

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH JUNE 2016
IN SULGRAVE CHURCH HALL AT 7.45PM

Councillors Present

Chris Jackson, Graham Roberts, David Walker, Christine Coles (Parish Clerk) and two villagers.

In the absence of Cllr Waite, Cllr Roberts agreed to Chair the meeting.

1a. Apologies

Cllr's Waite and Priestman, Janet Smith and Colin Wootton

1b. Declaration of Interest

No interests were declared.

2a. To approve and sign minutes of the meeting of 12th May 2016

This item to be carried over as Cllr Roberts and Cllr Walker were absent from the last meeting.

2b. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. To discuss a response to the SNC Local Plan Part 2A Options Consultation document

The deadline for responses has now been extended to 17th June. Some work has already been done by Colin Wootton as an independent villager. He has sent his own comments to SNC and has put a lot of information on the village website.

Councillors made general comments. The council agreed it would not be appropriate to see large new developments but they accept there will be some developments in the future which should only be on a small scale. The Parish Council are of the view that where such small scale developments take place they will be infill sites sympathetic in design to the village. The Parish Council would strongly object to back land development as at present most houses overlook the countryside. The Parish Council therefore concluded future development should either be by infill or on the axis of the roads.

Cllr Roberts noted that a housing needs survey was carried out in 2010. It was supported by the Parish Council and a report written at the time by SNC. The report stated a housing need was identified for 1 four bedroom and 2 two bedroom affordable homes. Since 2010 there has been infill development in the village and approximately ten new houses have been built which include houses of the appropriate mix.

The position would be much stronger with a village plan. The previous Parish Council had tried to start a plan but there was little support at the time.

Action: Cllr Jackson to prepare a response to SNC on behalf of the village. The Parish Clerk to confirm on the SNC website how many new houses have been given approval since 2010.

4. To discuss the transfer of land at the village shop

The village shop is owned by the Parish Council and the land behind owned by Mr Todd. Mr Todd is selling two houses behind the shop and has offered to transfer the strip of 2M which is currently used for storage of bin. Mr Prior, representing the Village Shop Committee stated the Committee have agreed to pay for the legal costs. Mr Thomas, a solicitor, who lives in the village did the work in preparing the shop lease and is prepared to do this work. The cost will be approximately £500.00 & VAT. The lease will need amending to include the new piece of land.

Cllr Jackson asked if the land will come with access and the answer was yes. Cllr Roberts asked about the maintenance of the border. Mr Prior stated The Shop Committee will take responsibility for that and the fence is in good condition.

Cllr Roberts proposed that the Business Terms and Conditions are signed. Cllr Walker seconded.

Action: Mr Prior to proceed and liaise with Mr Thomas as Cllr Roberts will be on holiday. Mr Prior to also speak to Mr Todd's solicitor about the titles for the land.

5. To discuss the pond report and future visits

Mr d'Ayala had produced a very thorough report. A little bit of work will be needed every now and again. The map defines the areas and Mr d'Ayala has asked to come back at the end of May/early June. A days work would cost approximately £150.00. Councillors agreed that Mr d'Ayala should return in accordance with his report. It was agreed to set a budget of £200.00 for his return visit.

From the floor, Jo Powell advised that she may know of someone who is interested in helping out at Pocket Park.

6. Councillors Reports

Cllr Jackson reported there have been no developments on the AY4 footpath.

Cllr Roberts gave an update on the street lighting project. Four lanterns have been put up. There have been some Local Authority and Maintenance issues which has mean the project has been delayed a few times. Materials were incorrectly delivered and highway licenses were required by the Highway Authority. The target completion date is now the end of June.

Cllr Walker asked the Parish Clerk if there is any progress on the verge of Magpie Road/School Street which was reported on Street Doctor. The Parish Clerk has to speak to NCC Highways.

Cllr Walker asked if any progress had been made about Banbury Model Aeroplane Club which operates from Thorpe Mandeville. The Parish Clerk of TM had advised this Parish Clerk to contact SNC direct as he was unaware of what had been agreed. It had been an informal arrangement with the land owner and as it is not a permanent structure, it is difficult to control. The Parish Clerk would seek advice from SNC.

Councillors spoke of drone they had seen flying over the village recently and the noise which was irritating and intrusive.

Action: Cllr Roberts to draft a set of words for the newsletter.

An objection was raised in respect of the HS2 petition. The House Of Lords Committee came out to Lower Boddington recently.

7. Finance

The following payments were approved:-

£855.25 to Came & Company (insurance)

£288.00 to RD Landscapes Ltd

£200.00 TO Rod d'Ayala (pond work)

£245.16 to Northants CALC (membership)

A couple of additional points were mentioned. The insurance premium is much cheaper than last year. Cllr Roberts has had to speak to Philip Daynes about the standard of grass cutting which had dropped.

To consider a financial request from South Northants Neighbourhood Watch

It was agreed to give a financial donation of £10.00 like last year.

To approve Sections 1 and 2 of Annual Return 2015/16

The Parish Clerk advised that the Internal Audit has been done. There were no matters to discuss. She presented Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return and they were signed by herself and Cllr Roberts. The appropriate public notices would be displayed soon.

7. Planning

One new application had been received:

S/2016/1091/FUL, Single storey rear extension at Grafton Lodge, Church Street. No objections.

A/2015/1582/FUL, Replacement agricultural barn, store and loose boxes at land north of Banbury Lane, Culworth (Appeal has been made).

8. Correspondence

- Northants Highways, Community Enhancement gangs. The gang will visit the village for one day soon.
- Northants CALC, New Salary Scales
- Library Resource Centre, New mobile library route. A new notice has been up on the board.

9. Open Forum

Cllr Roberts asked Jo Powell if there was an update on the repair of Castle Green Wall. Jo Powell to speak to Clare Pollak and Martin Sirot-Smith.

Complaints have been received about the storm drains. There was an exceptional amount of rain on Tuesday 7th June and quite a few drains appear to be blocked. The Parish Clerk to report to Street Doctor.

Cllr Roberts had received a complaint about speeding traffic on Banbury Lane, near Magpie Farm. It was agreed it needs to be reported to the police. The Parish Clerk to report.

10. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

Storm drains

Transfer of village shop land

Councillor Vacancy

11. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 14th July 2016 at 7.45pm at the Church Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm