

Smisby Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting 28th March 2019

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 28th March 2019.

Smisby Parish Council Attendance

Councillor Steve Hewitt (Chair)

Councillor Simon Barnett

Councillor David Waters

Councillor Chris Taft

Councillor Sarah Rushman

Parish Clerk Emma Stroud

Members of the public and other organisations

District Councillor Peter Smith, County Councillor Chilton and 4 members of the public

1 Apologies

District Councillor Michael Stanton.

2 Declaration of Interest

None identified.

3 Items identified to exclude public

None identified.

4 Chairman's Communications

A warm welcome to everyone.

5 Opportunity for public questions

Crime prevention was a big area of discussion as a number of burglaries have taken place in the village over the last few months leaving parishioners feeling vulnerable. A number of parishioners put forward the idea of Smisby installing its own CCTV on the main roads in and out of the village (especially as it is illegal to point personal CCTV on public highway/areas). 3-5 cameras would cover the whole village. Smisby Parish would like to get advice from the Police and other villages who have installed CCTV (Measham and a village in Lincolnshire?). Can the Council join with the community - It was reported that Repton didn't get the support of SDDC and therefore they wouldn't contribute to the funding. Would others in the village want CCTV? Data protection was discussed – it was suggested the footage would record on a loop and only viewed if there had been any incidents. How would it be managed/monitored? Point of contact? Are there any community grants either from DDC or Police? District Councillor Smith to talk to planning, are there any restrictions in a

conservation area? How would they get power, from lamp posts – speak to highways.

The main discussion was around speeding on the B5006. A number of parishioners have witnessed multiple near misses and believe it is only a matter of time before someone is critically injured or killed. It is a very busy road and most cars come over the brow of the hill very fast making it more dangerous to exit the junction. All agreed something needs to be done and a number of calming measures were discussed including reinstating the rumble strips (that have worn flat), repositioning speed limit signs so that they are visible to the drivers, additional signs ie light up when people are speeding, speed gun/monitoring by either Parishioners or Police, request speed watch (but not on a Sunday!).

Councillor Taft has logged a number of these issues on www.crestderbyshire.org along with registering ‘an area of speeding concern’ in Smisby and encouraged others to do the same to increase importance.

Police won’t let citizens do any monitoring with a speed gun as the corner has been deemed too dangerous and there is not enough room for a van. The County Councillors advised that other Parishes have got themselves heard by badgering the police, reporting every incident and talking to the press and on radio. Two parishioners said that they would start calling 101 to report incidents.

District Councillor Smith to send photos of ill positioned signs to Chris Smith, Councillors requested that the 40 sign go on the back of the NWL sign.

Councillor Taft to email County Councillor Chilton emails from Crest so that she can follow them up.

It is believed that Derbyshire Police will not monitor a 40mh limit road however Leicestershire will.

Councillor Hewitt has been approached by a parishioner with a tree from the Jubilee grounds overhanging there garden. Councillor Hewitt to contact Bloomin Gardens and arrange pruning.

Can the LED lamp post on Main Street (Myrtle Lodge) be left on through the night – County Councillor Chilton to flag.

- 6 Approval of last minutes
Approved.

- 7 Update on actions from previous minutes
Updates discussed in relevant agenda items.
- 8 Update BT Phone Box
Councillors to arrange a referendum form with voting slip and issue with the April newsletter. As it would be for public use no planning is required. The exact location would be decided if the vote was to move the phone box. Similarly electric would need to be decommissioned from Chapel Street. Use yet to be decided but a swaps library is the initial idea. It could either be done up or replaced with a fully refurbished kiosk of the same design. The kiosk was adopted by Smisby for £1. All agreed not to give the option for it to be removed entirely. Hope to discuss the result of the vote at the next meeting.
- 9 Update Condition of 23 Chapel Street
District Councillor Smith investigated and discovered it is not a straightforward case. A choice was given when the property was offered for work to be done prior to moving in but the tenant wanted to move in quickly. Therefore the jobs were put on a waiting list but not classed as a priority. Cleanliness up to standards.
- 10 Update Car Parking (No Parking sign)
Although the wording has been given to DDC the sign hasn't arrived yet. District Councillor Smith to chase with Adrian Mole.
- 11 Update the Poplars boundary fence/wall
There was discussion around whether there was a path under the collapsed wall originally. All agreed there was. It was pointed out that there is no path on the other side of the road making that area dangerous to walk along. County Councillor Chilton and District Councillor Smith to tackle with SDDC planning. Smisby Councillors ideally want the wall reinstating and for the path to be clear. Is it a highways issue of path not clear?
- 12 Managing transitional period of Smisby Parish Council
Councillor Barnett and Councillor Waters have agreed to stay on until replacements have been found. Councillor Hewitts resignation is still pending. Therefore Smisby is looking to recruit 3 new Parish Councillors. Councillor Rushman and Councillor Hewitt are meeting with 2 possible candidates for the clerk role this week.

All agreed that it is important not to lose the power of having a Parish Council. All agreed that the Parish Council needs a wider variety of people. Parish Council needs 5 Councillors to run but only 3 to make decisions. Although Councillor Rushman has agreed to lead as Chair in to the new year a willing replacement chair is still needed.

Vacant Councillor roles to feature in the next newsletter with a 'Our Parish Needs You' advert. Parish Clerk role to be advertised on Facebook too.

Councillor Hewitt also raised the issue that someone with design skills would need to take on the newsletter too.

13 Highway maintenance matters (including potholes)

Potholes as usual – all to keep reporting. The more people report the more pressure the council are under to fix them. All agreed that there has been a false economy as rushed, cheap repaired already need fixing again. With heavy good vehicles accessing the Arboretum and Kilworth Machinery the roads need repairing well. Dog mess and Chewing gum are also becoming an increasing problem on the highways. Discussed under public questions.

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

Councillors had no objections with the planning applications for February 2019 and March 2019.

15 Questions and reports from SDDC and DDC Councillors

District Councillor Smith informed the group that he wouldn't be standing in the May election and nor would District Councillor Stanton, He wished his successors good luck and thanked the Parish Councillors for their hard work, progressive nature and what they have achieved for the Parish.

16 Clerks Report

Please see attached documents. All other items of information have been emailed to Parish Councillors.

17 Statement of accounts, including Audit information

Accounts distributed for this financial year to date

18 Approve payments

Payments approved as below.

Payee	Value (£)	Reason/Invoice Number	Cheque No
H. Salt	50	Lengthsman	926
D. Whitby	40	Playground Inspection	927
E. Stroud	353.16	Salary	928
DALC	101.36	Subscription	929
Kilworth Machinery	52.12	Newsletter and Vote Postage	930
SDDC	141.65	Litterbin Service	931

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 14th May 2019 at 7.30.

Signed: Date: