SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Methodist Community Centre on Tuesday, 8th October 2024 at 6.30 pm.

Present: Councillor M Allen
Councillor B Blanchard
Councillor S Hadley
Councillor P Hibberd (Chair)
Councillor J Keeton
Councillor A Smith
Councillor S Tyers
Councillor Walker

In Attendance 4 members of the public together with County Councillor Laughton

24/075 Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest
Received and accepted from Councillor Marshall, District Councillor Mrs Michael and County Councillor Laughton.

24/076 Public 10 Minute Forum
The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.33pm for the public session.

A resident asked whether there was any update on the installation of double yellow lines at Strawberry Fields. The Clerk advised no further updates had been received. The resident would consider whether to submit a formal complaint following the length of time the project has taken.

The Chair thanked residents for their participation and reconvened the meeting at 7.35pm.

24/077 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th September 2024
The minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2024 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

24/078 District Councillor Report
(a) No report was presented as District Councillor Mrs Michael had given her apologies.

24/079 County Councillor Report
No report was presented as County Councillor Laughton had given his apologies.

24/080 Nottinghamshire County Council
There were no matters to receive.

24/081 Planning
Applications
(a) **24/01459/HOUSE – 3 Floral Villas, Sutton-on-Trent - Demolishing a flat roof garage. Building a single storey side extension that will then form a new garage.**
After consideration, no objection was raised to this application.

Decision Notices
(b) **24/01293/HOUSE – Grangefield, Main Street, Sutton-on-Trent - Single storey rear extension, new first floor over existing ground floor, alterations**
Members received and noted the decision notice granting permission for the development as outlined.

(c) **24/01329/HOUSE – Oak House, Grassthorpe Road, Sutton-on-Trent - Garage annexe to existing farm house**
Members received and noted the decision notice refusing permission for the development as outlined.

Tree Works

(d) **24/01586/TWCA – Rose Farm Cottage, 7 Palmer Road, Sutton-on-Trent - Fell two damaged ash trees under 5-day exemption**

(e) **24/01587/TWCA – The Lawns, 28 Old Great North Road, Sutton-on-Trent - All trees overhanging Old Great North Road - crown lift to 2.5m clearance above ground level T1 and T2 Conifers - Reduce by 2m T3 Conifer - fell T4 Sycamore - pollard to approx 7m Conifer hedge on Station Road - reduce to 5m overall height**

(f) **24/01516/TWCA – 5A High Street, Sutton-on-Trent - T2 Poplar- Reduce spread of lower primary branch in north-easterly direction by approx 4m Lowest primary branch to the south to be removed back to stem**

Members received and noted the applications for tree works.

24/082 Financial Issues

(a) To record Receipts -

- Cemetery Fees - £340
- NSDC – Second Half Precept - £14,000

(b) The following invoices were approved for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – September - £304.25
- HMRC – September PAYE - £76
- Future Farming Ltd – Inv SI-436 - £1,060.80
- Future Farming Ltd – Inv SI-358 - £240
- Sage - £12
- Clear Insurance Renewal - £890.73
- PKF Littlejohn – External Audit Fee - £252

The Chair referred to an additional invoice received from Bingham Ground Services in the sum of £5,400 as a staged payment for the works on the Sternthorpe Close playing field. Members noted that, following the September meeting, the deposit had been reduced to 5%, a sum of £5,400 (inc VAT) which had been paid. The Clerk had advised the contractor that there was no agreement in place for staged invoices and that the matter would have to be raised at Council.

After discussion, it was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Allen, that the Parish Council would not agree to staged invoicing and the account would be settled in full once the work was completed and inspected. Delegated authority was given to Councillor Allen and the Clerk to sign off on the work once complete, and if approved the Clerk was given delegated authority to settle the invoice.

(c) **Financial Report as at 30th September 2024**

Members noted the financial report which showed a balance on the current account of £86,049.47 and £104,529.75 n the deposit account.

24/083 Parish Council Matters

(a) To consider matters relating to Mill Close and flooding concerns of residents.

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.45pm to allow a resident of Mill Close to share their concerns following the flood event that saw properties on the Close flood.

