

South Muskham/Little Carlton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19th July 2023 at 7.30pm
in the Main Hall, South Muskham Village Hall

Membership: C Briggs-Price, K Brown, P Jarvis, G Shearing (Chair) and E Tilbury

Also Present: County Councillor Laughton and Inspector Ellam

35.23/24 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Catanach and Gill.

36.23/24 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Briggs-Price declared a personal interest in agenda item 7.1.

Open Session

Councillor Laughton advised that a discussion about interactive speeding signs for Little Carlton had recently been held with Officers from Via. The Parish Council will be consulted on any location for an interactive sign. A sign would need to be near a lamp post for power., and on the side of the traffic. Councillor Tilbury advised that the most speeding traffic was now recorded coming from Newark. The Clerk advised that the only street light is at the junction of Ollerton Road and Bathley Lane.

The application for Briggs Metals Ltd had been refused by the County Council. The applicant would have the right to appeal.

The County Council had agreed to sell County Hall and move to offices in Top Wig Hay near Hucknall. County Hall was only at 40% occupancy and was costing around £1.8m on heating and maintenance. The site would be put on the open market to offset costs of moving.

The County Council's Civic function will move to Top Wig Hay.

The Chair thanked Cllr Laughton for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.45pm.

37.23/24 Chair's Report

The Chair reported that the planters underneath the signs at South Muskham would be planted up shortly.

38.23/24 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2023

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st June 2023 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

39.23/24 Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda

There were none.

40.23/24

To welcome Inspector Ellam, Nottinghamshire Police, to discuss issues around speeding traffic

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.57pm and welcomed Inspector Ellam to the meeting.

Inspector Ellam confirmed that a new Chief Constable, Kate Meynell, had started in December 2022. A demand review was being undertaken which will look at all requirements of community policing. Inspector Ellam's job will be to focus resources in the right place. It was considered that priorities will remain the same, with the focus being on anti-social behaviour, nuisance vehicles and violence against women and girls.

Data showed that there had been no road injuries recorded over the last 3 years on the A616. However, Inspector Ellam noted that speeding was still a significant concern for the communities.

The A616 had been added to the list for deployment of the static camera. It had last been in the area on 18th June where 10 people had been recorded in excess of 40mph. The Chair asked if the deployment included South Muskham as well as Little Carlton. Inspector Ellam to check and confirm to the Clerk. Support had also been requested from the traffic division with motorbikes on the A616.

Councillor Tilbury confirmed that the community speedwatch group tried to meet once a week. It was generally working well, but there was periodic abuse and Cllr Tilbury asked whether periodic deployment of an Officer was an option. Inspector Ellam advised this would depend on resources available.

Cllr Tilbury asked for clarification on all the data that was submitted, and the current %age rate of letters issued.

Inspector Ellam confirmed that the %age rate remained at 5% due to capacity support. The team did try and prioritise repeat offenders.

In terms of the data, Inspector Ellam would seek clarification from PCSO Dunn to establish whether any changes could be made to the amount submitted.

The Clerk referred to an email received from Cllr Catanach that had been circulated to Members for information in advance of the meeting. A request had been made that the issues be highlighted to Inspector Ellam. A written response would be given by Inspector Ellam to the issues raised.

In summary, Inspector Ellam advised that she would support the Parish Councils with any requests to combat speeding traffic. When the County Council were involved, ultimately they would ask for data and there had been no recorded injuries for the last 3 years.

The Chair thanked Inspector Ellam for her report and reconvened the meeting at 8.15pm.

41.23/24

Financial Issues

41.1

To record Receipts

There were no receipts to record.

41.2

Invoices for payment:

- Bank Charges - £8.00
- Clerk's Wages (June) - £301
- HMRC Payment (June) - £75.20
- WaterPlus Bill – Beckett Field - £17.22
- Names – Renewal of domain name for 1 year - £39.99
- Names – Premium Hosting smlcpc.org - £240.99
- Norwell Groundcare – £90
- Internal Audit Fee -

41.3

To note completion of the Internal Audit of the financial accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023

The Clerk advised that the Internal Audit had now been complete, with the Auditor satisfied with the information provided by NS&I. After discussion, it was AGREED that the Clerk query the difference in interest payable.

The Chair extended his thanks to the Clerk for clarifying matters with NS&I for the Internal Auditor.

41.4

To consider the Annual Governance Statement for the 2022-23 Financial Year

Members received, noted and agreed the Accounting Statement as at 31st March 2023 and AGREED that it should be signed by the Chairman.

41.5

To consider the Accounting Statement for the 2022-23 Financial Year and the Certificate of Exemption

Members received, noted and agreed the Accounting Statement as at 31st March 2023 and AGREED that it should be signed by the Chairman.

As the Parish Council was under the £25,000 threshold a Certificate of Exemption was also approved and signed by the Chairman. This would be submitted to PKF Littlejohn.

42.23/24

Planning

42.1

Applications

23/00976/FUL – Crows Nest, Crow Lane, South Muskham - Erection of a proposed workshop and storage unit and an upgrade of the secondary access point

Cllr Briggs-Price had declared an interest in this application and did not participate in the discussion.

