

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2021  
IN MARSTON ST LAWRENCE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.45PM

Councillors Present

Richard Fonge (Chairman), Neil Higginson, Mike Powell and Will Priestman

Christine Coles, Parish Clerk and four villagers

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. It is hoped that meetings can resume in Sulgrave Church Hall in October.

**21/102. To receive apologies for absence**

None.

**21/103. To receive Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests to declare.

**21/104. Co-option of New Councillors**

Jen Castle and Sara Staples had both expressed an interest in becoming Councillors. Sara has lived in Sulgrave for three years. She has a HR background and worked for various industries. Jen has lived in Sulgrave for five years. She has two children and is a Detective Inspector. They were both co-opted and welcomed onto the Parish Council.

**21/105a. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2021**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

**21/105b. Matters Arising**

Village Library – The official opening is on 11.09.21 at 10.30am. People are using the library.

Work on Allotments – This will be carried forward to the October meeting as there is now a third quote to consider.

Wildflower planting - The best time to do this is in the Spring.

**21/106. To receive an update on HS2**

There will be a lot of traffic movement starting soon which is concerning for local parishes. At a meeting a few years ago attended by a previous Councillor in London, various concerns were raised about traffic. This will be raised at the next meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> September. Councillors feel they should be held to account and issues raised with them.

From the floor a villager noted that roads have been closed recently with no diversion or closed road signs. She has been late for two personal incidents because of it. This will be raised with HS2.

**21/107. To receive an update on supply problems with Anglian Water**

There was a severe pipe break in Helmdon Road in July and the village were without water for a long period of time during hot weather. The Parish Council wrote to OFWAT. The Chair got a letter from Anglian Water who have agreed to replace pipes and communicate in a better way with residents. From the floor a villager advised that he had raised the water issue with HS2 at their last meeting. Anglian Water have provided details of a Priority Service Register (PSR) for vulnerable customers. This detail was put in the last newsletter. Thorpe Mandeville have concerns too and Sulgrave will work with them. From the floor a villager had written to the Chief Executive of Anglian Water and received two emails back. He agreed that pressure needs to be applied.

**21/108. To receive an update on the idea of a flagpole**

A small amount of feedback has been received. Cllr Castle knows the people who live by the one in Helmdon and will ask them about any noise impact. Cllr Priestman has received a couple of negative comments. The top of Manor Road is the best location for the flagpole.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to get more details and costs.*

**21/109. To receive an update on Pocket Park**

The annual safety inspection has been carried out. The cost for Kompan to come out and fix the faults is very expensive. Some small faults have been rectified. The zip wire should be inspected independently. It was agreed to get a new sign for the park at a cost of £19.00. The local grass contractor will clear the pond at an agreed cost. A working party will do some work on 25<sup>th</sup> September. The play equipment which was last replaced ten years ago may need replacing in due course.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to find someone to inspect the zip wire. Cllr Castle to investigate new play equipment and costs.*

**21/110. To discuss a village litter pick**

Litter is not too much of a problem at the moment. A litter pick will be carried out later in the Autumn.

**21/111. To receive an update on the VAS**

Cllr Priestman has chased the moving of the 30mph sign at the Magpie Road end of the village. He will continue to apply pressure.

**21/112. To receive an update on work to the Church Hall**

The building work is not finished yet.

**21/113. To discuss Remembrance Sunday**

Last year the church was closed due to Covid. A silhouette soldier was bought and a service held outside and attended by 70 people.

*Action: The Chair to discuss the arrangements with the PCC.*

**21/114. To discuss the replacement village sign at the Magpie Road end**

A new village sign would have to be the same dimensions as the existing sign. The sign would need approval from Highways and the Regulations Team would be able to issue a license. It was agreed to ask for a replacement sign like the one on Helmdon Road.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to order a replacement sign via Street Doctor.*

**21/115. Councillors Reports**

No report was received from Sulgrave Manor.

The Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator has left the village and a replacement is needed. A note will be put in the next newsletter.

**21/116. Finance**

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

- £54.22 to Texprep (newsletter copying)
- £90.00 to West Northants Council (election costs)
- £594.00 to the Ground Care Company (grass cutting June/July)
- £6.90 to N Higginson (refurbish Remembrance Day Soldier)
- £120.00 to Playsafey Ltd (play inspection)
- £25.00 to South Northants Area Support Team (NW)
- £198.00 to The Ground Care Company (grass cutting August)
- £39.58 to Texprep (newsletter copying)
- £48.00 to Greatfield Plants (mixed bedding and top up compost)

- £160.00 to G Ratley (work to shelter in Pocket Park)

*To discuss the request for a donation towards the Church Clock service*

The PCC have asked for a donation towards the church clock service. The Parish Council are not allowed to support the Church in a monetary way as it is open to the public. This is advice from the Local Government Association. There may be other ways the village can raise money.

*Action: The Chair to reply to the PCC.*

**21/117. To receive an update on Planning**

The following tree application was received:

- WNS/2021/1280/TCA, Tree work at Fleet Farm, Little Street. For info only.

**21/118. To receive the following correspondence:-**

The following correspondence had been circulated:

- Brackley Police Station, Introduction letter. A meeting will be arranged with PC Carter.
- EON, Change in energy prices from 1st September 2021

**21/119. Public participation session**

A villager asked if the welcome pack could be reintroduced. Cllr Castle offered to produce one with help from Cllr Staples.

The Mercian Rally was discussed as complaints were received and an email was received back. Crews are briefed to drive quietly through villages. This will be enforced by placing a Driving Standards Officer in the village.

**21/120. Matters for consideration at the next meeting**

Ideas for the Platinum Jubilee

Replacement Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

**21/121. Date and Time of next meeting**

Thursday 7th October 2021 at 7.30pm in Sulgrave Church Hall

Meeting closed at 8.35pm