

SOUTH WITHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th Oct 2016 at 7.30pm

Present 15-284 Cllr C Fowler (Chair), Cllr S Lansdowne, Cllr C Hodgkin, Cllr C v Straubensee, Cllr J Oldfield, Cllr K Jolley, Cllr A White, LCCllr/ SKDCllr R Adams, Mrs H Sandon (parish clerk)

Apologies for Absence 15-285 Cllr C Ashton (Vice Chair), Cllr A Smith, Cllr F Parish, Cllr M Kinning

Public Forum 15-286 none

Receive Declaration of Interests 15-287 none

Report from LCCllr Bob Adams 15-288 Discussion took place on Grantham Hospital and the current closure of A & E at night time, the proposed Designer Outlet Village for Grantham and Devolution in Lincolnshire.

Notes of SWPC's monthly meeting held on the 6th Sept 2016 15-289 The notes of the meeting were approved by the Council and signed by the Chair in acceptance as minutes.

Financial Matters 15-290

a) Monthly Accounts SWPC total bank balance £13325.40, BMM £13052.80, Play project £272.60. Payments; chqs issued 1) Helen Sandon (parish clerk pay/expenses) £494.15), 2) Janine Costello (litter picking) £210.00, 3) Tracy Stafford (4 cuts at cemetery at £60) £240.00, 4) Grant Thornton (external audit fee for 2015/16) £240.00, 5) Helen Sandon (refund for Clook annual fees for website £144.00).

Income received - memorial fee of £160.00 for Mr Lawson's headstone, clerk to bank.

Electricity renewed with Opus Energy (through comparison site Make it Cheaper), 2 yr contract.

b) Auditors report for Yr end accounts 2015/16

External Audit completed as at 2nd Sept 2016 by Grant Thornton. Only matter drawn to SWPC's attention, being that the Annual Governance Statement (section 1) should be agreed/ signed off by SWPC prior to the Accounting Statement (section 2). This was done in this order, but needs to be demonstrated to them by a separate minute ref. for each. Clerk had displayed the Notice of Conclusion of Audit on the village website as required by the Auditors and on the various notice boards around the village also.

Clerk's and Councillors' reports on ; 15-291

a) War Memorial, Cllr van Straubensee The annual inspection of the war memorial had been completed. There is a minor issue of wear to the lettering, this is to be monitored. Cllr van Straubensee to take photos, to use for future comparison.

b) Allotments, Cllr van Straubensee

i) general update Inspection had taken place and several allotment holders had been contacted to attend to various issues identified. Mr & Mrs van Straubensee had weeded the vacant plots and were thanked for doing so.

ii) allotment awards Cllr Oldfield was thanked for organising the allotment competition. All winners had been notified and awards presented, details of this may be found in the current Witham Word. It was agreed that this competition will take place again next year, but a little earlier, possibly at the end of the Summer holidays when allotments are more vibrant. The pumpkin competition is to be judged Mid October.

c) Church Lane/ High St flash flooding update, Cllr Jolley Recent work undertaken by LCC had exposed the gully situated at the lowest point of Broadgate Rd and the High St junction with Church Lane. Cllr Jolley has assessed this and it appears to be adequate for coping with periods of heavy rainfall. The clerk had requested that LCC arranges for a gully cleaner to visit, to ensure that there is no residual silt in the pipe leading to Fishpool Dyke. Clerk had also asked LCC to further investigate the storm drain on the High St, as on the 27th August it failed to cope with flash flooding, resulting in raw sewage on the highway. Cllr Jolley to forward photos to the clerk to send onto LCC.

d) Monthly play area inspection, Cllr Oldfield Cllr Oldfield advised that the skate ramps are starting to lift, so will monitor this. He had fixed the play area bin and is to remove obscene graffiti and paint the skate ramps this month. Cllr White advised that he will be securing the football goals in the next two weeks and has been talking with the football club manager to confirm the goal positioning

e) Village Entrances- verges and hedgerows, clerk Verges to the village entrances had been recently cut. Clerk had contacted Buckminster Estates to request that all hedges are pruned and in particular the hedgerows at Manor Farm, bordering Broadgate Rd / Church Lane and also hedging bordering the sewage works on North Witham Rd. Buckminster Estates had responded stating that some farmers are under the Stewardship agreement meaning that they may have opted to only cut hedges once in every 2- 3 yrs. Clerk had also contacted various tenant farmers direct to ask that they cut their hedges. Clerk to contact the SWPCC to request that its tenant cuts the hedge to church land farmed on Mill Lane.

f) Fishpool Dyke, clerk Clerk had received a response from SKDC regarding acceptable roadside railings for a Conservation Area, stating it would not want to be too prescriptive regarding the type of railing, but that they should not be too ornate. SKDC suggests that the Parish Council selects appropriate railings for SKDC to assess for acceptability. Cllr Jolley agreed to arrange a quote/ drawings for the railings. The UWIDB had confirmed that it will be undertaking its maintenance of the Dyke, as soon as a date had been agreed with LCC to close Church Lane to traffic for 2 days for this purpose.

Planning Matters 15-292

a) **New planning applications received by SKDC for Parish Council comment after publication of the agenda**
i) CTIL and Telefonica Ltd, replace Telecoms equipment, location Telecommunications Mast 8803, Great North Rd, Thistleton – no objections from SWPC.

b) SKDC planning permissions granted/refused

i) Oliver & Sarah Player, 23 Wellfield Rd, permission granted by SKDC for erection of two storey side and single storey rear extensions following removal of existing conservatory.

Website hosting upgrade, PC to vote on upgrade to shared 4, cost £120 plus vat, (currently shared 3 £100 plus vat) 15 –293

Disc storage space for the village website is running low, therefore discussion took place and it was agreed that the Clook contract should be upgraded to shared 4, giving 8GB of space (rather than 4GB) and bandwidth of 160GB, annual fee of £144.00 gross, clerk to arrange payment/ be reimbursed for this payment and to advise Mr Chapman.

Police Matters 15-294 The police NPT meeting is being held in South Witham VH on the 19th October at 6.30pm, first half hour for Public Forum, all residents welcome. Speed gun has been used on the North Witham Rd recently.

Correspondence 15-295

BT Adopt a Kiosk scheme information received and circulated to cllrs. To put on agenda for next month to consider phonebox on Market Court. SKDC consultation re. local polling districts and polling places, Fields in Trust Impact Report 2015, LCR,

Any other business 15-296 Cllr White confirmed that permission has been given for a sign to be erected on private land on Thistleton Lane, to advise HGVs not to proceed to bridge/ village re. weight/ height restrictions.

Cllrs to consider wording of sign, to discuss at next PC meeting.

30 mph speed signs had been put up around the village by SWPC, cllrs thanked for their assistance with this.

Patio door broken at village hall on Sunday 2nd October, to be fixed by Castlegate Fascias this week, also to look at faulty lock. VH porch light and driveway light need fixing, Cathy to arrange work with Mr Medcalf, (cherry picker to be hired for the work due to the height), to arrange annual Pat testing also, SWPC to pay for the work.

Appointment of third member 15-297 Cllr van Straubenzee

Date of next meeting 15-298 Tues 1st Nov at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9pm