

SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 29th DECEMBER 2023 MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday, 11th December 2023 at the MRCC, Nelson Lane, North Muskham at 7pm.

Present: **Councillor P Beddoe (Chair)**
 Councillor S Dolby
 Councillor A Oliver
 Councillor S Preston
 Councillor M Talbot

Also present, District Cllr Mrs Saddington, County Cllr Laughton and 4 members of the public.

NM118-24 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Harrison and Hutchings.

NM119-24 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 13th November 2023 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

NM120-24 Declarations of Interest

It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

NM121-24 Public 10 Minute Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.01pm for questions from the public.

A resident again reported problems with the drain adjacent to the entrance to the Ashiana, which has collapsed. The resident advised that lorries regularly parked on it which did not help the situation.

It was AGREED that the Clerk report to Via and also direct to the Drainage Manager given that this has been reported in the past.

The Chair thanked residents for their participation and reconvened the meeting at 7.03pm.

NM122-24 To consider any matters that need to be raised with District Cllr Mrs Saddington

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.04pm for District Cllr Saddington's report.

Councillor Mrs Saddington advised that there had been some internal changes at the County Council which meant she had been moved from her position as Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee. Therefore, she would no longer be overseeing proposed changes at Newark Hospital. Councillor Mrs Saddington had not been consulted on

the changes prior to their implementation.

Councillor Mrs Saddington extended her best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mrs Saddington for her report and reconvened the meeting at 7.11pm.

NM123-24 Newark & Sherwood District Council

To consider a request from Newark & Sherwood District Council requesting information regarding the recent Storm Babet flood event

Members received and noted the request for information regarding the recent Storm Babet flood event. It was AGREED that the response circulated prior to the meeting be submitted without change.

NM124-24 To consider any matters that need to be raised with County Councillor Laughton

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.11pm to allow Councillor Laughton to present his report.

Councillor Laughton asked if there had been any water ingress into properties during the recent flood events. The Chair confirmed no properties had suffered from internal flooding.

The County Council had voted towards proceeding with an East Midlands Mayor. Elections should be held in May 2024. On year 3 this should see £630-650m being spent across the East Midlands. £350m of that will be towards integrated transport and roads. The Mayoral office would also replace the Police & Crime Commissioner but it was unclear at what stage this would occur.

Councillor Oliver referred to the poor condition of Waltons Lane and Great North Road, which the Clerk had reported a number of times previously.

Councillor Laughton recognised the frustration at the condition of those two roads. It was recommended that the Clerk request a site meeting with Officers from Via to review the roads.

Councillor Talbot referred to the surfacing of the A1 roundabout. It was acknowledged that Officers had provided an update at the beginning of November but the deterioration continued. It was AGREED that the Clerk would forward a copy of previous correspondence to Councillor Laughton.

Councillor Laughton thanked Members for including him in the Christmas Lights Switch-On event and extended his best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

NM125-24 Nottinghamshire County Council

There were no matters to consider.

NM126-24 Planning

- (a) 23/02108/TPO – 22 The Grange, North Muskham - Undertake works to trees protected by TPO 96 identified as part of W1 T1 Mature Oak - crown lift to 4m above ground level; 20% crown thin to inner canopy; remove deadwood over 30mm diameter; reduce to give 2.5m clearance from property
Members received and noted the tree works as outlined.
- (b) Update on progress with the Neighbourhood Plan
A meeting to be called in January to pick up the plan and begin to move forward.

NM127-24 Parish Council Matters

- (a) Allotments/Green Hub Report
Members noted that the water had now been turned off to the site. It would be switched back on in Spring.

The Clerk was asked to add the new tenants on Plot 1 to the WhatsApp Group.
- (b) To note the Council's response to the Planning Inspectorate in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion
Members noted and ratified the Council's response to the Planning Inspectorate which had been submitted by the statutory deadline of 7th December 2023. Acknowledgement of the Parish Council's response had been received.
- (c) To receive an update on the application to the Community Ownership Fund for North Marsh
The Clerk updated Members on a meeting held on Monday, 27th November with consultants regarding the Community Ownership Fund. The submission had been reviewed and if the application was not successful in this round, assistance would be given in the resubmission. It was expected that the Parish Council would receive a decision on the outcome of the bid by the end of December.
- (d) To consider work to the hedge on Mackleys Lane
Members noted the site visit made by the Clerk with the Council's contractor to discuss options for the work to the hedge on Mackleys Lane. A quotation had been received outlining three options for the hedge.

Members raised concern at undertaking any major work on the hedge given that ownership was not confirmed.

After discussion, it was AGREED that, given one of the main concerns was the spread of ivy, the village handyman be tasked to remove it from one of the trees as a test piece.

