

**Smisby Parish Council**  
**Parish Council Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

**Smisby Parish Council Attendance**

Councillor Steve Hewitt (Chair)

Councillor Rob Hounslow

Councillor Simon Barnett

Councillor Mark Parnham

Parish Clerk Emma Stroud

**Members of the public and other organisations**

District Councillor Peter Smith

County Councillor Linda Chilton

3 members of the public

1 Appointment of Chair for 2016/17

Councillor Hewitt stated he was prepared to stand as Chair. No other councillors nominated themselves. Councillor Hewitt was proposed and seconded and all councillors present were in favour. Councillor Hewitt was duly elected as Chair.

2 Appointment of Vice Chair for 2016/17

In Councillor Rushman's absence, Councillor Hewitt informed the group that Councillor Rushman had stated that she was prepared to stand as Vice Chair. No other councillors nominated themselves. Councillor Rushman was proposed and seconded and all councillors present were in favour. Councillor Rushman was duly elected as Vice Chair.

3 Apologies

Councillor Sarah Rushman, District Councillor Michael Stanton.

4. Declaration of Interest

Councillor Hounslow 19e.

5 Approval of accounts as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

Copies of the accounts were given to councillors and members of the public with a summary sheet. The total spend for the year was £6070.83, £5793.00 excluding VAT. Income was £4954.00 giving an overspend of £839.84. However, concurrent expenses, VAT and some bills are yet to be added therefore it is forecast that we will have an underspend of £879.16. Some payments may roll over in to the next financial year. Accounts approved.

6 Items identified to exclude public

None identified

## 7 Chairman's Communications

Councillor Hewitt gave an overview of the past year...

- Bollard keeps Smisby safe and secure. Keyholders are well distributed (however it was noted that workers have keys currently).
- Parish Clerk still continuing to learn the role.
- Bloomin Gardens have been hired for grounds maintenance again.
- Gateway feature has been completed – Thanks to Parochial charity.
- Fir tree referendum went well.
- Footpath sign recovered and fixed
- Newsletter is a good quality and reach – Thanks to James Barnett.
- Thanks to Hazel Salt, Darren Whitby and all Councillors

Coming up this year...

- Defibrillator getting installed – Funded
- Reflect Community spirit
- 4<sup>th</sup> June Queens 90<sup>th</sup> event – with funds going to church.
- Some of the councillors are getting together at the weekend (14<sup>th</sup> May) to clean the play equipment ready for the summer.

## 8 Opportunity for public questions

Still the issue of potholes in and around the village (Forties Lane, Chapel Street). Darren Whitby has the checklists for the playground inspections.

## 9 Approval of last minutes

Approved.

## 10 Update on actions from previous minutes

Any actions will be picked up in the relevant area on the agenda.

## 11 Update on Fir Tree on Village Green

Bloomin' Gardens start work next week. The old tree is being removed and hole for the oak being dug. They will also set plinth for Christmas tree, plant around electric box, recover light, replace 5 posts and re-turf. Parochial charity will be supplying funding for this but the Parish Council will pay the cost initially. It was agreed that a site meeting was needed prior to work commencing to decide on the position of oak and Christmas tree. It was also suggested that a few more posts could be replaced and that they could be thicker/more substantial posts as they get caught by traffic.

## 12 Update on Chapel Street Works

Again there was a lot of discussion about the state of Chapel Street. This was raised formally at the January meeting, photo evidence was provided and there

has since been a site visit. It now in a worse state as the tarmac has cracked and the matting is holding a lot of water. All agreed it is an unacceptable state and that the work they did made it worse.

Both District Councillor Smith and County Councillor Chilton have been pursuing this and a figure of approximately £9000 was suggested to do a proper job. County Councillor Chilton advised that each area inspector has £20,000 in their budget this year which means Chapel Street would take up half of their budget. Therefore, this needs to come out of capital budget which County Councillor Chilton will need to raise at County Hall in Matlock. Minor patches could be paid for out of local budget but was agreed that this kind of work would be inadequate.

County Councillor Chilton advised Smisby Parish Councillors to email Glyn Dutton (@derbyshire.gov.uk) as he is in charge of the budget. She also suggested to copy in Mike Ashworth, Dean Collins, Linda Chilton, Simon Tilley (from the Willington Depot, who did the original job as maintenance) and Peter Smith. More discussion continued and it was generally agreed that the current state is unacceptable as is another patch up job. **Councillor Hewitt and other Parish Councillors (bigger voice) to write a letter to escalate** highlighting that the county have not done what they said they would do.

District Councillor Smith has been fighting this ongoing issue and suggested that the Parish seek some private quotes (perhaps from Seven Trent contractors) for the work as he could agree a contractor to do the groundworks for free leaving the council to pay for tarmac and top curb. **Councillor Barnett and Councillor Hewitt to meet and get quotes from independent/commercial contractors.**

13 Highway maintenance matters (including potholes)

County Councillor Chilton advised that there is a Maintenance plan including Smisby and ran through a number of routes that would be dealt with (Chapel Street, Main Street, Forties Lane, Heath Lane). This a 5 year plan so areas are not going to be done quickly. Work being completed includes patching, surface dressing and patching 5%, dig up and relaying.

It was noted that Anwell Lane and Forties Lane is still in need of maintenance, particularly sunken iron works. County Councillor Chilton advised that budgets are tight and that priority is given to A-roads. If areas have a yellow line marked around them then they have been checked.

