

Smisby Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting 14th January 2020

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting

Smisby Parish Council Attendance

Councillors Rushman, Taft, Das. Parish Clerk Caroline Crowder

Members of the public and other organisations

District Councillors Haines and Churchill, County Councillor Chilton and five members of the public



Presentation 14th
January 2020.pdf

SEE ATTACHED PRESENTATION FOR MORE DETAIL

- 1 To Receive Apologies for Absence
Councillors Cuming and Brooke

- 2 To Receive Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda
None

- 3 To Determine which Items if an on the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded
None

- 4 Chairman's Communications
None

- 5 Opportunity for public questions
 - a. A member of the public raised continued concerns about the amount of potholes and lack of rumble strips on the road. DCC have been out and repainted the dragon's teeth on 12th January. However there is still ongoing agreed work that needs to be done. **Action clerk to chase up the outstanding work, copying in County Councillor Chilton who will chase this up also.**
 - b. A member of the public expressed their concern and frustration over parking issues in the village. In particular near the recreation ground, as signs were being ignored. Councillor Rushman agreed to put a polite reminder in the newsletter and onto the website to ask people to park considerately and respect areas that should not be parked in. It was suggested that notes were left on cars parked inconsiderately. Clerk advised that although she can not comment on members of the public doing this, it was advisable that the Parish Council did not put their name to any such notes as there could be legal issues. County Councillor Chilton was asked if DCC Highways could assist in anyway. District Councillor Churchill advised to consider carefully if we wanted to push for any more parking restrictions as he has seen similar issues in Repton which ended up with residents not being able to park near

their own homes. Councillor Rushman suggested that the parochial charity could be approached to see there can provide any extra off-road parking. County Councillor Chilton recommended that if this was to happen it must be considered what impact any off-road parking had on the existing highways.

6 Approval of minutes from Parish Council meetings held on 12th November 2019

These were approved and signed by the Chairman as being accurate.

7 Update on actions from previous minutes not otherwise on agenda

- a. The chair has spoken to Darren Whitby about the work on the field, action now closed.
- b. Chair to organise a meeting with residents to discuss future use of the telephone box is ongoing
- c. Clerk has reported the overhanging vegetation at Channel Cottage and this has now been dealt with, action now closed.
- d. Clerk has created a page on the website with useful links on, action now closed.
- e. Banking mandate, all new signatories will need to attend a branch with ID, clerk to advise of them of what they need to take with them.
- f. Clerk has informed Fisher German of the agreement of the council to the changes with the tenancy agreement, action now closed.
- g. Clerk has chased open incidents with DCC and requested drain clearance at least twice a year, action now closed.

8 Precept

Agreed by all councillors present at the meeting that the precept should stay the same as last year. Chair and Clerk signed the paperwork, Clerk to return to SDDC.

9 Road Safety

Some signage has been replaced; however, it is still not what was agreed to. The Council will continue to chase down the work with DCC. Councillor Rushman commented that had the work been done in the summer as promised by DCC then we would not have run into the difficulties now being seen with the surge of highways issues being seen by DCC. Councillor Taft reported that CREST have visited the B5006 several times but the number of speeding offences they recorded was low. CREST will continue to visit and monitor this stretch of road, but on a reduced priority. Councillor Cuming is in talks about setting up a community speed watch.

10 BT Phone Box

Councillor Taft feels that the costs involved to restore the phone box would be quite large, and it was **agreed that the parochial charity should be approached to see if they are happy with the costs involved. Councillor Rushman will write to them and Councillor Taft will attend their next meeting.**

11 Crime Prevention

Councillor Cuming has met with the Safer Neighbourhood Team and discussed the issues that have been seen with cross boundary reporting of crimes. They have

agreed to look into this further. It was noted that there has been more visibility of the police around the village. **Clerk to invite them to the next council meeting.** The next area forum is to be held in Findern Village Hall on 11th February 2020 at 18:30, all are welcome.

12 The Poplars Boundary Wall

The work on the wall is still progressing, although still not finished. We need to speak to Highways about reinstating the pavement once the work is complete. **Clerk to raise with DCC once the wall is finished, ensuring County Councillor Chilton is provided with the reference number.**

13 Highways Maintenance (including potholes)

Some work has been seen but work is not being completed within promised timescales and it not being completed satisfactorily. Councillor Chilton agreed to raise this with highways and see if a meeting could be arranged for herself and Councillor Taft to discuss the ongoing issues.

14 Drainage Issues

Councillor Taft met with a DCC Officer on the 26th Nov 2019. Their discussion points:-

- It is accepted that drains in Forties Lane and Main Street can become inundated by stormwater running-off two privately owned fields on either side of Forties Lane. DCC have since written to the landowners requesting action. Councillor Taft believes that (due to the local topography and volume of water involved) the only viable solution is for landowners to install private drains, which DCC Highways allow to be connected to their drainage system in Forties Lane. This idea was not be accepted by the DCC officer, but no alternative / practical solution was offered. **Councillors agreed that this impasse will need escalation to resolve.**
- The drains in Forties Lane have been added to DCC's Culvert Cleansing Schedule for inspection and clearance of the grates on a monthly basis. If blocked, they will be reported for reactive cleansing. Note: this is in addition to the routine (annual) maintenance and inspection programme. Sweeping of the roads will continue (as currently scheduled), on a quarterly basis.
- DCC have approached Severn Trent Water (STW) over SPC concerns regarding congested drainage outflow from Smisby village. STW will investigate further and provide feedback; most likely via DCC.
- DCC recorded a number of minor improvements (to help improve the collection of road surface waters) but their implementation will be dependent on funding and priorities.

15 Parish Field Tenancy

Fisher German have been informed.

16 Planning Applications

No comments made on any applications

17 Questions and reports from SDDC and DDC Councillors

- a. County Councillor Chilton holds a surgery monthly in Melbourne Assembly Rooms, on the first Saturday of the month 11:00 – 12:00, anybody is welcome to attend.
- b. District Councillor Churchill passed around some good contact leaflets from the police, these will be left in the village halls for people to view. He made reference to an email issued out to the Parish Councillors from the Clerk about community funding being made available from SDDC and how to apply. There is also a Flood Liaison Meeting at SDDC on 6th February at 13:30, all welcome to attend.
- c. District Councillor Haines mentioned the area forum (see 11 for details) and their next surgery is in Repton Village Hall on the 20th January 2020 at 18:00, all welcome to attend. They would also be willing to have a future surgery in Smisby if requested.

18 Clerks Report
Nothing to report.

19 Dates of Future Meetings
Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 19:30
Tuesday 12th May 2020 at 19:00
Tuesday 14th July 2020 at 19:00
Unless any of these meetings are not quorate, in which case they may need to be rearranged.

20 Approve payments
All payments approved as below.

Payee	Value (£)	Reason/Invoice Number	Cheque No
H. Salt	50.00	Lengthsman (January and February)	960
D. Whitby	40.00	Playground Inspection (January and February)	961
C. Crowder	402.20	Clerk Salary (November and December)	962
HMRC	150.80	Tax and NI	963
DALC	100.00	2 places on the councillor essentials course	964
Kilworth Machinery Ltd	94.38	Newsletter postage and envelopes	965

21 Payments Received:

None known by Clerk but until banking issues are sorted Clerk is not receiving statements.

22 Communications Received since last meeting

- a. NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin s

- b. DALC circular no. 12, 13, 14
- c. Get Active Newsletter
- d. Community Facility Funding

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 March 2020 at 19:30 in the Smisby Village Hall.

Signed: Date: