

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2018  
IN SULGRAVE CHURCH HALL AT 7.30PM

Councillors Present

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

Christine Coles, Parish Clerk and four villagers

**18/113a. To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Faure (unwell), Cllr Priestman (holiday) and Janet Smith

**18/113b. To receive Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests to declare.

**18/114a. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

**18/114b. Matters Arising**

Cllr Daniels gave an update on the *defibrillator*. The unit will be installed on 19th November. Discussions are taking place with East Midlands Ambulance Service about a training session. It was agreed a list of instructions will be put in the next newsletter.

From the floor Mr Fonge spoke about the pond in *Pocket Park*. The area has been strimmed and the water level has gone down. The area is now dangerous and the gate has been locked. Mr Fonge recommended that the pond is filled and kept tidy. A mini digger could be hired to level the area off. Various plants and trees could be planted such as 3-4 trees, crocuses, daffodils and it would be an attractive feature at the end of Pocket Park. The area could be strimmed a couple of times a year. It was agreed a meeting will be arranged with George Metcalfe and Mr Fonge is to speak to others who were involved in raising money previously.

*Leaf clearing* - Four people turned up to clear the leaves from the Stocks area. Ian Cherry confirmed he is willing to have the leaves put in his field.

**18/115. To discuss self maintenance help jobs**

The leaf clearing session will be repeated again on 25th November and it is hoped that more people can attend to help out.

There are several self help jobs which have been supported in the past such as the gravel clearing in Little Street and annual litter pick. Councillors are currently not sure how much enthusiasm there is for other work and what needs to be done. It was agreed the footpaths could be tidied up.

*Action: Cllr Higginson to ask the current grass contractor if he will quote for the work which could be done in stages.*

**18/116. To discuss the SNC Part 2 Local Plan Consultation**

Mr Wootton advised that the pre-Submission draft of the South Northants Local Plan was considered by the Parish Council last year and representations were made to South Northants Council. The Local Plan has now been revised prior to submission to a Government Inspector for approval. The Parish Council and other interested parties have until noon on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November to submit further representations to SNC.

The new version of the Plan has been analysed with special reference to the confines line around the village, beyond which development is not normally permitted.

The only change which has been identified is an extension to the area within the confines lines at the rear of Kiln Farmhouse and Manor Cottages in Manor Road.

This extension was not the result of representations made by the owners of the land and contact with South Northants Council revealed that this change is something of an anomaly. If the Parish Council were minded to object to the change and formally request the reinstatement of the confines line in this area, this would be favourably considered by SNC.

*Action: Colin Wootton is to speak to the residents at Manor Cottages. The Chair to draft, circulate and write a response from the Parish Council. He thanked Mr Wootton for all his work on this.*

**18/117. To discuss speeding**

A report had been prepared by Cllr Priestman.

He has been in contact with Helmdon to look at the process they went through. Cllr Priestman has requested quotes from two local suppliers. There is the option of an add-on to download data on passing traffic but this would push the price up. Steve Barber of Northants Highways has agreed to make a site visit later in the month to look at the suggested positioning of the sign. He could be useful in moving the 30mph sign at the Helmdon end.

*Action: A meeting to be arranged between Steve Barber and two Councillors.*

**18/118. To receive an update on HS2**

The Chair noted that the funding application has now been submitted and was well written. He thanked Cllr Faure and Ingram Lloyd and everyone involved.

Mr Wootton gave the following update. Preliminary works are taking place near to the village, such as drilling for soil and subsoil samples, the establishment of compounds and setting out. The HS2 project manager anticipates that the contractors will commence the actual construction work in the Sulgrave area, comprising the Greatworth green tunnel and associated road bridges, in the second half of 2019. However, there is still much work to be done to finalize the design, programme and construction methodology.

The improvement work to the Greatworth junction with the B4525 should start in the new year, commencing with a compound set up and then progressing to the new junction layout. Misleadingly for Sulgrave inhabitants, both HS2 and the contractors continue to call this the "Sulgrave Junction", presumably because the road between Greatworth and the B4525 is known as "Sulgrave Road". This work should be completed by spring 2019. Just to reiterate that no improvement works are proposed for the Magpie junction.

The main impact of the construction work on footpaths in Sulgrave Parish involves footpath AY12, which commences just over half a kilometre south of the Magpie on the road to Marston St Lawrence. For almost 300 metres this footpath heads south east along the line of the hedgerow which encloses what might be called the large Magpie field. It then joins the footpath along the double hedgerow leading due east to the Stuchbury cottages. Footpath AY12 is right on the edge of the land to be taken for construction. Its fate is currently undecided and will be in the hands of the contractors. It may be that they can complete the work without disturbing it or they may apply for a closing order. Hopefully it will remain open at least until the middle of next year and possibly permanently.

**18/119. Finance**

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

£180.00 to P Lewis Ltd (tree work)

£870.00 to Brethertons (work on purchase of Castle Mound)

£166.70 to EON (street lighting)

£35.00 to Northants ACRE (membership)

*To start pre budget discussions for 2019/20*

Budgeted spend for the year is £16,259.50 and estimated spend is £16,205.62. The precept will have to be set at the next meeting in January.

Other possible spend for 2019/20 is work at Pocket park, building a budget for Castle Mound to include insurance and the trees. The trees on the Stocks Green could be checked at the same time as those on Castle Mound.

**18/120. To receive an update on Planning**

*S/2018/2361/LBC, Work at Sulgrave Manor.* Under consideration.

One new application was received after the agenda had been issued but is for information only. S/2018/2419/TCA, Remove branches of one apple tree and two cherry trees which overhang the garden of the Old Forge, Church Street.

The Chair has received a letter from SNC re the brick wall at the Old Shop. The Planning Department have been out and there is a planning breach but it is not significant enough for them to action.

**18/121. Correspondence**

The following correspondence had been received and distributed:-

Helen Du Bois, Clerk at Greatworth – Cheney Coaches

CDC/SNC, Empty Homes Week

Andrea Leadsom MP, Local Bus Services

The Chair spoke about the bus service. Cheney Coaches currently serve Greatworth and Chacombe and the Parish Council's pay £90.00 per journey to Banbury and back. The service runs weekly and is very popular. Customers are not charged. The Chair has asked if Sulgrave could join them and be an additional stop. He has also written to Culworth and Thorpe Mandeville. Thorpe Mandeville have replied to say they would like more information but they are concerned about costs as they have a small precept. To get an idea of passenger numbers an article will be placed in the next newsletter.

**18/122. Public participation session**

Mr Roberts reported the drains at the bottom of Little Street and Manor Road near Rectory Farm which are blocked. The Parish Clerk to report to Street Doctor.

The acrylic dome on the new street light at Chapelstone has water inside and is to be reported to TC Clark.

**18/123. Matters for consideration at the next meeting**

Update on bus service

Update on speeding

Setting of the precept for 2019/20

**18/124. Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 10th January 2019

Meeting closed at 8.30pm