following the last Parish Council meeting and concerns about the windows being put in The Little Forge, a letter was sent to CDC. CDC replied to say that both applications were determined in accordance with relevant legislation, planning policies and guidance. The impact on nearby grade II listed buildings and the conservation were taken into consideration. It was determined that the proposed works would have a relatively neutral impact on the character and appearance of the Conservation area. Once planning permission has been granted, the Council cannot add, alter or amend the permission granted. Councillors were extremely disappointed with this response.

A villager drew attention to Appendix 3 of the Conservation report where 'The Little Forge' is one of several buildings that are considered to make a positive contribution to the character of the village.

Cllr A McHugh agreed to come back to the village during the day and take photos to produce a letter.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to arrange a date and time with Cllr A McHugh.*

**24/10. To set the precept for 2024/25**

The precept last year was increased by 10%. Some costs will automatically go up. Estimated expenditure for 2024/25 is £10,525.00. It was agreed to increase the precept by 10% and set it at £9169.00. The precept for 2025/26 will be set in November.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to notify CDC.*

**24/11. To receive the Clerk's Report – circulated**

**Planning**

**New**

- 24/00020/TCA, T1 x Apple Tree - Fell - Poo specimen growing close to boundary and within 2 metres of property at The Old Farmyard, Dairy Cottage, High Street. It was agreed to support.
- 24/00007/CLUE, Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Development for Commencement of Development (Implementation of Planning Permission Reference: 21/03193/F) at Hallcombe Barn, Hawthorn Hill. It was agreed to support.

**Determined**

- 23/03491/TCA, T1 x Lime - Fell T2 x Lime - Fell 2x lime trees closest to house, just inside the property boundary on the western edge: - roots are interfering with stone garden walls - extensive leaf drop onto driveway causes work to clear and muddiness - extensive sap drop onto cars on driveway causes damage - during high winds there is risk to house and garage located in the lee of the trees - shades roof of house extensively and makes solar installation non-worthwhile, detracting from sustainability / net-zero goals at The Old Farm. Refused by CDC. CDC have decided to make a Tree Preservation Order in respect of these trees. Objections or representations have to be submitted by 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

5 St Peters Close was discussed. A retrospective application submitted in October 2023 was refused by CDC. Cllr McHugh noted the applicant can go to appeal again.

**Finance**

*The following payments were approved under statutory powers:*

- £90.00 to Nigel Prickett (work in pole axe)
- £501.60 to Nigel Prickett (cut hedges)
- £828.00 to Nigel Prickett (repair of top white gate damaged in accident)
- £36.00 to Sort It (December maintenance)
- £36.00 to Sort It (January maintenance)

**24/12. Councillors Reports**

No reports were received.

**24/13. 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 spoke about the brown bin collections. The subscription has gone up. For one month over Christmas the brown bins were not collected as other rubbish was prioritised. Cllr McHugh noted that collections take place over the year between Tuesdays and Fridays. The vehicles are serviced on a Monday.

**24/14. To note meeting dates for 2024**

19<sup>th</sup> March, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 17<sup>th</sup> September and 19<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr Wilson-Medhurst gave her apologies for the March meeting.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm.

DRAFT