SUTTON-ON-TRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Methodist Community Centre on Tuesday, 14th May 2024 at 7.30 pm.

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

In Attendance 2 members of the public, District Councillor Mrs Michael and County Councillor Laughton

25/001 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted by Councillor Keeton.

25/002 To Elect a Chairman of the Council – Civic Year 2025/26

The Clerk requested nominations for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council for the Civic Year 2025/26

Councillor Blanchard proposed Councillor Hibberd, seconded by Councillor Tyers. This was carried UNANIMOUSLY.

There were no other nominations.

Councillor Hibberd was duly elected as Chairman of the Parish Council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

25/003 To Elect a Vice-Chairman of the Council – Civic Year 2025/26

The Chairman called for nominations to the position of Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the Civic Year 2025/26

Councillor Marshall proposed Councillor Keeton, seconded by Councillor Allen.

This was carried UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chairman declared that Councillor Keeton was duly elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council and the Clerk would make arrangements for the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be signed.

25/004 To Nominate Representatives for the Village – Civic Year 2025/26

The following representatives were nominated to look after the areas below:

- Playing Fields – Councillor Allen
- Cemetery – Councillors Grayson, Marshall & Sloan
- Highways – Councillor Moody
- Community Speed Watch – Councillor Hadley
- Public Footpaths – Councillors Marshall & Moody
- Churchyard – Councillor Blanchard
- Village Hall – Councillors Hibberd & Tyers
- Sports Club – Councillors Allen & Moody
- Library – Councillor Walker
- War Memorial – Councillor Hibberd & the Clerk
- Defibrillators – Resident, Mr Hall

25/005 To receive and note any declarations of interest

There were none made.

25/006 Public 10 Minute Forum

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.35pm to allow for the public session.

A resident referred to the Targeted Consultation currently being undertaken by GNR Solar regarding changed which would affect Ossington Road. The resident questioned whether this was an appropriate junction for lorries to be using given the limited visibility over the railway bridge. The resident hoped the Parish Council would not be supportive of this usage.

A resident noted the planning application on the agenda that was a 'Permission in Principle' (PIP). To assist Members, the resident explained that this was a simplified planning application with the only information needed to be considered being the red line, in addition to location, the amount of development and land use. All other matters would be dealt with following the PIP, as used to be considered under Reserved Matters Approval (RMA). A PIP dealt with development of between 2 and 4 dwellings.

The Chair thanked the resident for their input and reconvened the meeting at 7.41pm.

25/007 To receive and approve the Minutes from the meeting held on 1st April 2025

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st April 2025 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

25/008 District Councillor Report

This item would be taken if and when District Councillor Mrs Michael arrived from her previous meeting.

25/009 Newark & Sherwood District Council

(a) To consider the Consultation on the Draft Methodology for the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment ('SHELAA')

Members noted the consultation on the Draft Methodology. After consideration it was AGREED that no comments were required, but notification would be requested when the 'call for sites' was made.

(b) To receive an update from Planning Enforcement in relation to Moorhouse Road, Weston and to consider correspondence from Egmanton Parish Meeting in relation to that

The Clerk referred to an email received from Planning Enforcements in relation to Moorhouse Road, Weston as below:

'Yesterday. (7th May 2025), the Council returned to court to seek an extension to the injunction previously obtained on land at Weston. The judge ruled in the Council's favour, extending the injunction until December 2026. The terms specified include a maximum cap on caravans and motor homes to 42 and a requirement that a list of all persons living on the site are provided to the courts within 2 weeks. This does not require the removal of the site but does restrict any further works until such time as the enforcement appeal is decided.

The District Council will continue to prepare its defence for this appeal and will keep residents informed. We are now in the hands of the Planning Inspectorate for when this will happen. This remains an incredibly challenging situation, and it is completely understandable that local residents are frustrated and concerned. We will continue to monitor the site given that breaching an injunction is a very serious matter.'

Members noted correspondence received from the Chair of Egmanton Parish Meeting seeking collaborative working with parishes who could be impacted by the development on Moorhouse Road, particularly in relation to service provision. After consideration, it was AGREED that the

Parish Council should work with its neighbouring parishes on this matter. The Clerk was asked to progress.

