SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Methodist Community Centre on Tuesday, 10th December 2024 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor M Allen
Councillor B Blanchard
Councillor S Hadley
Councillor P Hibberd (Chair)
Councillor P Marshall
Councillor S Sloan
Councillor S Tyers
Councillor Walker

In Attendance 2 members of the public

24/102 Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Keeton and Moody and District Councillor Mrs Michael.

24/103 Public 10 Minute Forum
The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm for the public session.

A resident thanked the Clerk for the background information provided on FP5. A question was asked regarding the Hogarth Paths at Strawberry Fields. The Clerk advised that this remained with Rights of Way.

Regarding the GNR Solar Park, a resident understood that Sutton-on-Trent were no longer part of the wider parish group and would be representing itself. Concern was expressed as to how that would impact on the neighbouring parish of Carlton-on-Trent, due to the closeness of the two communities.

The Chair advised that the Parish Council had gone through the survey process, which had identified 5 key factors that residents felt important to the parish. These had been raised with Elements Green.

The other parishes were in a different position to Sutton-on-Trent in terms of impact. Members could instruct a planning consultant to represent the Parish Council's views at the time of statutory consultation on the Development Consent Order.

The Chair thanked residents for their participation and reconvened the meeting at 7.39pm.

24/104 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th November 2024
The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2024 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

24/105 District Councillor Report
(a) Councillor Mrs Michael had sent a report to the Clerk regarding the IDB, when presenting her apologies.

It was reported that all was going ahead as planned. Compensation was being agreed between the Landowners and the Board. Once agreed work would then soon commence.

Best wishes were extended to everyone for Christmas and the New Year.

The Chair asked the Clerk to follow up with Councillor Mrs Michael regarding plans for phase two of the three phases that were due to be received in December.

24/106 Newark & Sherwood District Council

(a) There were no matters to consider.

24/107 County Councillor Report

No report was presented as County Councillor Laughton was not in attendance.

24/108 Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) To note the completion of works to install double yellow lines on the Strawberry Field development.
Members noted that the double yellow lines were now installed. With permission of the Chair, a resident observed that delivery drivers visiting the GP surgery were ignoring the restrictions, particularly at the junction. The Clerk was asked to raise with the Surgery Manager.

(b) To note that commencement of work on FP5 will be undertaken in the 2025-26 financial year
Members noted that the work on FP5 would be undertaken in the 2025-26 financial year. The Clerk had sought clarification on why it could not be undertaken sooner, and had been advised that the work was low priority as it was not related to Health & Safety. Funding was available until 2028.

24/109 Planning

Applications

(a) **FOR NOTING - 24/02045/LDCP – White Cottage, 47 Main Street, Sutton-on-Trent - Lawful Development Certificate for the installation of up to 14 roof mounted solar panels**
Members noted the application for an LDC as outlined.

(b) **24/02051/AGR – Land at Great North Road - Agricultural shed**
Members noted the application for an agricultural shed as outlined.

Decision Notices

(c) **24/02000/AGR – Land at Ingram Lane, Sutton-on-Trent - Application to determine if prior approval required for proposed dual pitched steel portal framed general purpose agricultural building with a lean-to building addition (open-sided) to the northern side, including installation of photovoltaic panels on the southern roofscape**
Members received he decision notice outlining that prior approval was not required for the development as outlined.

(d) Tree Works
24/02017/TWCA – 20 Hemplands Lane, Sutton-on-Trent - Fell conifer
Members received and noted the application for tree works.

(e) Planning Appeal
APP/B3030/D/24/3355261 – 15 Station Road, Sutton-on-Trent – Single storey front extension
Members noted that an appeal had been made against the refusal of planning permission for the extension. This application had been supported by Members when it had been considered at Council and that support would be forwarded as part of the appeal process.

24/110 Financial Issues

(a) To record Receipts -

- There were none.

(b) The following invoices were approved for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – November inc back pay - £404.865
- HMRC – November PAYE - £101.40
- Future Farming Ltd – Inv SI-540 - £1,060.80
- M Harness – Internal Audit Fee - £35.11
- Bingham Ground Services – Sternthorpe Close Play Area Refurbishment - £30,600
- Bingham Ground Services – Sternthorpe Close Additional Work - £3,600

- Sage - £12
- ICO Renewal - £35

(c) **Financial Report as at 30th November 2024**
Members noted the financial report which showed a balance on the current account of £47,779.84 and £104,895.46 in the deposit account.

(d) **To note the opening of an additional bank account with Unity and agree a transfer of funds**
Members noted the opening of the additional bank account with Unity.

After discussion, it was AGREED that a sum of £65,000 be transferred to the Unity account from the NatWest Deposit Account. In terms of the Scottish Widows account, it was AGREED that the Clerk establish if the funds on deposit could be transferred to an account with a higher interest rate.

(e) **To determine budget priorities prior to setting of the 2025-26 Budget and consideration of the Precept at the January meeting**
The Clerk advised that Members would need to consider a budget for the 2025-26 financial year, and set a Precept at the January meeting.

In terms of priorities the Clerk was asked to take into consideration an event for V E Day in May 2025 and costs for the war memorial.

