

Smisby Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting 8th November 2016

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 8th November 2016.

Smisby Parish Council Attendance

Councillor Steve Hewitt (Chair)

Councillor Rob Hounslow

Councillor Simon Barnett

Councillor Sarah Rushman

Parish Clerk Emma Stroud

Members of the public and other organisations

County Councillor Linda Chilton, 1 member of the public

1 Apologies

Councillor Mark Parnham, District Councillor Michael Stanton, District Councillor Peter Smith.

2 Declaration of Interest

None identified.

3 Items identified to exclude public

None identified

4 Chairman's Communications

Councillor Hewitt confirmed that the next village event is on the 3rd December which will be the Christmas light switch on at 5.30pm and singing carols in the church. 50 people have confirmed attendance so far but another letter drop will be done during November.

Remembrance Sunday is this Sunday and Heather Wheeler MP will be attending.

The next newsletter is due to be sent out at the end of November. Hazel Salt would like to include to dates 11th Dec 4.30pm (for children to come and sing Christmas songs) 18th Dec 6pm (Carol service).

Works on the church will now be starting in the new year so the scaffolding will not be a problem for the Christmas events.

5 Opportunity for public questions

Some pot holes have been done (12th Oct 2016 area by stables was done) but a member of the public flagged that there are still a lot of potholes.

County Councillor Chilton said these could already be listed. It was mentioned that the work on Forties Lane was drainage work and not pot hole repairs.

Councillor Hewitt will check if the hole in the path on Burton Road near the Tap house has been done and inform County Councillor Chilton (she has a case number).

There is an interactive website where you can zoom in where the pot holes are. Holes to be reported include one opposite Miss Baileys House and one to the left of Heath Lane that goes on to Forties Lane. Councillor Hewitt to locate this and look in to.

The training that Barbara Ball did for the Defibrillator was popular. Confirmed that it wasn't on the faulty list. The group would like to know who is responsible for maintaining the batteries. It was also asked if it needs registering with the NHS. **Councillor Rushman to email East Midlands Ambulance Service re: registering it.**

- 6 Approval of last minutes
Approved.

- 7 Update on actions from previous minutes
Councillor Parnham has organised the Christmas tree for the village green.

The picnic bench is in bad condition and needs repairing or replacing.

The swing has been returned.

Outstanding actions were discussed but a record of these discussions has been recorded under the relevant item listed on the agenda or within the District Councillors Item.

- 8 Update on Village Green
Councillor Hounslow gave an update. The posts are now in place and looped rope will be added soon. The memorial has been jet washed in readiness for Remembrance Sunday however it was noted that it will need a professional clean soon (may be able to get funding for this).

A 15-20ft Christmas tree has been ordered and the company who provide it will install it and make it fit the hole. It was agreed that white lights should be put on the tree and there should be enough to cover the tree. The tree needs to be up and ready for the 3rd Dec, therefore a working party for adding lights and putting cable underground is needed.

Councillor Hounslow has looked in to reclaimed lamp posts. Prices seem to be around £700 and DDC seem to be encouraging LED lights. Council is likely to charge for the removal of existing lamp post and installation of a new one. This item will be discussed at the next Parochial Charity meeting. County Councillor Chilton requested a photo of the existing lamp along with an example of a new one to be sent to her as this will help her with a case for getting funding/permission towards a new one (more in keeping). Councillor Barnett requested a statement saying that no funding will be given to enable the Parochial charity to be able to fund (as it only fills in the gaps where public funding falls short).

Everyone agreed that it will be nice to enjoy what has been achieved before moving on to the next thing. It will take 6 months before everything beds in for the green to look its best. It was agreed that daffodils should be planted where the holes from the previous posts were.

It was commented that the cherry trees leading to the church will need pruning and as Smisby is a conservation area this will need approval. It was suggested that the same man as used for the oak on the village green is used.

Best kept village – here we come!

