

SULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER 2024  
IN SULGRAVE CHURCH HALL AT 7.30PM

Councillors Present

Richard Fonge (Chairman), Sarah Parker, Jo Peppiatt, Mike Powell, Will Priestman and Sara Staples

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), District Cllr Alison Eastwood and five villagers

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He asked everyone to remember Mrs Viv Higginson who had passed away.

**24/121. To receive apologies for absence**

Tony Keatley and Colin Wagman

**24/122. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**

No interests were declared.

**24/123a. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

**24/123b. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda**

- Increasing number of Councillors - The mechanism to make changes is called a Community Governance Review. WNC are currently in the final stages of completing a review which commenced in September 2023. The review covers a number of parish areas but not Sulgrave. The next review will not take place for some time.
- Update on the Star PH – The Chair wrote to HNB and the pub should be open within two weeks.
- Update on street lamp 14 – The light has been fixed.

**24/124. To receive an update on HS2 work**

There is no update on road closures. Banbury Road is meant to be shut for four weeks but there may be further delays with the recent flooding. Funding for projects in the village was discussed. It is a three stage complicated process. It was agreed to ask for £25-30K.

*Action: Cllr Staples and the Parish Clerk to meet to look at the funding paperwork.*

**24/125. To receive an update on the library**

All the work has been done and thanks was given to Cllr Peppiatt. The Chair also thanked everyone else who had been involved. The official opening is on 19<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am. It was agreed that money collected from the box (£9.95) will be donated to the Children's Society.

**24/126. To receive an update on 'The Chronicles of Sulgrave'**

A couple of mistakes were made in the article which have now been corrected.

**24/127. To receive an update from Sulgrave Manor**

The village shop celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> year recently with a drinks party. The Manor was booked but then the booking was cancelled. Celebrations had to happen elsewhere which caused ill feeling. The Chair wrote to Carole Souter and she met him and Cllr Priestman for coffee. There is a new policy at the Manor. They have an appointed caterer who is offered first refusal to cater for events. There was a miscommunication in this case. The relationship between the Manor and village was discussed. There is a new person in charge of bookings and a new schedule of charges. The charges will be publicised. The Manor is a valuable asset and will work in harmony with the village. There will be better communication and more information put in the newsletter.

Next years programme will be put in the January newsletter.

**24/128. To discuss the Remembrance Day Service**

The normal service will take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am as in previous years. Graham Roberts has spoken to the RBL at Wappenham. The soldiers will be put out and the wreath ordered. Collection boxes will be put in the shop and pub (if open). A door to door collector is required in Sulgrave.

**24/129. To discuss the arrangements for the Christmas Tree**

The Chair normally buys a tree from D Wilcox in Brackley. In the past it has been placed on Castle Green and the Church Hall car park. The same size tree will be purchased. From a practical point of view the car park is the better option to place it with access to electricity nearby. To be discussed more in November.

*Action: The Chair to ask Danny Webster if he can prepare the food for an event in December.*

**24/130. Finance**

*The following payments were approved under statutory powers:*

- £60.00 to CPRE (membership)
- £70.10 to Texprep (newsletter copying)
- £234.00 to Complete Ground Management (grass cutting)
- £59.00 to R Fonge (bookcase for library)
- £21.44 to R Fonge (castors for bookcase)
- £29.83 to R Fonge (expenses from meeting with Sulgrave Manor)
- £389.98 to Jo Peppiatt (rug and tape for library)
- £396.00 to Mr Treehouse and Mr Zipwire Ltd (zip wire service)

**24/131. To receive an update on Planning**

No planning applications had been received.

**24/132. To receive the following correspondence**

- Kier Ltd, Urban Highway Grass Mowing 2024. A new agreement has been emailed and the sum of £510.09 offered towards conducting the works. The amount may be reduced due to budget cuts. It was agreed the agreement should be signed.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to sign the agreement and return to WNC.*

- WNC, Road closure on Helmdon Road 28th October to 7th November. Content noted.

**24/133. To receive Councillors Reports**

The zip wire in Pocket Park was serviced recently. The chain and shackles were replaced. A working party will meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 10am to cut back the path. A villager has cut back the long grass and been thanked.

Gigaclear are working in the village and for those signed up, its faster and reliable. There are some outer lying properties which are not able to be served by Gigaclear.

*Action: Cllr Powell to speak to Gigaclear.*

**24/134. Public participation session (Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of fifteen minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes)**

The bridge over the stream near the railway line has been washed away. It is dangerous.

*Action: The Chair to speak to the landowner.*

**24/135. To consider matters for the next meeting**

Christmas and the tree

**24/136. To note next meeting date and time**  
7th November 2024 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.20pm.

DRAFT