

SOUTH WITHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th Dec 2016 at 7.30pm

Present 15-315 Cllr C Fowler (Chair), Cllr C Ashton, Cllr F Parish, Cllr C v Straubensee, Cllr M Kinning, Cllr K Jolley, LCCllr/ SKDCllr R Adams, Mrs H Sandon (parish clerk), and 3 residents.

Apologies for Absence 15-316 Cllr A White, Cllr A Smith, Cllr S Lansdowne, Cllr J Oldfield

Public Forum 15-317

A resident present requested that the Precept amount is deferred until after the PC led Road Safety meeting on Weds 14th Dec as this may impact on funding required. Cllr Fowler said that this would be considered by the PC when this agenda item is discussed.

Receive Declaration of Interests 15-318 none

Report from LCCllr Bob Adams 15-319 LCCllr Adams advised that budgets are being finalised for LCC and SKDC for 2017/18 and that for Parishes the support grant has been cut again, with it ceasing entirely for the Yr 2019/20. Updates on Grantham A & E, the new cinema, relief road and the Designer Outlet Village for Grantham also given. Cllr Ashton raised the issue of street lighting being turned off in the village (due to budget cuts) making it very dark and unsafe in places, particularly the public pathway leading from Wellfield Close to Templars Way. LCCllr Bob Adams to look into this.

Notes of SWPC's monthly meeting held on the 1st Nov 2016 15-320

A resident present stated that the Nov minutes were wrong in respect to item 15-303 Visit from Sergeant Rachel Blackwell, he said that the sentence, *Queried as radar guns have been spotted in both Louth and also Colsterworth*, should be that "radar guns were being used by residents in conjunction with the Police in Louth". The Police were unaware of the use of radar guns in Colsterworth (still stands). PC to check out Louth fact and adjust minutes.

The notes of the meeting were then approved by the Council and signed by the Chair in acceptance as minutes.

Financial Matters 15-321

a) Monthly Accounts SWPC total bank balance £23710.78, BMM £23438.17, Play project £272.61. Payments; chqs issued 1) Helen Sandon (parish clerk pay/expenses) £480.95, 2) Janine Costello (litter picking Winter hrs) £105.00, 3) Rick Webster (VH rec grass Sept/ Oct) £249.60, 4) C C Cleaning (bus shelter clean) £20, 5) RBL Poppy Appeal £17.50, 6) Mr Elson (cemetery hedge cut) £216.00, 7) Rasell's Nursery (Sorbus tree for cemetery) £43.20, 8) Cliff Ashton (refund for village flagpole caps) £ 25.00. Income received 1) SKDC ½ Yr precept £11680.00, 2) VHMC ½ yr rent £300.00, 3) Vat return monies (Dec15- Oct16) £1236.59.

Tenders for grass cutting of the following - VH rec, PC run cemetery in conjunction with the PCC run cemetery and churchyard to be looked into.

b) Precept 2017/18 budget agreement by SWPC

SKDC deadline for Precept 20th Jan 2017, PC agreed to finalise at January PC meeting, to take into consideration PC funding priorities, including outcome of further PC led road safety meeting on the 14th Dec. Note business rates of £2k approx. are due 2017/18 onwards, previously 100% Government relief received and nil cost.

Clerk's and Councillors' reports on ; 15-322

a) Road Safety Issues, Cllrs Parish/ Fowler

The working group had met, consisting of 5 cllrs and 1 resident to discuss road safety matters in the light of issues raised by residents relating to speeding vehicles and hgv traffic through the village and to look at the way forward. Information has subsequently been received back from Sergeant Rachel Blackwell to questions raised at the last PC meeting by cllrs and residents. The neighbouring village of Colsterworth has set up its own independent (unendorsed by Police/LRSP) speed check project, this being run as a visual deterrent only. For SW to run a LRSP Police backed scheme it would cost £1k approx. for equipment/ training. LRSP has concerns as to who would administer the scheme and there would be no funds generated for SW from the scheme as it would only be a CSW advisory/ educational scheme. Sergeant Blackwell advised that no unauthorised HGV photos have been sent to her, she is prepared to act on clear photos sent in. The Archers reports (14/11-22/11/16) have been received, summary - a very low percentage were exceeding the speed limit excessively; North Witham Rd 3.6% over the speed limit by more than 10 mph, High St 2% over the speed limit by more than 10 mph. Reports to be published on the SW website and are also available from the clerk. Flashing signs that display the speed travelling, rather than a blinking 30 mph if speeding, cost £1700 approx. 20mph zones if approved and put in place are enforceable by the Police. Cllr Parish has contacted Mr Brumfield, LCC Highways Manager for further traffic calming information. Sergeant Blackwell to attend PC meeting on Weds 14th December at 6.30pm , all residents welcome to hear report to date and discuss the way forward. This meeting has been advertised via SW Primary School mail to parents and via the website / village notice boards and the village facebook page.

