

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 5TH JULY 2018
IN SULGRAVE CHURCH HALL AT 7.30PM

Councillors Present

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

Christine Coles, Parish Clerk and eight villagers

18/72a. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Faure (car breakdown), Graham Roberts and Janet Smith

18/72b. To receive Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

18/73. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2018 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

18/74. Matters Arising

Work on the AY4 footpath is complete and the tunnel has been blocked off. The Parish Council to enquire about signs for horse riders.

Park Lane signpost - A site meeting was held with Renata Wincott of SNC. It was agreed for the Parish Council to refurbish the old sign and re-site it. Mr Prior has agreed to donate the wood and Mr North will mount it.

18/75. Public Participation Session

Mr Fonge gave an update on Pocket Park. He has cleared nettles and wild rhubarb from the pond area and cleared the path between the two ponds. The bench is broken and needs to be broken up and removed. He suggested the Parish Council wait for one to be donated to replace it. The safety inspection of the play equipment was being carried out whilst he was there.

Blocked drains were mentioned in Little Street and Manor Road. This is a continuing problem and will be reported to Street Doctor.

18/76. To receive an update on HS2

Cllr Faure had sent a note to be read in her absence. A meeting was held last week with HS2 and village representatives. A meeting will be arranged with them in September which may be part of the Parish Council meeting or separate.

An application has been made to the Garfield Weston Foundation Anniversary grant for £45K for the provision of new toilets and kitchen facilities in the Church Hall. If successful the money will be paid into the PCC account where it will be ring fenced for the Church Hall project. The grant has to be spent by the end of 2020. Cllr Faure and Ingram Lloyd are still working on their funding application to HS2 but making slow progress.

18/77. To receive an update on the loss of the Dial A Bus Service

The Parish Clerk had contacted Helmdon Parish Council and several villages are looking into a scheme. Northants County Council are involved too. This will not be something the Parish Council can do on their own. Discussions will continue with neighbouring parishes, NCC and Northants CALC.

18/78. To discuss speeding

Speeding has been reported on the Helmdon Road and by the Magpie. There have been 2-3 accidents at the Magpie and a near miss on the Helmdon Road. The people living at the Magpie have a blind spot when coming out of their driveway and the speed limit is high on the Banbury Road. Helmdon have a new speed indicator device. This could be funded through fund raising, village contributions or using the remainder of the New Homes Bonus Grant.

Action: The Parish Clerk to ask Helmdon PC the cost of their speed sign. Cllr Daniels to contact the police and ask what enforcement action they would provide if a speed sign was installed. The Chair to write to Highways about the high speed limit on the Banbury Road.

18/79. To consider and approve the Data Map and adopt the following policies in connection with GDPR

The following policies including a data map which had been circulated prior to the meeting were all approved and accepted.

- Data Protection Policy
- Subject Access Request Procedure
- Data Breach Policy
- Records Retention Policy
- Privacy Notices

Action: Councillors are to complete the Security Compliance Checklist forms.

18/79. To agree the Parish Council contribution to the purchase of Castle Mound

The Parish Council have agreed to purchase Castle Mound from Mr and Mrs Pollak. It was agreed to spend £1000.00 towards the capital cost and £1000.00 towards tree maintenance from the Parish Council account.

From the floor Mr Sirot-Smith noted that they have looked at ways to raise the additional money. He was pleased that the Parish Council have agreed the spend of £1K on tree maintenance as this will bring the trees to a relevant and safe state. Some trees are dangerous. The target price is £5K and £1K is required to cover other expenses such as legal ones. The target price is £6K. Mr Sirot-Smith was pleased to advise that Sulgrave Charities will give £1.5K, the History Society £1K and Archaeological Group £1.5K. This means there is a shortfall and the Archaeological Group have enough funds to subsidise the full purchase. The village will be asked to make a contribution. This happened in 2006 and villagers were asked to buy bonds. They had an overwhelming response. More than enough was donated and the money was paid back. The village is very positive about protecting public open spaces. It is hoped the sale will be concluded by the Autumn and there will be a celebration by way of talks about the history and significance of the area. The Parish Council agreed for the Chair to contact a solicitor and progress the purchase.

Action: The Chair to contact Lewis Thomas (local solicitor).

Mr Grant who is purchasing the stables and paddock asked what the intended use of the Mound would be? He lives in a neighbouring property and enjoys the tranquil surroundings. The Chair replied that there are no plans to commercialise or develop the area. It may be used by schools for educational visits. A proper survey of the trees will be carried out as some are damaging the monument. Some level of replanting would be done carefully and there would be a long term management plan drawn up. Mr Grant confirmed that part of the terms of his sale will be access onto Church Street for occasional use.

Mr Sirot-Smith advised separately that the Castle Green Committee were sad to lose Christina Shillito but Mr Fonge has agreed to join the committee.

18/80. Finance

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

£20.00 to R Fonge (petrol expenses)

£35.50 to Texprep (copying of newsletter)

18/81. To receive an update on Planning

Three new applications had been received since the last meeting:

S/2018/1317/FUL, Replace single glazed windows with double glazing at Castle Hill House, Park Lane. The Parish Council do not object in principle but UPVC windows can vary in quality and appearance. They have suggested a condition is put in place requiring approval of the samples by the planning authority.

S/2018/1316/FUL, Demolition of rear garage block, kitchen and entrance vestibule, replacement single storey rear extension and new parking court with access at Castle Hill House, Park Lane. The Parish Council have objected to this application on the following grounds:

1. The contemporary extension on an elevation facing the street is not appropriate within the Conservation Area.
2. To add a second access and driveway area will mean losing the green verge, stone boundary wall and visible green space within the garden. These features are identified in the Conservation Area Appraisal as key features. There is a risk of loss of visual amenity to the adjacent Stocks Green.
3. Concern is expressed at the use of loose gravel on the new driveway and re-laid driveway. Drain gratings are present adjacent to and downhill from the property. Loose material entering the drains is an issue in Sulgrave. The Parish Council have suggested that resin bound gravel material or an alternative surfacing be proposed.

Due to the narrow nature of Park Lane there is concern about access during works and the potential for damage to the surrounding verges and Stocks Green. The Parish Council have proposed there is a condition relating to full reinstatement of any damage to be added to any consent.

The Parish Council do not object in principle to the removal of the existing garage provided the proposed boundary wall that replaces it is in a suitable material to maintain or enhance the appearance of the conservation area. The preference is for a stone boundary wall over a wooden fence. The Parish Council have asked the planning officer to reach an informed view on the impacts of visual intrusion on the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Castle Mound, immediately behind the property.

Several villagers were at the meeting who will be submitting their own objections.

S/2018/1340/FUL, Porch extension and internal alterations to the back hall. Replacement of existing summerhouse at Eagles House, Helmdon Road. No objections.

On a separate issue the Parish Council have received comments about building work to a red brick wall at Old Sulgrave Stores. This has been passed to South Northants Council for investigation.

18/82. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received and distributed:-

Northants CALC, Stakeholder Events

Pat Thomas, Pavements. The pavement is in School Street. It will be reported to Street Doctor.

HS2 Funds, Announcement of Funding

18/83. Matters for consideration at the next meeting

To receive an update on the purchase of Castle Mound
Speeding

18/84. Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 6th September 2018 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.15pm