24/111 Parish Council Matters

(a) <u>To note the resignation of a Parish Councillor and agree a timeline to advertise the Casual Vacancy</u>
The Chair advised Members that Councillor Smith had resigned from the Parish Council due to personal reasons. Councillor Smith had joined the Parish Council in June 2023 and had been a valued member of the team with his active involvement in the war memorial project and solar park and the Chair expressed his thanks for the work he had put in to support the community. It was understood that Councillor Smith would continue his vital support of the Sutton-on-Trent Sports & Social Club.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council would need to inform Newark & Sherwood District Council of the resignation and advertise that it had a Casual Vacancy. After discussion, given the closeness to the Christmas Season, it was AGREED that advertisement of the vacancy be postponed until January.

(b) <u>To consider the adoption of a Bio-Diversity Policy</u>
Members noted the model Bio-Diversity Policy that had been circulated in advance of the meeting. After discussion, it was AGREED that delegated authority be given to the Clerk to work with Councillor Tyer to formulate a policy to bring back to a future meeting.

(c) <u>To note a meeting to be arranged with the lead Flood Warden to determine actions in event of a flood emergency</u>
Councillor Sloan advised that signage and PPE had now been received, both of which were stored at Marshalls on Main Street. It was noted that there was still some training to be arranged for flood wardens who had missed the original training.

The Chair suggested that a meeting be held in the New Year to have a 'dry run' of what would flood wardens would be expected to do during a flood event and how to access signage, etc. Councillor Sloan would liaise with the flood wardens to identify a mutually convenient date. A WhatsApp Group of wardens would be created to enable a swift method of communication during an emergency.

24/112 To receive updates and agree actions on the following matters:

- **Playing Field**
  - <u>To consider the requirement for new signage</u>
    With the completion of the resurfacing works, Members noted that the signage would need to be replaced. Delegated authority was given to Councillor Allen and the Clerk to purchase signage.

- To receive a complaint regarding the new fencing
  Members received the complaint from a resident regarding the new fencing, particularly around the gates that had now been installed. After discussion, delegated authority was given to the Chair to draft a response to the resident explaining the decisions that had been made around the fencing.

  In the meantime, Councillor Allen would explore the possibility of an alternative gate with an easier opening option.

- **Cemetery**
  - To consider the introduction of Cemetery Regulations
    A draft of the Cemetery Regulations had been circulated to Members for review in advance of the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor Walker, and unanimously AGREED that the draft regulations be adopted without change.

  - Cemetery Trees
    Councillor Marshall referred to the donation of 3 trees for the Cemetery. These would be planted in front of the fence on the left hand side, equally spaced, to match those planted on the right hand side. All pots/plants will have to be removed.

    Thanks were extended from the Chair to the business that had donated the trees.

    Councillor Marshall referred to the trees adjacent to the Severn Trent Water pumping station on Main Street that were overgrown and impeding the dyke. The Clerk was asked to report to Severn Trent.

- **Highways**
  The Clerk advised that the work on Old Great North Road had to be deferred due to weather but should now have been completed.

  Councillor Tyers reported that the broken sign on Bulham Lane had been reported to Via through the Clerk.

- **Community Speed Watch**
  Councillor Hadley asked if permanent 'Community Speed Watch' signage could be installed. The Clerk would liaise with Via.

  Councillor Marshall asked if the mobile speed monitoring camera could be requested to visit Great North Road. The Clerk advised a request would be submitted and PC Bakin made aware.

- **Public Footpaths**
  There were no matters to report other than raised during the public session.

- **Churchyard**
  There were no matters to report regarding the Churchyard. Councillor Blanchard commended everyone involved in the recent Christmas Carols and Festival held at Church recently, which had seen the Church full of people. The Christmas Tree lighting event had also been well supported by the community.

- **Village Hall**
  - To consider the requirement for a business plan in relation to the request made to amend the Section 106 Agreement
    Confirmation had been received from Newark & Sherwood District Council and Persimmon that they would review the Section 106 agreement.

The Parish Council would need to produce a business plan so that all parties could understand the alternative use the Section 106 funds could be used for.

If the Section 106 agreement was amended the land set aside for a village hall on the development would be remain with Persimmon.

- **Sports Club**
  Councillor Blanchard reported that it was hoped the cladding would be completed by Christmas.

- **Library Support Group**
  Councillor Walker advised that the new booking system was now in place.
- **War Memorial**
  - To note the submission of an application to Newark & Sherwood District Council for pre-app advice in relation to the site at Strawberry Fields
    The Clerk advised that an application for pre-app advice had been submitted to Newark & Sherwood District Council for Strawberry Fields.

- **Allotments**
  The Chair advised that a site meeting was still in the process of being arranged.
- **Any other reports**
  Councillor Blanchard queried where the funds from the Youth Club were held. Councillor Hadley advised that they were held with the Sutton-on-Trent Youth Club Trust Fund.

24/113 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) December Newsletter

A copy of the December Newsletter had been circulated to Members for information.

24/114 Correspondence

(a) To note correspondence from the Falls Group

Members noted the correspondence from the Falls Group expressing thanks for the continued support from the Parish Council in meeting the costs of their room hire.

24/115 Items for Notification

(a) There were none.

Close: There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.55pm. In closing the meeting the Chair extended best wishes to Members for Christmas and the New Year.

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 14th January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Community Centre.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN APPROVED.