(e) To consider a response to correspondence received from NCHA
Members considered the correspondence received from NCHA. After discussion, it was AGREED that an official complaint be submitted as suggested regarding the lack of any confirmation regarding the Section 106 agreement and other tenancy matters.

(f) To note progress with the Community Flood Plan and the appointment of Flood Wardens

The Clerk confirmed that more volunteers had come forward to volunteer as Flood Wardens. The County Council would now be asked to undertake training, and register the scheme on their database.

The Clerk would progress the Environment Agency's Community Flood template.

(g) To receive an update on the Community Speedwatch Training

Councillor Oliver advised that all equipment, apart from the signs, had now been received. Unfortunately, training arranged for Friday, 8th December had to be cancelled due to a serious Police incident in Newark which PCSO Dunn had been deployed to. Training would be rearranged when a new date was received.

NM128-24 Environmental & Community Issues

(a) Play Area

The Clerk advised that the resurfacing works underneath the see-saw and slide was now complete.

No response had yet been received from HAG regarding the complaint submitted regarding the Pod Swing installed as part of the new extension.

Councillor Oliver referred to damage to the fence adjacent to a residential property. The Clerk confirmed that signage had previously been provided. After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Talbot, seconded by Councillor Oliver, that the Parish Council purchase a set of goal posts to be installed in an area that would not interfere with residential property. This was unanimously AGREED.

(b) To ratify the decision taken to condemn the skatepark and arrangements for it to be dismantled

Members noted and ratified the decision taken to condemn the skatepark and noted that arrangements had been made for it to be dismantled at a cost of £800. The Clerk confirmed this would be met from the skatepark budget.

Discussion took place around an alternative use for the substantial concrete plinth that would be left following the skateparks removal. It was suggested that community engagement could be undertaken to establish future usage. The Chair noted that for any substantial structure members of the community would need to come forward to volunteer, especially if grant funding was required.

The Clerk advised this would need to be considered as part of the budget setting in January.

(e) To consider an invitation from Notts Wildlife Trust to join a webinar on Creating a Wilder Railway in Nottinghamshire

The Clerk would see to attend the webinar at 10.30am on Tuesday, 12th December and feedback to Members.

NM129-24 Highways

(a) Highways Log

Councillor Oliver referred to the condition of Waltons Lane. The Clerk confirmed that a site meeting would be requested with Officers, as suggested in Councillor Laughton's report. Members were encouraged to use the MyNottsApp to report highways issues direct.

(b) To note works to Vicarage Lane – 21st to 22nd December 2023

Members noted the bulletin circulated advising of pothole repairs on Vicarage Lane which would require closure from the A1 slip road to the Cauntton Road junction from 8am on Thursday, 21st December to 3.30pm on Friday, 22nd December.

NM130-24 Financial Matters

(a) Accounts for Payment

The Chair referred to the accounts for payment. It was AGREED unanimously that the following accounts be agreed for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – November - £299.60
- PAYE – November – £74.80
- Village Handyman – November - £179.69
- Christmas Lights Event - £150
- D Lyne Grounds Maintenance – Hedge Cutting - £384
- Safetec Direct – Addn Hi Vis Jackets - £76.78
- Safetec Direct – Hi Vis Jackets - £153.55
- Parking Shop Direct – CSW Signage - £307.20
- Amazon – CSW Items - £229.99
- Amazon – CSW Item - £16.99
- Clerk's Backpay – Apr to Oct - £178.80

(b) To note any Receipts

The following receipts were noted:

- Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery – £124.50
- NSDC CIL Payment - £4,181.95

(c) Financial Report as at 30th November 2023

Members received and noted the financial report as at 30th November 2023.

- (d) To consider priorities in advance of the budget setting at the January 2024 meeting
The Clerk advised that the Parish Council would need to consider the budget and Precept setting at the January meeting. Advice was awaited from Newark & Sherwood District Council on the Tax Base that would apply.

The Clerk asked Members to consider any priorities they would wish to see included within the budget in advance of the January meeting. The Chair referred to the potential need to retain consultants to respond to the proposals for the Great North Road Solar Park and considered that this would need to be included.

- (e) To note the requirement to re-enrol with The Pension Regulator by 24th January 2024
The Clerk confirmed that the statutory requirement to re-enrol had been completed.

NM131-24 Notts Association of Local Councils

There were no items to consider.

NM132-24 Correspondence

The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received outlining a planning application received for South View, Crab Lane. An extension had been requested by the Clerk from the Planning Officer to enable consideration at the January meeting.

NM133-24 Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 8th January 2024

The meeting closed at 8.22pm.