b) Village Hall matters, Cllr Hodgkin

Cllr Hodgkin was not present at the meeting but it was understood that Ainscough Alarms had been out to reposition the alarm sensor to the fire exit, to prevent further damage to the sensor, invoice to follow. VH driveway lights had been replaced with solar lights as agreed by PC previously, invoice to follow.

c) South Witham Cemetery, Cllr van Straubenzee

i) Hedge cutting/ extra quicks/ community bulbs Cllr van Straubenzee reported that the cemetery hedge has been cut this month and that extra quicks are needed / to be purchased to fill the hedge gaps. The Village Community Group has done an excellent job planting approx. 2000 bulbs around the village, with some in the cemetery.

ii) Jubilee tree/ plaque

A Sorbus (Mountain Ash) tree has been purchased and planted in the cemetery as agreed at a previous meeting to commemorate the Queen's 90th Birthday, plaque to be purchased.

iii) Agree Scale of Charges for Yr 2017 The PC agreed to keep the charges the same for this coming year.

d) Church Lane/ High St flash flooding update, Cllr Jolley Clerk had requested that LCC;

Cllr Jolley to give flash flooding photos to the clerk to send to LCC, as further gully maintenance is required. SWPC request that when this happens again, residents contact LCC on the day to report and photos are taken as evidence. Clerk to request SKDC street cleaner visits to clear resulting silt.

e) Village hedges, Cllr Fowler Cllr Fowler agreed to contact Buckminster regarding the state of its hedges, as no action has been taken by its tenant farmers since the clerk's complaints.

f) Fishpool Dyke

i) Maintenance

Further maintenance work to the Dyke had been undertaken by the UWIDB, clerk at the request of Cllr van Straubenzee had thanked UWIDB for doing an excellent job.

ii) Barriers quote/ specification, Cllr Jolley

Cllr Jolley brought to the meeting a drawing of the required steel railings and estimated the cost to be £7.5k approx. Quote received previously, P V Baker £12.9K net. Clerk to submit drawing to SKDC Conservation Team to assess for suitability. This project will require full grant funding to go ahead and help to be sought from SKDC.

g) Monthly play area inspection, Cllr Oldfield Cllr Oldfield was not present at the meeting, therefore no report.

Planning Matters 15-323

a) New planning applications received by SKDC for Parish Council comment,

i)S16/2421 Mr & Mrs Skinner, 7A Thistleton Lane, erection of a two storey dwelling

SWPC objections raised, not in keeping with houses in the neighbourhood in terms of size, style and materials used. **b)New planning applications received by SKDC for Parish Council comment after publication of the agenda**

ii)S16/2633 Mr Mahon,Rose Cottage, 7 High St, plum tree- cut back overhanging branches and partial crown reduction to a height of 3.5m and a spread of 4m- no objections from SWPC.

c)SKDC planning permissions granted/refused none

Correspondence 15-324 LCC Self Help and Mutual Aid in times of severe Winter weather – discussion took place re. the information provided by LCC. A resident present at the meeting, Mick Chapman volunteered to be the Village Snow Warden. SWPC agreed to this offer and thanked him, clerk to advise LCC. Mick to look at grit bins to see if they currently need refilling and to be principal point of contact with LCC re. future refilling. Cllr Fowler to talk to a resident on Church St to see if she would be willing to store additional pre packed salt bags supplied by LCC, to use in times of severe weather. SWPC to also agree suitable spot at top end of the village (Moor Lane/ Templars area) for salt bags. LCC Self Help Tips, Clearing Snow from Footpaths leaflet - to be displayed on notice boards and on the village website. Resident complaint received re. vast amount of litter left by HGVs on concrete area between the two quarries. Clerk to contact quarries to ask that this is cleaned up and request that they do regular spot checks and deal with any litter resulting.

BT has confirmed that the Public pay phone in the vicinity of the High St/ Market Court will remain in the village. LCC Consultation on Lincolnshire Admissions Arrangements for September 2018.

Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan- Publication of the Site Locations (Pre submission draft) Consultation. Local Council Review.

Any other business 15-325 Cllr Ashton raised the issue of there being no LCC county signs leading into the village, clerk to discuss with LCC. Cllr Ashton advised that South Witham Community Primary School is now part of the Brooke Hill Academy Trust, based in Oakham. He asked that the School's Head Teachers be invited along to the January PC meeting. Cllr Parish advised that the Village Community Group has agreed to look after two of the village troughs, ie. Mill Lane and Thistleton Lane. Cllr Parish asked that the jitty (opposite the Blue Cow) is cleared of leaves. Cllr Ashton asked that footpath Wellfield to Thistleton Lane is cleared of leaves/ weeds. Clerk to report both to SKDC to deal.

Appointment of third member 15-326 Cllr Parish

Date of next meeting 15-327 Tues 10th Jan at 7.30pm (moved from 3rd Jan).

Meeting closed at 9.20pm