9 Update on Chapel Street Works

County Councillor Chilton, Councillor Hounslow, Councillor Barnett and Councillor Hewitt reported that they had a positive site meeting with Simon Tilley where the work was agreed. It was agreed that the road would be widened with tarmac (1 meter wider) and that there would be a proper curb until where the matting finished. It is hoped that the work should be done late November and before Christmas. The road may need to be closed during this time. All agreed this was a great result as a result of great team work and persistence. County Councillor Chilton to email when she gets the schedule.

10 Village Hall Air Conditioning

Councillor Barnett has had to submit further plans/paperwork for the Air Conditioning and will continue to keep the group updated on progress. The discharge of conditions took 8 weeks to agree but was finally agreed last Friday. Councillor Barnett has contacted the Air Conditioning company who have advised that the work can be done over 2 Fridays (due to hall hire) and should be completed before Christmas. Many thanks to Councillor Barnett who is volunteering his spare time to do the work.

The Parochial Charity have approved the funding of all new windows as the village hall was unable to get a grant. Councillor Hounslow has submitted planning permission and hope to have them done in Dec/Jan.

11 BT Phone Box

All agreed that the Parish would like to keep and adopt the Red Phone box for community purposes. **Parish Clerk to submit forms (via email) to DDC and BT saying that Smisby would like to keep and adopt the BT phone box. Deadline is the 16th December.** Email BT to stress that we have contacted SDDC too. It will soon need painting.

12 Remembrance Sunday Service

The Parish has strong representation at the service (Councillors Barnett, Hounslow and Hewitt). Parish Clerk passed over poppy wreath. Councillor Barnett getting 3 quotes for getting the war memorial professionally cleaned and is questioning if it has the correct list of people named (investigation work). Councillor Hounslow has looked in to grant which can fund up to £30,000 – we should then hopefully be able to claim back.

13 Highway maintenance matters (including potholes)

Potholes were discussed in item 5.

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

No Objections

15 Questions and reports from SDDC and DDC Councillors

County Councillor Chilton reported that Elvaston Castle is looking for 10 trustees. Anyone interested go to www.futureelvaston.co.uk/elvaston-castle-gardens-trust for an application.

County Councillor Chilton has passed over information about grass cutting (a who does what). **Parish Clerk to scan and keep on file.**

A list of PC Officers (including new ones) has been sent to all.

A new weather checking station has been implemented which should help DDC look after and maintain its roads.

She also highlighted an issue with tips. Most people in Smisby would use Lount tip as it is the closest. However, SDDC residents should use Derbyshire tips (the closest being Newall). Tips are starting to crack down on this and may ask for your address etc. However, it was noted that Smisby do have a LE65 postcode.

It was confirmed that Smisby does not have flooding issues and therefore does not attend the Flood Liaison Meetings. However, it does suffer with surface water problems from blocked drains (particular from drains on Forties Lane) as the nursery encountered this year. The flooding was reported. If problems rise again let County Councillor Chilton know and/or attend the flood liaison meeting.

15 Clerks Report

The Parish Clerk asked Councillor Barnett to complete the 2 forms for declaration of acceptance and pecuniary interest forms.

The Parish Clerk gave the group a copy of the finances to date and also gave a forecast for 2017/18.

All other items of information have been emailed to Parish Councillors.

16 Statement of accounts

Parish Clerk shared to date overview for September 2016. Approved.

19 Approve payments

Payments approved as below.

Payee	Value	Reason/Invoice Number	Cheque No
H. Salt	50	Lengthsman	837
D. Whitby	40	Playground Inspection	838
Kilworth Machinery	54.74	Postage of Newsletter – INV 28343	835
Bloomin' Gardens	528	Grounds Maintenance	836
S. Hewitt	68.90	Newletter Printing	839
E. Stroud	294.72	Salary	840
H. Salt	50	Lengthsman	837

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 10th January 2017 at 7.30.

Signed: Date: