Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 16th March 2023 at the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr P Smith (Chair), Miss A George, Mr B Allen, Mr L Cammack and Mr P Farmer, Mr B

Wright and Mr A Leary

Clerk: Mrs S Sillery

Apologies: Miss E Davis, Mrs L Dales, Mr M Kneen and Mr B McClymont

District Councillors: None

Visitors: Mrs S Conning, Mr M Brown and Mrs D Day

22/23 Declarations of Interest

None

23/23 To receive and accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 16th February 2023

The minutes having been previously circulated are now on the website. Mr Smith confirmed that getting them circulated early to enable people to raise any issues and then to get them on the website has proved useful.

Proposer Mr P Farmer and Seconded by Mr B Allen

24/23 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Village Hall – The installation of broadband for the Village Hall is still ongoing, although there are some issues with Open Reach. Full fibre internet is being rolled out in the area which raises the speed and will be very good for people working from home and local businesses.

Plaques – Miss George confirmed that she had purchased the replacement plaque for Steven Jackson and is just waiting for her partner to fix it to the bench.

Mr Smith confirmed that the Union flag has been repaired by Mrs Smith and will go up shortly.

Cricket Club planning application – Mr Cammack had received an email from NSDC with a planning reference but has yet to be able to find the application on the Planning Portal on the NSDC portal. Mr Cammack feels that the proposed work will be a positive move on behalf of the Cricket club. He will email Paul Matthews to see what the current situation is with the application.

Warm Space – some very good meetings have taken place. Mr Smith has attended all but the first one and said that overall, the attendance has been very good with 15 at most and 7 at the least. Mr Smith suggested all Parish Councillors attend meetings and a rota might be a good idea.

Drone Day – payment yet to be received but should be by the end of March. Clerk to keep an eye out for the payment.

The Clerk confirmed that she had heard from Cater Allen Bank that they are not accepting applications for new accounts unless they come through an Introducer. Clearly, it is not worth paying an introducer to do this as we are trying to save money by moving banks. Mr Allen will talk to his contact at Nat West to see if they are able to help us.

25/23 A46 Update

The Clerk confirmed that she had received a letter from National Highways informing of specific consultations in three areas that affect Winthorpe. These are: access to Langford Hall off the A46, the redesign of the Winthorpe roundabout and alterations to the proposed pedestrian/cycle way on the northern side of the A46.

The consultation period will run until 16th of April 2023. Mr Leary suggested that the Think Again Campaign need to respond as a group as do the Parish Council. Mr Smith said that the new information needs to be absorbed and then a view taken. It may be necessary to have a separate meeting or discuss it at the next Neighbourhood Plan meeting.

Mrs Conning confirmed that John McGinty has yet to book the Community Centre for the meeting he had proposed.

Newark Town Council have overturned their decision and are now supporting the plan.

26/23 Neighbourhood Plan

The NP Working Group met recently with the main meeting objective of signing off the final Draft version of the Plan in readiness for sharing with Parish residents towards the end of March. Unfortunately, our consultant who is working with us to complete the plan was not in a position to share this final draft.

Following discussion amongst WG members we decided that it was better to step back and allow them time to fully complete the final version and we have now received a 'pre sign off' version which all Working Group members are currently working through and who will then send comments through to Open Plan over the next few days.

It is hoped that the next meeting of the WG will take place on the 28th March at which point we should be able to finally sign off the completed version of the plan and then move to the next stage in the process. Although it is obvious there are still some changes to be made, it's clear that a lot of work has been undertaken in the last few weeks and the current version is beginning to look really good.

The WG have also received and commented on the final version of the Design Code document which has been compiled over the last few months by another consultant we are currently using, AECOM. This feedback has now been incorporated and a final version has been produced and circulated to the WG. This document is comprehensive and will form an important part of the overall suite of documents for this process. It will sit alongside the Neighbourhood Plan itself and the Housing Needs Assessment which was completed by AECOM on our behalf last year.

We are hoping to move to the consultation process with village residents in April and more information on this and the overall process/timescales will be produced at the next working group meeting.

27/23 District/County Councillor Updates

Mrs Dales has sent a report in her absence:

Mrs Dales confirmed that the green off Pocklington Crescent is owned by NSDC, however permission is not required to put a defibrillator in that area.

The numbering of the Spinney – NSDC following a meeting, have decided to change policy which should now allow the installation of a new sign identifying the numbering. It is now anticipated that the sign will now be installed which will identify split in numbers within the close. Assuming this now happens, Mr Smith will then write to residents asking them to number their properties and the reasons behind the request.

Funding for the Village Green which was turned down. This was due to the timing of the application and low funding due to a limited pot. Application will go back into the pot after the elections in May, and it has been suggested that we should be successful at that time.

Mr Smith, following the last meeting, emailed Councillor Darby to ask whether we could access funds from the Councillors Fund to support the work on The Bank near the community centre. He received a very positive and helpful reply and this has lead to identifying other funding options for this work. Councillor Darby also suggested that a small number of PC members meet with her to discuss Parish and NCC issues. Mr Smith has replied to Councillor Darby and we are currently trying to find suitable dates for the discussion.