Councillor Laughton advised that he had been working with Weston Parish Council on the matter and outlined to Members the impact the injunction could have on those that continued to provide services to the infrastructure. It was understood that a planning application had been submitted to Newark & Sherwood District Council.

25/010 County Councillor Report

The Chair suspended the meeting at 7.56pm for Councillor Laughton's report.

Councillor Laughton understood that the Environment Agency were undertaking repairs to the flood wall. Councillor Marshall advised that the work to the wall had been completed, however, works were required to repair the flood bank. Councillor Laughton would liaise direct with Councillor Marshall on location.

Councillor Laughton advised that Reform were now the new administration at the County Council following the election on 1st May 2025. Councillor Barton had been elected as Leader, with Councillor Doddy as Deputy. Councillor Laughton had been elected Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group.

In relation to the GNR Solar, a written question had been submitted to the County Council for consideration and to determine the position of the new administration. A supplementary question had been submitted in relation to modern slavery, as the County Council had a slave labour policy in place.

The Chair thanked Councillor Laughton for his report and congratulated him on retaining his seat at the County Council.

25/011 Planning

(a) **Applications**

25/00728/PIP – Land at Lindens Farm, Great North Road - Application for Permission in Principle for Residential Development of Two to Four Dwellings
After consideration, Members raised no objection to the application as outlined.

25/00587/HOUSE – Lyndenhurst, Great North Road - Single storey detached building comprising a resistance swimming pool, gym area and changing/toilet facilities plus single storey detached workshop/storage area
After consideration, Members raised no objection to the application as outlined.

Decision Notices

24/02164/FUL – Oak House, Grassthorpe Road, Sutton-on-Trent - Erection of single storey garage and store room / farm office annexe to existing farm house
Members noted the decision notice granting permission for the development as outlined.

Tree Works

Members noted the following tree works:

25/00384/TWCA – The Coach House, 21A Palmer Road, Sutton-on-Trent – T1 Crab Apple – Reduce by 2m; T2 Apple Tree – Reduce by 2m; T3 Plum Tree – Reduce by 2m– NO OBJECTION

25/012 Financials

a) To record receipts:

- NSDC First Half Precept - £14,490
- NSDC – V E Day Grant - £300
- E Gill & Sons – Memorial Fees - £135

- VAT Return 2024/25 - £9,753.62
- NATWest Interest - £105.64

b) To approve invoices for payment:

The following invoices were approved for payment:

- IDB Drainage Rates - £6.11
- Future Farming – Grass Cutting - £1,136.50
- Clerk's Wages – April 2025 - £316.80
- HMRC PAYE – April 2025 - £79.20
- Sutcliffe Play – Swing Seats - £156.24
- Black Country Metal Works - V E Day Bench - £489
- Sutton Methodist Community Centre – Donation for V E Day - £100
- Signs of Cheshire – 50% Deposit for Noticeboard - £654

c) Financial Report as at 30th April 2025

Members noted that the balance of the current account as at 30th April 2025 was £65,033.33 and £105,456.20 in the deposit account.

d) To note the year-end balance of the 2024/25 accounts and their submission for internal audit

The Clerk advised that the year end balance of the 2024/225 accounts was £175,009.40 across the Council's accounts. Papers in relation to the year end account had been submitted for internal audit.

25/013 Parish Council Matters

a) To receive information from GNR Solar regarding a Targeted Consultation on minor additions made to the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) Order Limits

Members noted the Targeted Consultation which saw the use of Ossington Lane being proposed.

After discussion, the Chair proposed that objection be raised to this proposed change to the PEIR due to safety concerns around the junction. Members observed that the junction was within the 50mph limit at the base of the railway bridge, the Lane was used by cyclists, pedestrians and equestrians. To consider using this junction for slow moving heavy goods vehicles was considered a major risk to traffic on Great North Road, in addition to the risk to users of Ossington Lane.

b) To note events held to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of V E Day and ratify spend

Members noted that the events held to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of V E Day had been well supported. The Clerk was asked to extend thanks to Hutchinson Engineering for their support with the beacon lighting.