The resident explained the action that had to be taken to ensure that a faulty flap valve which had been identified on an adjacent drain was repaired. The process had involved an official complaint by the resident, lobbying by Councillors Laughton and Mrs Michael, and then an escalation to the MP's office, following which the valve had been repaired.

The Chair referred to efforts to obtain information from the Internal Drainage Board, through District Councillor Mrs Michael, for data from the pumps that would reinforce and reassure that the pumps were operating in an optimal manner. This matter would continue to be chased, as would a meeting with the IDB to discuss the Cuckstool Dyke.

Discussion took place around organisations taking responsibility for the flood events in the village. The Chair explained that the Internal Drainage Board had responsibility up to the flood wall, after that the Environment Agency were responsible for the bank to the River Trent.

County Councillor Laughton was lobbying the Environment Agency at Regional Level to secure repairs to the flood wall off Ingram Lane.

The Chair thanked the resident for their input and reconvened the meeting at 8pm.

(b) To consider matters relating to the Great North Road Solar Park and JPAG

Councillor Smith referred to a recent meeting of the JPAG he had attended on behalf of the Parish Council. Information had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting following queries raised by Councillor Smith to the Chair of the JPAG.

Members noted that the JPAG were seeking to understand whether the Parish Council would contribute towards the retention of a Planning Consultant, with experience in responding to NSIP's, to respond to the formal consultation.

It was noted that a number of Parish Council's had agreed to contribute, with some still remaining neutral at the present time. The JPAG had agreed that no contribution would be sought from Parish Meetings.

The Chair reflected that the two main issues for Sutton-on-Trent, as highlighted in the survey, were the impact on flooding and wildlife. The Parish Council had maintained a neutral stance on the development and the Chair questioned whether that had changed or whether the neutral stance remained.

After discussion, it was proposed by the Chair that the Parish Council maintain its neutral stance and seek to retain a Planning Consultant to respond to the pre-examination and examination stage of the NSIP process based on the opinions of the community. This was seconded by Councillor Allen and AGREED.

The Clerk was asked to feedback to JPAG that the Parish Council would not be contributing to the costs of a planning consultant.

Councillor Smith and Keeton were asked to liaise on relevant Planning Consultants that may be able to provide a quotation for the Parish Council.

24/084 To receive updates and agree actions on the following matters:

- **Playing Field**
  Matters relating to the upgrade of the play area had been referred to under Minute No: 24/082(b). Members noted that the goal posts were still to be installed. Thanks were extended to Councillor Tyers for her work in clearing the play area.
- **Cemetery**
  A proposal to introduce Cemetery Regulations for the new section of the Cemetery would be brought to the November meeting.
- **Highways**
  Councillor Moody reported that the patching works on Great North Road would be done in December.
- **Community Speed Watch**
  Councillor Hadley asked if another request for volunteers could be placed in Unity and on the Facebook page.
- **Public Footpaths**
  Members noted that FP5 was now open.
- **Churchyard**
  There were no matters to report.

- **Village Hall**
  Efforts continued to be made to meet with Newark & Sherwood District Council.
- **Sports Club**
  Councillor Smith advised that the Treasurer had given notice that they would be resigning at the next AGM. That would only leave 5 Trustees in place, and to be quorate 5 Trustees had to attend each meeting. An article would be included in Unity for volunteers to come forward. There were implications for the Parish Council if the charity were unable to function due to lack of Trustees.
- **Library Support Group**
  Councillor Walker advised that all volunteers were being retrained in a new system that was being introduced. Other than that there were no matters to report.
- **War Memorial**
  The Clerk referred to the requirement for the position of the war memorial to be marked on the two locations that had been submitted as a pre-application to Newark & Sherwood District Council. Councillor Smith would look to progress and liaise with the Clerk.
- **Allotments**
  The Chair advised that a site meeting would be arranged and a report brought back to the November meeting.
- **Any other reports**

24/085 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) <u>October Newsletter</u>
A copy of the October Newsletter had been circulated to Members for information.

24/086 Correspondence

(a)

24/087 Items for Notification

(a) <u>Lamp Post Poppies</u>
Members noted that the poppies would need to be put in place before Remembrance Sunday, which was on 10th November 2024. Councillor Hadley agreed to co-ordinate with Members to ensure they were put in place.

Close: There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.03pm

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 12th November 2024 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.