

South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 21st July 2021 at 7.30pm in the Main Hall, South Muskham Village Hall

A link to join by Zoom had been provided for members of the public.

Membership: D Catanach (Chair), K Brown, R Gill, P Jarvis, G Shearing
Members of Public: 3 and Caroline Lancaster (via Zoom as self-isolating)

Also Present: Councillor B Laughton and Councillor Mrs Saddington (via Zoom)

31.21/22 **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies – There were none given.

Declarations of Interest – There were none made.

Open Session

The Chair suspended the meeting at 8.03pm to allow Councillor Laughton to present his report.

Councillor Laughton advised that he would be presenting the petition to Council on 22nd July which had been submitted for a footpath/bridlepath alongside the A616.

It was noted that the experimental 40mph speed limit was in place. A resident had emailed Councillor Laughton with their thanks, which had been read out to the relevant committee. Councillor Jarvis advised that a community speedwatch had been held on 20th July, and the average speed had come down between 5 and 10 miles an hour. The average speed last night was 45mph. It was planned to have 3 or 4 speedwatch monitoring sessions per week.

The Chair referred to the gates that had been installed at the side of the village gateway signs. It was acknowledged that this was a good gesture by a group of residents, and were popular in the village. Members also considered them to be a good idea, but they had not been agreed through the Parish Council and, while the implications of them being installed on the highway should have been realised, should the Parish Council now have to bear the brunt of the cost of removal. The Chair considered that there were two options; either the Parish Council arrange for them to be removed and incur costs that weren't anticipated; or Via remove them. It was noted that there were a number of obstacles along the A616 in other villages, that also should not be there.

Councillor Laughton advised that there were a set of policies that Via and the County Council had to adhere to. The criteria for road traffic signs was that they could not be solid wooden structures. The gates that had been installed were solid wood, not hollow, and not designed for impact. Via could not allow structures to be placed in the highway that are dangerous. Further, they had been installed without a licence or permission from Via. If there was an impact, there was a risk of Via being sued and that could be cascaded down to whoever had installed them. Councillor Brown advised that the sign on the farm side of the village had already been hit and repaired.

The Chair referred to a quotation received from Glasdons for a similar structure, but it was hollow and designed to go on the highway.

The Chair was disappointed that Via and County were adopting such an attitude when there are plenty of examples all around the country let alone the County where a similar 'gate' has been positioned by the roadside and in lots of cases, adjacent to the road surface whereas these were well to one side of the carriageway.

Councillor Laughton agreed to pass on the views of the Parish Council on removal to Officers and feedback to the Clerk.

With permission of the Chair, a resident raised concerns over the condition of the pathway from Church Lane heading north. The footpath was behind a barrier, the surface was broken and the grass had overgrown from the verge. This made it very narrow and you can only walk in single file. The condition of it restricts anyone in a wheelchair from using it. The Chair acknowledged that this had been raised previously, logged through the highways portal.

Councillor Laughton advised that repairs to footpaths were normally user related, with heavier use ones taking priority. However, with the repairs scheduled to the B6325 there may be an opportunity to include repairs at that time. This would be raised and any response feedback through the Clerk.

The resident was also concerned that access to their property would be limited during the repairs to the B6325 and sought reassurance that deliveries required to enable contractors to work on their extension would be allowed. Further, it was understood that the carriageway was only going to be patched and not fully resurfaced (outlined in letter to residents dated 20th July 2021).

Councillor Laughton understood that the road was down for resurfacing, it may be that structural patching was required on the road initially. He would check and feedback.

The A46 dualling had been pushed back to 2026, but it was hoped that the Southern Link Road could be brought forward, subject to funding.

The Chair thanked Councillor Laughton for his report.

The Chair welcomed Councillor Mrs Saddington and asked her to present her report.

Councillor Mrs Saddington noted that there was a planning application for Ashleigh on the agenda for consideration and asked for the Parish Council's views. It was noted that permission for 3 dwellings had been granted on appeal, and the applicant was now trying to increase that to 5. Councillor Mrs Saddington asked for the Parish Council's views after it had been considered on the agenda as to whether it needed to be referred to Committee.

The Chair thanked Councillor Laughton and Councillor Mrs Saddington for their reports and reconvened the meeting at 8.00pm.

32.21/2 **Chair's Report**

The Chair acknowledged a letter outlining the reasons for the resignation of Councillor Brightmore, and circulated to Members for information. The Chair understood some of the frustrations that had been a disappointment to Councillor Brightmore.

Councillor Gill was of the opinion that he may reconsider. The Chair was happy to have a discussion with him and, as suggested by Councillor Gill, give him a two week period to reconsider.