The Clerk advised that a grant of £100 had been made to the Methodist Community Centre for their V E Day event, additionally a memorial seat had been ordered for the Churchyard at a cost of £489.

c) To receive the minutes from the Safer Neighbourhood Group Meeting held on 24th April 2025

Members received and noted the minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2025 which had been circulated to Members for information.

25/014 To receive updates and agree actions:

a) Playing Field

To note repairs required to the play area

After discussion, it was AGREED that the Clerk liaise with Newark & Sherwood District Council regarding an inspection of the play area as works were required to the ropes.

Councillor Blanchard referred to the hedge along the boundary with the play area that was impacting visibility from Sternthorpe Close, additionally it was also impacting on a litter bin that had been encircled by the hedge. The Clerk would speak to the contractor to address this issue.

Discussion took place regarding litter bins on the playing field and it was AGREED that delegated authority be given to the Clerk and Chair to review provision and mandated a spend of £400 should it be determined that further bins were required.

b) Cemetery

The Clerk referred to queries raised by a member of the public in relation to the purchase of an exclusive right of burial. After discussion, it was AGREED that a site meeting be held to try and identify the correct burial numbers.

The Clerk referred to a previous exercise whereby the burial records had been scanned, but Members had then decided to not proceed with any further digitising of the records. Councillor Marshall proposed that a report be brought back to the June meeting with an updated quotation for all records to be made electronic, together with a cemetery management system.

c) Highways

Members asked the Clerk if the reasons behind an accident on Hemplands Lane, outside the Drs surgery could be established from the Police.

Councillor Marshall observed that the white lines had still not been renewed at the junction of Main Street and Carlton Lane. The Clerk advised this would be logged again.

Councillor Moody advised he was looking into a project to connect the Sports Club to the village. An initial meeting had been held with Via to look at the project which included a footpath, street lights and an extension of the 30mph zone. Via would be putting together a cost for a Feasibility Study which would need to be considered by Members. If the project were possible, the Parish Council would need to meet the cost of surveys and construction.

The Chair asked Councillor Moody to bring a detailed report back to the June meeting for consideration by Members.

d) Community Speed Watch

Councillor Hadley advised that it had not been possible to hold any monitoring due to a lack of volunteers. One new volunteer had come forward, and Councillor Grayson also asked to be considered as a volunteer. Councillor Hadley would liaise with PCSO Dunn on training.

e) Public Footpaths

Councillor Marshall referred to repairs required to the Clapper Gate on FP

f) Churchyard

Councillor Blanchard extended his thanks to Council for supporting the Churchyard with a new commemorative seat to mark the 80th Anniversary of V E Day. There were no other matters to report.

g) Village Hall

There was no report at this time.

h) Sports Club
Councillor Allen advised that there was a Charity Football match on Sunday, 25th May 2025. The football nets for Sternthorpe Close playing field were in the process of being sorted.

i) Library Support Group
There was no report at this time.

j) War Memorial
The Clerk advised that an updated quotation was still awaited.

k) Any Other Reports
There were none.

The Chair thanked Members for their reports.

25/015 Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils

(a) May Newsletter
Members received and noted the May Newsletter.

25/016 Correspondence
There was no correspondence to receive.

25/017 To receive items for notification
There were no matters to receive.

25/008 (cont) District Councillor Report
With the arrival of District Councillor Mrs Michael, the Chair suspended the meeting for her report.

Councillor Mrs Michael advised that the District Council had undergone a Local Government Authority peer review in 2024. A recommendation had been made for the Community Plan to be reviewed as feedback had been given that the District Council needed to focus on a greater extent on core business functions and less on the responsibilities of partners. All Committee Chairs had been asked to develop a fresh vision. A report would be brought to the next Full Council meeting.

The Chair thanked Councillor Mrs Michael for her report and reconvened the meeting at 8.48pm.

Close: There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.49pm

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 10th June 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.