

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 1ST MARCH 2018
IN SULGRAVE CHURCH HALL AT 7.30PM

Councillors Present

Chris Jackson (Chairman), Troy Daniels, Laura North, Neil Higginson and Will Priestman

18/30a. To receive apologies for absence

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk)

18/30b. To receive Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

18/31a. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2018

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st February 2018 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

18/31b. Matters Arising

Park Lane Street Sign - Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) advised that the preferred position for a replacement street sign was not on private property. The Parish Council will look to identify a more appropriate location for the replacement sign. Parish Council will also enquire into replacing the street sign on Helmdon Road.

Neighbourhood Watch - Cllr Higginson advised that the new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Carol Churchill was overseas on holiday and was not able to attend the meeting. He advised that she would be invited to a future meeting.

18/32. Public Participation Session

Mr Wootton raised concerns regarding the de-subsidization of bus services by the NCC. Mr Wootton raise the question as to what existing bus users will do once the bus services have ceased. The Chair noted that the Parish Council had provided comment on the cessation of bus services during the recent NCC budget consultation. The Chair advised that the Parish Council will make representations to the NCC again on the matter if the opportunity arose.

Cllr North raised concerns regarding speeding traffic along Banbury Lane at the 5-ways intersection. Cllr North discussed two recent traffic accidents which occurred in the area. Questions were raised by Cllr North as to what action the Parish Council could take. The Chair noted that the Parish Council could make a request to Northamptonshire Highways for signage or to see what could be done. Cllr Daniels suggested that the Parish Council make contact with the Parish Councils of Culworth and Thorpe Mandeville to see if they would be interested in jointly pursuing this issue with Northamptonshire Highways or pursuing funding through HS2.

Action: The Chair to contact Culworth Parish Council and Thorpe Mandeville Parish Council to explore their concerns regarding speeding traffic on Banbury Lane and identify any potential joint actions to address the issue.

Cllr Daniels advised that BT had removed the disused public telephone kiosk.

18/33. To receive an update on HS2

Cllr Faure attended the rescheduled HS2 Liaison Group Meeting. Cllr Faure will provide an update at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Mr Wootton advised that next week, in preparation for the construction of the HS2 area of the village website, he will be meeting with a HS2 engineer to find out more about the cutting which will be in the section of the HS2 line nearest to Sulgrave. Mr Wootton will add this information to the village website.

18/34. To discuss the new grass cutting contract

Cllr Higginson advised that the new grass cutting contract had been agreed and would commence in April 2018. Cllr Higginson offered to be the Parish Council liaison for the grass cutting contract. The Chair accepted this offer and thanked Cllr Higginson for his work on the tender.

18/35. To discuss excess gravel in Little Street

The Parish Clerk contacted Northamptonshire Highways regarding the excess gravel on the footpath and roadway in Little Street. Northamptonshire Highways advised that they may sweep the street again, but were not able to give advance warning of when that may occur. Parish Council discussion and input from the public highlighted that the only real option was for the Parish Council to address the issue itself.

Cllr North noted that due to the extreme weather conditions, the village litter pick scheduled for the weekend will be cancelled and rescheduled. Cllr North will place a revised date in the next village newsletter

The Chair noted that due to budget cuts at county and district council level, the Parish Council and the community may, in the future, have to take more responsibility for addressing issues as it may be easier for the community to do some things for itself. This included refurbishing the street signs in the village.

It was also noted by a member of the public that the drain on Stock's Green is collapsing with brickwork falling away. Concerns were raised about the safety impact this could have on workers mowing in the area.

Action: Cllr North to arrange a community sweep of the gravel in Little Street as part of the village litter pick once rearranged, and to advise the residents of Little Street via a letter box drop. Cllr North to arrange for the purchase of pick-up sticks for the next litter pick. Cllr Higginson to provide costs of refurbishing village street signs at the Parish Council's May meeting.

18/36. To receive an update and discuss the profit related rent agreement with SVS

The paperwork formalising the profit related rent agreement has been completed and is awaiting sign off from the Parish Council.

Action: The Chair to send a copy of the agreement to Councillors for their approval.

18/37. Finance

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

£35.50 to Texprep (newsletter copying)

£319.02 to Parish Clerk (hours)

18/38. To receive an update on Planning

- S/2018/0469/FUL, Demolition of existing lean-to and construction of a steel portal framed building for mixed agricultural and equestrian use at Sulgrave House, Little Street. To be considered by Councillors who will provide a response out of session.
- S/20180365/TCA, Reduce height and thin 2 trees at Oaktree House, Helmdon Road. No objections.

18/39. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received and distributed:-

- SNC, Funding Fair at Towcester Racecourse on 18th May 2018
- Keep Britain Tidy
- Libraryplus Mobile Library Service – Immediate withdrawal of service
- NCC, Draft notes of HS2 Liaison Group meeting held on 9th February

18/40. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

Councillors and members of the public were reminded that the next Ordinary Council Meeting would be held in May as the April meeting was the Annual Parish Meeting.

Neighbourhood Watch – Invitation to be offered to the new Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

Parish Council organised village improvements.

Any extraordinary issues may be raised by Councillors in the meantime by forwarding to the Parish Council Clerk.

18/41. Date and time of next meeting

Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 5th April 2018 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.10pm