The Chair explained the reasons why it had not been possible for the Council's insurance to be used to cover the village fete. Although the Parish Council were supportive of the event, and it was being held on their land, it was not an event being run and organised by the Council, and our insurance could not be used by a third party. Councillor Brown noted that the Parish Council's insurance would not have provided adequate cover in any event and specific insurance cover had now been obtained.

33.21/22 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2021

The minutes of the Parish Council held on 16th June 2021 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

34.21/22 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

There were none.

35.21/22 Financial Issues

35.1 To record Receipts – VAT claim for the financial year 2020-21 - £1,112.95

36.2 To approve invoices for payment:

Accounts requiring and accepted for payment were:

- Clerk's Wages (February to July) - £1,665.43
- HMRC Payment (February to July) - £416.20
- Mowing of Beckitt's Field - £70 (June), £70 (July)
- South Muskham Village Hall Line Rental - £316.80
- Namesco Renewal - £52.19
- EDF Energy – Beckitt Field - £13.55
- Floral Gift - £25
- Painting of Beckitt Field Pavilion - £61.06
- Trent Valley IDB Drainage Rates - £10.59

36.21/22 Planning

Links to the Planning Applications on the District Council's planning portal had been forwarded to Members in advance of the meeting.

36.1 21/01368/HOUSE – Westview, Great North Road, South Muskham - Demolish the existing garage to the rear garden, erect new garage in the front drive and erection of a single and a two storey extension to the rear and a new porch to the front elevation

After detailed discussion, Members were supportive of the development of the property and the summer house but had to object to the application as Members were of the opinion that the garage would have a detrimental visual impact and should remain behind the property in its current location.

36.2 21/01381/HOUSE – The Old Police House, Great North Road, South Muskham - Proposed extensions, front entrance porch, detached outbuilding and new boundary wall

After consideration, it was unanimously AGREED that the application be supported.

36.3 21/01426/FUL – Ashleigh, Great North Road, South Muskham - Proposed erection of 3 dwellings

After consideration, Members views had not changed regarding development on the site and the objections and comments previously made still remained.

It was unanimously AGREED that the application be objected to on the grounds that:

- there is a lack of local need identified
- there is a lack of amenities and facilities in the village, which therefore makes it an unsustainable development
- it will have an adverse effect on traffic levels and highway safety, given the site location on the B6325

In 2019, concern had been expressed that the plans showed access to open space to the rear of the proposed development at that time which the Parish Council were concerned may lead to a future application. That concern has come to fruition with this application, and the additional dwellings should be resisted as it will lead to an over intensification of the site.

36.4 Decision Notice – 21/00890/HOUSE – St Wilfrid’s House, Church Lane, South Muskham - Erect double garage to rear of property to match dwellinghouse style

Members noted the decision notice granting planning permission as outlined.

36.5 Decision Notice - 21/01026/HOUSE – Old School House, Church Lane, South Muskham - Demolish existing flat roof side porch, erect extended new brick and slate roof lobby and porch

Members noted the decision notice granting planning permission as outlined.

36.6 Adoption Statement – Residential Cycle and Car Parking Standards & Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Members noted the adoption statement and that the design guide was now part of policy.

Neighbourhood Plan Progression

36.7 It was AGREED that the Clerk progress this project with the Chair.

37.21/22 **Parish Council Matters**

37.1 To consider applications received for the Casual Vacancy

The Chair welcomed Caroline Lancaster to the meeting, and thanked her for applying for the vacancy created by the resignation of Gill Gilroy. The application had been circulated to Members for information in advance of the meeting.

The Chair outlined what it meant to be a Parish Councillor and asked Caroline questions regarding some of the points raised in her application.

Members were supportive of the application made and unanimously AGREED to co-opt Caroline Lancaster onto the Parish Council. The Clerk to liaise on the documentation that would need to be completed.

37.2 Update on Request for increase in Dog Bins – South Muskham

Email: clerk@smlcpc.org Tel: 07946 601364

The Clerk had received a quotation from Via for the installation of a dog bin on the verge adjacent to the Main Street sign in the sum of £280.46 plus VAT. The bin itself was not included, but the Clerk had identified a 60L bin for £85 plus VAT. It was AGREED that this be progressed.

37.3 Model Code of Conduct – Adoption and Training

Members noted that the District Council had considered the new Councillor Model Code of Conduct for adoption at Full Council on 13th July 2021. Training would be arranged at some point in the future and be extended to Parish Councils.