Members AGREED that no objection be raised to the application as outlined.

22/00976/FULM – Field Reference Number 2227, Hockerton Road, Caunton - Proposed solar development, access and associated works

22/00975/FULM – Land at Knapthorpe Lodge, Hockerton Road, Caunton - Proposed solar development, access and associated works.

Email: clerk@smlcpc.org Tel: 07946 601364

Members noted the additional information that had been submitted on the applications. However, after consideration it was AGREED that the comments previously made by the Parish Council be resubmitted as Members considered there was nothing that would make them reconsider their objections.

These objections are:

Design and visual impact

At the moment the land is Grade 3 Agricultural land used to grow food. The visual impact of replacing with solar panels should not be underestimated on this undulating landscape.

The current public rights of way are through open countryside, with vistas across the undulating landscape. It is proposed that these be delineated by a walled area, and there is also the potential for the applicant to apply to have them diverted. The visual impact of this should not be overlooked.

Privacy/daylight/sunlight

The impact of the glint and glare has not been addressed. The proposed panels are moveable and would follow the sun during the day. This would impact on the adjacent properties as their sunlight would effectively be replaced with glare from the panels.

Noise, smell, pollution

The panels will move as they follow the sun. There will be an impact on adjacent properties of the noise generated by this movement.

Access/traffic

It is expected that there will be heavy movement of vehicles during construction of the site. This will severely impact adjacent roads, as well as Hockerton Road itself.

Health/ health and safety

The negative impact this proposal will have on the mental health of our residents needs to be taken into consideration. At the moment they have access to open countryside and quiet country walks, which is good for their mental and physical health. To replace that with a solar farm they will be constantly overlooking will have a negative impact on their lives and their health.

Ecology, landscape

The ecological impact would be disastrous for the area. It currently provides habitat for a wide and diverse range of wildlife, that has access to a water source. The proposals indicate that this water source would be fenced in, therefore depriving the ecology of a vital resource.

Economic impact

There is an airfield adjacent to the site that does not appear to have been taken into consideration. There will be an economic impact should this airfield have to close due to the glint and glare from the panels.

Cumulative impact

All the above issues come together in a cumulative detrimental effect on the area.

Additionally, there has been no effective engagement or consultation with the local community and Parish Council, just a flyer drop. The applicant has not directly engaged with those that would be most impacted should planning permission be granted.

There has been no explanation or demonstration on how water supplies to the adjacent properties would be maintained should permission be granted.

There are discrepancies and misrepresentation contained within the documentation, i.e., referring to other applications and showing photographs that effectively hide the close proximity of the adjacent properties. The applicant appears to have used Google maps instead of site visits, which gives serious concern on their reliability and representation.

It is also understood that the site was important during the time of the English Civil War and would need to be assessed in terms of archaeological impact.

42.2

Applications with Nottinghamshire County Council

Briggs Metals, The Yard, Great North Road - Reconfiguration and extension of existing recycling yard including raising ground levels, new/extended buildings, weighbridge, external walls and new access

Members received documentation regarding the application that was to be considered by Nottinghamshire County Council. Councillor Laughton had confirmed during his report that permission had been refused.

42.3

Decision Notices

There were none received at the time of putting the agenda together.

42.4

Tree Works

23/01168/TPO – South Muskham Village Hall, Main Street, South Muskham – Undertake works to Walnut tree protected by TPO N419 2023 identified as T1 1. 20% Crown thin 2. 30% Crown reduction 3. Crown brace upper Crown All works to comply with BS 3998

Members noted the application for works that had been submitted.

43.23/24

Parish Council Matters

There were no issues to note.

44.23/24

Beckitt Field

There were no issues to note.

45.23/24

Flooding, Drainage & Emergency Planning

45.1

South Muskham Community Flood Signage Policy

Members received and noted the updated Flood Signage Policy.

45.2 Brammersack Close, Little Carlton
The Clerk updated Members on the present position with Brammersack Close. There had been changes in personnel at Via but the relevant Officer was now in correspondence with the resident.

46.23/24 **Highways**

46.1 To receive an update on issues raised with Via

These items had been covered under the open session with County Councillor Laughton.

The Clerk was asked to report the pooling of water at the junction of Great North Road and Crow Lane adjacent to the Police House.

46.2 Roadworks Bulletin – Great North Road.

Members received and noted the details regarding the repair works to Great North Road.

47.23/24 **Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils**

47.1 Planning Section 106 and CIL Training

Members received and noted the details from NALC regarding the training session arranged.

48.23/24 **Correspondence Received**

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from a resident highlighting the lack of dropped kerbs to access the A616 from South Muskham across the pedestrian island.

Members asked that this be investigated and reported to Via as appropriate.

49.23/24 **Other matters arising not on the agenda**

There were none.

Next Meeting – Parish Council – Wednesday, 20th September 2023 at South Muskham & Little Carlton Village Hall

The meeting was closed at 9pm

Minutes approved as a true record –