**Parish Clerk to report sunken drain on Heath Lane and potholes on the bend of Anwell Lane between Arboretum and Smisby Manor (opposite layby) again.**

14 Update on Annwell Lane Gateway Feature

This has now been completed.

15 Update on Car Parking on Main Street – additional white line considerations

County Councillor Chilton confirmed that there is no chance of getting these lines done even if the Parish paid as Highways have said that no more would be done due to a new legislation.

Parish Councillors again confirmed that the last white line done/agreed on Main Street was in March 2014 (after the legislation). Therefore, Councillors think that this may provide a hope that they could get a white line. To be followed up.

16 Village Hall Air Conditioning

Parish Clerk confirmed that the application has been submitted and is awaiting approval.

17 Defibrillator

Parish Councillors debated new and reconditioned units. Reconditioned units are considerably cheaper. Councillors wanted to know if an old one would come with the box too? Funding in place from the leadership grant, any overspend will be paid for by Parochial Charity. **Councillor Hounslow to email Councillor Rushman for her expert opinion and will then order appropriately.** All councillors happy to go with her decision. Hope to do this within a week.

18 Phone Box

Not a priority, discuss at next meeting.

19 To discuss and agree any response to the following Planning Applications

- a. 9/2016/0249 - Air Conditioning at Village Hall
- b. 9/2016/0321 – Replacement of coverings on roof and installation of downpipe at Church
- c. 9/2016/0299 - Holiday Home Occupancy at Pistern Hills Farm
- d. Gold Hand Car Wash – NWL
- e. 9/2016/0390 or 9/2016/0398 – Conversion of outbuildings to dwellings and parking at Smisby Manor
- f. 9/2016/0220 – Change of use and erection of garage at 421 Ashby Road
- g. 9/2016/0379 – Erection of garage at Church Barn, Chapel Street
- h. 9/2016/0401 – Erection of treehouse and play items at Smisby manor.

No objects for items a, b, c, e f and h. Item g (9/2016/0379) was discussed as the garage roof is still the same height as was previously objected. The councillors recognised that an attempt had been made to change the plans by

moving it further away but District Councillor Smith advised that the parish should remain consistent, especially as it has been turned down twice before. **Councillor Hewitt to draft a response highlighting that the height is still an issue** and that if it was lowered then there would be no objections. **Parish Clerk to email objections across asap.**

20 Questions and reports from SDDC and DDC Councillors

County Councillor Chilton gave a brief update on 20 miles an hour limit pilot and informed the group that the turn out for the recent Police Commissioner vote was 18.6% 34 of these votes came from Smisby.

District Councillor Smith had told the group previously that he could get Polite Parking Notice leaflets branded with Smisby made through Safety Neighbourhoods/Safety in Villages from community fund. There has been high demand for this. All agreed that the Parish would like to proceed with flyers/stickers. District Councillor Smith advised a mock up would be made and trustees will send. Phil Marriot will do the printing at no cost. All Parish Councillors were keen on this.

Transport Fair in Swadlincote on 15<sup>th</sup> May, Peter Rabbit play on 2<sup>nd</sup> June at Roliston Forestry Centre. Walking festival 14-26<sup>th</sup> May. South Derbyshire Orienteering at Foremark 20<sup>th</sup> August and Staunton Harold 11<sup>th</sup> June.

District Councillor Smith also told the group about Womens Cycling tour which travels through South Derbyshire (Ticknall) on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June at approximately 11.30am (ITV are covering). There is a map available online. **District Councillor Smith will email Parish Clerk details.**

21 Clerks Report

None

22 Review and agree insurance documents for 2016/17

Parish Clerk advised that the renewal amount is £451.12 (Last year was 436.69). If the council commits to renew with AON for the next 3 years then it is £429.22. All agreed that as we have used AON for years it would be efficient to go with the lower rate.

23 Statement of accounts

Parish Clerk shared up to date overview for May 2016. Clerk advised that the concurrent expenses for 2015/16 were ready to be submitted, documents approved.

24 To approve payment of accounts as follows:

Approved

Payee	Value	Reason/Invoice Number
E. Stroud	£331.56	Clerks Salary
Smisby Village Hall	£90	Hire of Village Hall for meetings
H. Salt	£50	Village Lengthsman
D. Whitby	£40	Playground Inspections
Bloomin Gardens	£516	Grounds Maintenance
Bloomin Gardens	£516	Grounds Maintenance
Bloomin Gardens	£248.40	Grounds Maintenance - Bollard
Kilworth Machinery	£67.59	Envelopes and posting newsletter
Barcham Trees plc	£387.26	New oak tree for village green
Parochial Charity	£310	Playing field rent
AON	£429.22	Insurance

25 Set dates for 2016/17 parish meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every other month.

12<sup>th</sup> July 2016

13<sup>th</sup> September 2016

8<sup>th</sup> November 2016

10<sup>th</sup> January 2016

14<sup>th</sup> March 2016

9<sup>th</sup> May 2016

26 Retrospectively agree nominated councillors for Village Hall Committee

In Councillor Rushman's absence Councillor Hewitt stated that she is happy to be put forward. All agreed.

27 Parish Council nomination of trustee for parochial charity

Following the resignation of Andrew Parnham, Councillor Hounslow expressed a willingness to take on this responsibility and has experience in trustee work. All agreed. Councillor Hounslow and Barbara are now the nominees from the Parish Council

The Chairman thanked the Parish Councillors for attending and declared the meeting closed.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.30.

Signed: ..... Date: .....