37.4 Safer Neighbourhood Group

The Chair noted that the Group had now recommenced meetings, having not met since 24th October 2019. The Parish Council had previously been represented by Gill Gilroy.

The first meeting was on Thursday, 22nd July at 5.30pm in the South Muskham Village Hall. While it was too short notice to nominate anyone to attend this time, it was hoped to send a representative to the next meeting on Thursday, 7th October.

38.21/22 **Beckett Field**

38.1 Priorities for Beckett Field Pavilion

After discussion it was AGREED that the pavilion should go into a maintenance role to keep the structure sound, until such time as it was required for other uses. Inspections to be made every 6 months to ensure it remained sound.

38.2 Renewal of Contract with Muskham Cougars – 2021-22 season

The Clerk confirmed that the contract for the 2021-22 season had been forwarded to the Muskham Cougars. Acknowledgement had been received and a signed contract was expected shortly.

39.21/22 **Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning**

39.1 To agree a date for Flood Signage Scheme Training – September 2021

After discussion, it was AGREED that 4.30pm on Wednesday, 22nd September 2021 be forwarded as a convenient date for flood signage scheme training. The Clerk to liaise with the other Flood Wardens on suitability, and to also ask for volunteers through the SMLCPC Distribution list (subject to any restrictions on numbers).

It was noted that the Environment Agency would be arranging virtual (via Zoom) flood warden training in September (date to be confirmed).

40.21/22 **Highways**

40.1 TRO3331 – A616 Ollerton Road, Little Carlton – Experimental 40mph Speed Limit

The Chair noted this had been referred to during the Open Session with Councillor Laughton.

An email from a resident raising concerns over the 40mph trial had been circulated to Members for information. The resident to be advised that there was a consultation phase now in process and any concerns could be fed through that.

40.2 B6325 Resurfacing Works

This item had been referred to during the Open Session with Councillor Laughton.

40.3 Network Rail – Castle Level Crossing

It was noted that there had been no response from Network Rail following the chase made on 8th June, and the ramp signs were still in place. The Clerk to further chase and also liaise with Councillor Mrs Saddington who was seeking answers to barrier failures on the line.

40.4 Gates beside Village Gateway Signs

Had a quotation from Glasdons for a gate similar to that installed, want £773.72 per sign plus VAT. For us to pursue that would be £3,500. Local Improvement Scheme will be open at some point, would have received funding for village gateway sign through that scheme. Might be an option to bear in mind if that re-opens.

41.21/22 **Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils**

41.1 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – Thursday, 2nd June to Sunday, 5th June 2022

Members noted the arrangements for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on the dates outlined. The Clerk confirmed that a copy had been forwarded to the Village Hall Committee for information.

After discussions, Members considered that they would be pleased to liaise with the Village Hall Committee to arrange a celebration event. The Clerk was asked to discuss further and report back to a future meeting.

41.2 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

Members noted the 2023 review of Parliamentary Constituencies. There were no changes that affected South Muskham and Little Carlton.

42.21/22 **Correspondence Received**

42.1 Community Awards

Robert Jenrick MP had circulated a letter seeking nominations for his Community Awards. A copy had been forwarded to Members for information.

42.2 Highways England letter re A46 closure

The Chair referred to correspondence received from Highways England regarding works to the A46 between 12th August and 2nd September which would see the carriageway closed both ways between the Cattle Market roundabout and the Brownhills roundabout between 8pm and 6am, Monday to Friday.

The Chair had asked for clarification on the diversion route, but had not received a response prior to the meeting.

It was considered that the diversion route would be up the A616, then the B6325 to the A1 and vice versa, however, this was during the night time closure for the resurfacing works.

The Clerk to highlight this closure to Via and the concerns of the Parish Council of the impact this could have on the recently completed surface.

42.3 Support for Village Hall

The Chair referred to the request from the Village Hall Committee regarding the wi-fi connection. Members were pleased to continue with this financial support.

43.21/22 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**

The Clerk was asked to order replacement pads for the South Muskham defibrillator.

Councillor Jarvis asked that thanks be recorded to Charlie Brightmore, J C Surfacing, and other volunteers for the work undertaken to improve the gateway surface at Beckitt Field.

Councillor Gill referred to the mowing of Beckitt Field, as this would no longer be undertaken by Charlie Brightmore after 15th September. The Clerk to approach local contractors for a quotation.

Arrangements would also need to be made for the emptying of the dog bin on the footpath. The Clerk to investigate.

Next Meeting – Parish Council – 15th September 2021 at South Muskham & Little Carlton Village Hall (with a remote link for residents).

The meeting was closed at 9.30pm

Minutes approved as a true record –