

Smisby Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting 10th July 2018

Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 10th July 2018.

Smisby Parish Council Attendance

Councillor Steve Hewitt (Chair)

Councillor Simon Barnett

Councillor Vacancy

Councillor Rob Hounslow

Parish Clerk Emma Stroud

Members of the public and other organisations

County Councillor Linda Chilton, District Councillor Peter Smith, 3 members of the public

1 Apologies

District Councillor Michael Stanton and Councillor Sarah Rushman.

2 Declaration of Interest

None identified.

3 Items identified to exclude public

None identified.

4 Chairman's Communications

Welcome to everyone. Continuing on from the last meeting Councillor Hewitt explained that there would be changes to the Parish Council over the next year as Councillors leave the Parish. He encouraged parishioners to get involved and apply for vacancies.

5 Opportunity for public questions

Mr Whitby reported that the swing on the park was broken underneath.

District Councillor Smith to raise this with SDDC.

Concern was raised over the broken down car on Chapel Street. Councillor Hewitt to speak to them.

Cars are still parking on the corner of Chapel Street and blocking the entrance to the playing field. All agreed that a sign saying 'No Parking' or 'No parking at any time' or 'Private land' etc should be put up to try and prevent parking.

District Councillor Smith to speak to the Council about a sign being put up. Although it was noted that on a whole parking has got a lot better since

some of the disruptive building work has been completed. White lines were discussed again.

Although many pot holes have now been done some still remain, including Anwell Lane by Smisby Manor and the one reported previously on the footpath by the Tap House, a runner has now been injured. They are County's responsibility and it is everyone's responsibility to report them and pin point them using the online 'Report it' facility (you can also use 'Fix my street')

Parishioner Mr Whitby enquired if a Goal Stop could be purchased for the team that he coaches on the Jubilee Grounds. He estimated £300 to get it professionally done but this could be considerably cheaper if we installed it. District Councillor Smith thought that there may be a small amount of funding that could pay for this but there is criteria to meet like keeping children from the village entertained etc. Councillor Hewitt asked if Mr Whitby could provide more information about the team and its origins, how many people play from Smisby etc. If it is refused there is the possibility that the Parochial Charity may fund.

6 Approval of last minutes

Approved.

7 Update on actions from previous minutes

Updates discussed in relevant agenda items.

8 Update on Village Green Lamp Post

Councillor Hounslow updated the group. This is now complete and waiting for the invoice.

9 Hi-Speed Broadband

Councillor Barnett updated the group. Speed test has shown no improvement yet but there has been work recently so he will continue to check and notify when it has happened.

10 Update BT Phone Box

It has been discussed previously that the Parish buys a newly refurbished phone box rather than doing the existing one up and move its location. It has been confirmed that the phone box can be moved without planning permission as it will be for public access. If it stays where it is the base will need to be levelled. If it is moved then the electrics will need to be removed.

Councillor Hewitt to explain the options in the news letter and ask for a vote (as done with the tree).

- 11 Car Parking on Chapel Street and Main Street
Discussed in Public Questions.
- 12 Update of war memorial cleaning
Councillor Barnett updated the group. This has now been done and the cracks have been sorted. Invoice has been raised.
- 13 Servicing of defibrillator
Councillor Hewitt purchased 2 sets of pads (as one set had recently been used to save a life). Councillor Hewitt contacted the supplier and has been told that it does not need servicing as it recharges itself. The battery should last 4 years. It was queried if this time decreases each time the defibrillator is used.
- 14 Update the Poplars boundary fence
The Councillors have still not heard back after the letter was sent. The fence is still of concern and the issue is ongoing. **Councillor Hewitt to pursue** and get the Councils point of view. All agreed that the pavement is not usable and that the walls needs to be fixed to free up the pavement.
- 15 Managing transitional period of Smisby Parish Council
Councillor Hounslow formally resigned and leaves the Parish in 2 weeks. He is happy to attend until the vacancy can be filled. **Parish Clerk to advertise in due course and ensure process is met.**

All agreed that it is important not to loose the power of having a Parish Council. All agreed that the Parish Council needs a wider variety of people as often the same people sit on all the boards. However there is a lack of willing people in the village.

Do parishioners know what the Parish Council does? **Councillor Hewitt to add the position to the news letter with details of the role.** The advert will also be put on the notice board and on the Smisby facebook page.

In the interest of getting new blood it was suggested that this was raised before the England game kicks off in the Village Hall. Also approach people personally.

Parish Council needs 5 Councillors to run but only 3 to make decisions. It is important to have candidates who can be professional and keep emotions out of decisions. It was confirmed that the Council can only hold 3 meeting whilst having less than 5 Councillors. Perhaps it could be a Parish meeting instead?

David Walters attended the meeting to get a flavour of a Councillors role. To ensure that the Parish Council does not fold he put himself forward and all

agreed to co-opt him on to the Parish Council and welcomed Councillor Waters.

- 16 Highway maintenance matters (including potholes)
Potholes as usual. Discussed under public questions.
- 17 To discuss and agree any response to the following Planning Applications
Councillors had no objections with the planning applications for June and July 2018.
- 18 Questions and reports from SDDC and DDC Councillors
District Councillor Smith has nothing to report.

County Councillor Chilton will report the potholes mentioned. She also will ensure the 2 grit bins are refilled if required and notified the group of a footpath divert notice. She is also unable to attend the anniversary of the church.

- 19 Clerks Report
Please see attached documents. All other items of information have been emailed to Parish Councillors.
- 20 Statement of accounts, including Audit information
Accounts distributed for this financial year to date. Audit has been completed it will be submitted after this meeting. Section 2 approved and signed.

All agreed to increase the Parish Clerks pay in line with the NALC payscale.

- 21 Approve payments
Payments approved as below.

Payee	Value (£)	Reason/Invoice Number	Cheque No
H. Salt	50	Lengthsman	904
D. Whitby	40	Playground Inspection	905
S. Hewitt	9135.60	Replacement defibrillator pads	906
E. Stroud	353.16	Salary	907
Bloomin Gardens	100	Auditor	908
Independent Memorial Inspection	1948.80	War Memorial Cleaning / Repair	909

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 11th September 2018 at 7.30.

Signed: Date: