SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Methodist Community Centre on Tuesday, 10th September 2024 at 6.30 pm.

Present: Councillor M Allen
Councillor B Blanchard (arr 7.51pm)
Councillor S Hadley
Councillor P Hibberd (Chair)
Councillor J Keeton
Councillor P Marshall
Councillor A Smith
Councillor S Tyers
Councillor Walker

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

24/062 Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest
Received and accepted from Councillor Moody and District Councillor Mrs Michael.

Councillor Walker declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 8.2.

24/063 Public 10 Minute Forum
The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.31pm for the public session.

A resident thanked the Clerk for the update on the closure of FP5, and noted that it would not be extended beyond the beginning of October.

A question was asked regarding the installation of the double yellow lines at Strawberry Fields, as the project had not yet started. A resident referred to the £6,000 received by the County Council as part of the Strawberry Fields development for the installation. The Chair confirmed that Councillor Laughton had been asked to raise this with Officers and feedback to the Parish Council.

A resident referred to the query raised regarding the use of land on Ingram Lane. The Clerk confirmed this had been logged with Planning Enforcement as it was a change of use of the land.

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

24/064 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th August 2024 and 25th June 2024
The minutes of the meeting held on 19th August 2024 were accepted as a correct record and signed by Cllr Marshall, as Chair of that meeting.

In relation to the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2024, after discussion it was AGREED these be accepted subject to the inclusion of a paragraph under Minute No 24/033 to read 'In terms of the survey, the Chair acknowledged that some of the questions could be viewed as biased, but that was open to interpretation dependent on individual perspective'.

24/065 District Councillor Report
(a) No report was presented as District Councillor Mrs Michael had given her apologies.

<u>To note the consultation on the siting of the Kiddey Stones</u>
Members noted the consultation on the siting of the Kiddey Stones.

24/066 County Councillor Report
The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.38pm for County Councillor Laughton's report.

Councillor Laughton advised that he had been appointed to the Environment Agency's Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, as Chairman of the Finance Committee. This would give Councillor Laughton better access to report problems with the compromised wall. The Chair advised that the Environment Agency had stated they had no funding to do the repairs and it had been left covered with a tarpaulin and sandbags. Councillor Laughton asked the Chair to forward correspondence to him.

Councillor Laughton asked the Parish Council if they could highlight any vulnerable people in the community that may suffer with removal of the winter fuel allowance. Newark & Sherwood District Council may be able to assist with benefits, etc, to support residents.

The Clerk referred to correspondence from Officers at Via giving an update on highways issue Councillor Moody had been liaising on. Works for Old Great North Road were currently scheduled for the 16th to 22nd November, provided there were no delays. In terms of Crow Park Avenue, works carried out were reactive maintenance to several category 3 pothole repairs. Via were aware of the condition of Crow Park Avenue and Councillor Moody would be kept updated.

Cllr Keeton referred to the condition of the carriageway adjacent to the A1 slip road. The Clerk advised this had been reported to National Highways previously, and would be reported again. Councillor Laughton advised that the matter be reported to the MPs Office.

The Chair thanked Councillor Laughton for his report and reconvened the meeting at 7.51pm.

24/067 Nottinghamshire County Council

(a) Lengthsman Local – Issue 3 – Newsletter

Members received and noted the Newsletter, a copy of which had been circulated to Members for information.

(b) Winter Service 2024/2025 – Offers of Assistance to Parish Councils

The Clerk was asked to accept the offer of assistance of winter salt from Via. Delivery to be made to Marshalls Coaches.

24/068 Planning

Applications

(a) **24/01422/S73 – Spikomat, Southside House, Old Great North Road, Sutton-on-Trent - Application for variation of condition 02 to substitute approved plans with amended drawings showing change the roof from cross gabled to hipped attached to planning permission 21/01418/FUL; Proposed extension to existing commercial premises**

Members considered the application and raised no objection to the proposals.

(b) **24/01329/HOUSE – Oak House, Grassthorpe Road, Sutton-on-Trent - Garage annexe to existing farm house**

Prior to consideration of this item, Councillor Walker removed herself from the meeting, as she had declared a personal interest.

After consideration, no objection was raised to the proposals.

(c) **24/01138/HOUSE – Scotfield, 59 Great North Road, Sutton-on-Trent - Conversion of the first floor of the outbuilding into an annex space**

Members considered the application and raised no objection to the proposals.

(d) **24/01107/HOUSE – 15 Station Road, Sutton-on-Trent – Single storey front extension**

Members considered the application and raised no objection to the proposals.

Decision Notices

(e) **24/01168/HOUSE - 20 Hemplands Lane, Sutton-on-Trent - Demolition of existing conservatory and garage with two new single storey side extensions and new double garage to the rear.**

Members noted the decision notice granting permission for the proposals as outlined.

(f) **24/00734/FUL – Hutchinson Engineering Services Ltd, Ingram Lane, Sutton-on-Trent – Re-cladding existing workshop/office building and raise eaves and ridge of western bay**
Members noted the decision notice granting permission for the proposals as outlined.

(g) **24/01107/HOUSE – 15 Station Road, Sutton-on-Trent – Single storey front extension**
Members noted the decision notice refusing permission on Conservation grounds.

Tree Works

(h) **24/01488/TWCA – 17 Rose Farm Drive, Sutton-on-Trent T1 - Ash tree – fell**

(i) **24/01477/TWCA – Sutton-on-Trent Post Office, 75 High Street, Sutton-on-Trent - 1 - Silver Birch Crown lift, roadside overhang reduction to 5.2m Reduce height by 4m T2 - Laburnam, Reduce crown by 2m on East side and rebalance laterals, remove ivy. T3 - Gleditsia, Remove back to sound timber. Reduction from 8m to 4m**

(j) **24/01306/TWCA – Millstone Cottage, Old England Gardens - Remove one Cedrus Deodara (Deodar Cedar)**
Members received and noted the applications for tree works.

24/069 Financial Issues

(a) To record Receipts -
There were none.

(b) The following invoices were approved for payment:

- Clerk's Wages – July & August 2024 - £608.50
- HMRC – July & August PAYE - £152
- Future Farming Ltd – Inv SI-340 - £1,060.80
- Sage - £12
- NPower – Telephone Box Electricity - £28.54, £106.32 & £66.41
- Sutton-on-Trent Methodist Church Community Centre – Room Hire Falls Group April to July 2024 - £260
- Sutton-on-Trent Methodist Church Community Centre – Parish Council Room Hire April to August 2024 - £108
- Community Heartbeat – Defib Pads - £76.74

(c) **Financial Report as at 31st August 2024**
Members noted the financial report which showed a balance on the current account of £83,797.10 and £104,152.78 in the deposit account.

(d) **To note the conclusion of the External Audit Review by PKF Littlejohn and actions required for the Notice of Conclusion of Audit**
Members received the External Auditor's report and noted that no issues had been raised. The Clerk would now place a Notice of Conclusion of Audit on the Parish Council's website and in the noticeboards.

(e) **To receive a report on the Council's bank accounts and mitigation of risk**
Members noted the Clerk's report outlining possible options to spread the Council's financial risk in relation to the £85,000 threshold of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

After discussion, the Clerk it was AGREED that a deposit account with Unity Bank be opened with a transfer of £85,000. Any further transfer of funds would be reviewed following the completion of the works to the Sternthorpe Close play area.

(f) **To approve the payment of a deposit to Bingham Ground Services in relation to Sternthorpe Close Play Area**
After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Keeton, seconded by the Chair, that the Clerk seek payment of a deposit amount of 15%, rather than the 33% requested by the contractor. This was AGREED.

24/070 Parish Council Matters

(a) To note the requirement to appoint a Fire Steward and to comply with the requirements to give a Fire Awareness Talk from the Methodist Community Centre

Members noted the requirement to appoint a Fire Steward to comply with the Methodist Community Centre's risk strategy. A copy of the Fire Awareness requirements had been circulated to Members for information.

It was AGREED that Councillor Hadley be appointed as Fire Steward. The Clerk would advise the Methodist Community Centre of the appointment.

(b) To consider a request from the WI to refurbish the bench and noticeboard at the WI Garden

Members noted the request from the WI to refurbish the bench and noticeboard at the WI Garden. After discussion, the Clerk was asked to bring indicative costs back to the October meeting, to include:

- Replacement of the paper map with a longer lasting material
- Painting of the bench
- New noticeboard

(c) To consider any matters in relation to the Great North Road Solar Park and Joint Parishes Action Group

The Clerk updated Members on the contribution sought towards a Planning Consultant to respond on behalf of all parishes once the application was submitted. No amount was available at the moment, as quotations were being sought, but a response in principle was requested. The contribution would be calculated on a population basis.

After discussion, it was AGREED that the Parish Council could not commit to any spend at the moment. No position had yet been taken on the proposals, and the Parish Council remained neutral. Further, Members did not feel that the objectives of JPAG were clear and there was a concern as to how a joint Planning Consultant would work, especially if there were different views on the proposals amongst the affected parishes.

The Clerk was asked to feed that back to the Action Group.

24/071 To receive updates and agree actions on the following matters:

- **Playing Field**
  Councillor Allen advised that a site meeting had been arranged with the contractor at 9am on Thursday, 12th September, at which a start date would be established. Councillor Smith referred to damaged fencing on site. Councillor Allen advised this would be removed.
- **Cemetery**
  After discussion, it was AGREED that draft regulations for the Cemetery be brought back to the October meeting, especially in relation to the new section.

  Councillor Marshall referred to the problems with rabbit infestation. The Clerk would seek advice from the ICCM and a pest control service.

  Councillor Keeton suggested that the bench adjacent the Cemetery railings was perhaps wrongly placed, as birds were roosting in the trees and causing a mess on it. Councillor Sloan referred to a bench that had failed near the Garden of Remembrance and suggested it be moved to that area. The Clerk was asked to progress this.

- **Highways**
  This matter had been covered under Minute No 24/066.

- **Community Speed Watch**
  There were no matters to report.
- **Public Footpaths**
  FP5 had been covered under Minute No 24/063.

- **Churchyard**
  There were no matters to report.
- **Village Hall**
  The Clerk advised that the District Council had again been asked to provide an update on the present position. The Chair asked to be included on any future emails sent to the District Council.
- **Sports Club**
  There were no matters to report.
- **Library Support Group**
  There were no matters to report.
- **War Memorial**
  The Clerk advised that pre-applications had been submitted to Newark & Sherwood District Council for the two sites previously discussed.
- **Any other reports**
  The Chair asked that Allotments be added to the list of items to be reported to Council on a monthly basis.

24/072 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) To note the arrangements for the Annual General Meeting

Members noted the arrangements for the Annual General Meeting of the Notts ALC, which would be held at the YMCA, Bowbridge Road, Newark on 12th October 2024. It was AGREED that Councillor Blanchard be appointed as the Council's Voting Delegate and that he also be put forward for a Long Service Award as he had served on the Parish Council for 45 years, since May 1979.

(b) September Newsletter

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

24/073 Correspondence

(a) The Clerk referred to correspondence circulated to Members from Elements Green regarding their Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy Grants.

24/074 Items for Notification

There were no items raised.

Close: There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.57pm

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 8th October 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.