Since this positive e mail exchange, the Clerk received a telephone call from Mr David Hennigan regarding the Parish council minutes in relation to Councillor Debbie Darby. Mr Hennigan was not happy with the wording in the minutes which suggested that no contact has been received from Councillor Darby since her election last year. He suggested that the minutes were libellous, saying that Councillor Darby regularly sends reports. Mr Hennigan then emailed the Parish Clerk reiterating his thoughts and asking that the minutes be amended.

Mr Smith will respond to Mr Hennigan in the next few days. He feels that the minutes as recorded were a factual account of the discussion however it was accepted that some reports have been received from Councillor Darby. He will draft a response and circulate it to Councillors for their thoughts before sending.

28/23 Invoices for Approval and any other Financial Matters

Balances:

Current Account £282.63

Clerk's Wages £184

Lord Nelson for meetings £200

Dog Bin contract for the period October to March paid to NSDC £374.40

Holding Account £15,492.94

Focal Point

Subscriptions £150.00

Payments £270 Willsons Printing

VAT still pending awaiting Open Plan invoices showing VAT

Application for funding for King's Coronation sent to NSDC

Application to open bank accounts with Cater Allen has been refused as all applications have to come through an introducer.

29/23 Planning Applications/Updates (if any)

Applications:

1)

Proposal: 23/00185/HOUSE Erection of an outdoor office (retrospective)

Suggested PC response: Comment. The PC will defer to NSDC Planning Officers to comment on choice of materials for this garden office. We would request that the perimeter hedge be grown higher around the new structure in order to hide it from view from the approach on Holme Lane.

The resident of Dial House attended the meeting to update the Parish Council. He confirmed that the Conservation Officer is against the application due to its appearance from Holme Lane. Ramen has asked for a meeting with the Planning and Conservation Officers to discuss what if any changes could be made to enable the application to go through. Mr Smith suggested he contact Councillor Linda Dales to see if she can be of any assistance.

2) 22 Gainsborough Road Winthorpe

Proposal: 23/00373/HOUSE Two storey rear extension

Suggested PC response: Support. Extension replaces rear conservatory and new brickwork/windows/roofing will match existing.

3) Esso Interchange Filling Station Fosse Road Winthorpe Newark On Trent

Proposal: 23/00379/FUL Creation of charging zones, erection of EV chargers, canopies, substation enclosure and associated forecourt works.

Suggested PC response: Support. The installation of the EV chargers are within the current ESSO Garage site and will provide residents of the Parish and the wider community with further local provision of EV charging facilities.

30/23 Parish Maintenance and General Works

The Jubilee Field – Mr Smith is awaiting a plan of interspersed planting from Lynn Preece at Sherwood Forest Trust. Mr Allen felt that it was necessary to leave room to enable other facilities for the village. He suggested that Winthorpe and Coddington Tigers Football Club may be looking for more football pitch space. It was agreed to see what the proposal comes up with and then discuss again.

Village Green – project awaiting funding.

Bank between the Community Centre and The Fleet – Miles Harriman is working with Amanda Ramsey to create a plan to improve this area and turn it into a usable space.

Mrs Conning suggested the Local Community Fund and Mr Smith confirmed that Severn Trent Water also have funding available which Mr Harriman is following up.

Mr Smith confirmed that we may miss out on some Lengsthman funding for this financial year. There has been difficulty obtaining workman who have the correct insurance to carry out the work. We will need to make the most of it next year although it was agreed that some work could still be completed this year.

It was agreed to order 4 new dog bins and 4 new litter bins to use some of this year's allowance. Clerk to arrange this.

31/23 Correspondence

The Green on Pocklington Crescent – there have been various emails from residents who have concerns over possible improvements to the Green. This matter will need further discussion and whatever is decided upon will need permission from the owners of the land NSDC and also funding.

Mrs Dales forwarded an email from the Newark Health Consultative Group. They confirmed the following:-

Hip and knee operations started last year after upgrades to the operating theatres.

A breast one stop clinic that allows patients with symptoms, when referred by their GP, to see a specialist and have their tests in the same visit.

More gynaecology services coming online.

With NSDC land secured for additional 80 car parking space and designated staff parking.

New Theatres – an extra 2600 operations and procedures to take place each year as a new state of the art theatre and recovery two minor operation suites at Newark for summer 2023. Extra capacity will be in elective (non-urgent) care for urology and ear, nose and throat surgery which have the greatest backlogs.

32/23 Kings Coronation Celebrations

Mr Smith thanked Mrs Denise Day for organising the afternoon tea. Mrs Day confirmed that they 98 people attending to date. 25% of this number is from people who are new to the village which is very encouraging.

Awaiting funding application to NSDC and Thomas Brewer money received.

Village Hall celebrations – subject to the tv being in place, people will be able to watch the Coronation and have a celebration lunch.

The Duck Race will be held on Monday.

33/23 AOB

Mr Allen asked if the Clerk would write to the Esso Garage and ask them to tidy up the surrounding area of the garage which is littered with boxes and other litter and is looking very untidy. This was agreed and Mr Allen will follow up any discussion with the Manager of the site if needed.

Meeting closed 9.14 pm.