

South Croxton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1st April 2019 at 6.00 pm in South Croxton Village Hall

Councillors present: Cllr JoAnn Charles, Cllr Elizabeth Norton,
Cllr Paul Gant, Cllr Steve Goodger,
Borough Cllr Daniel Grimley

In attendance: Clerk– Mr SC Johnson, one parishioner

Meeting opened at 6.00pm.

1. Welcome

Cllr Charles opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Richard Stokes, County Cllr Brenda Seaton.

3. Disclosure of Interests by Councillor for this meeting

No disclosure of interests declared

4. Agree minutes of meeting held on 4th March 2019

The minutes were unanimously agreed and were duly signed – Clerk to file and add to website.

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Cllr Grimley joined the meeting. He gave a report on current housing development progress in Charnwood including application status. Thurmaston and Barkby applications due. Mention of Student flats development on Loughborough. Cllr mentioned Charnwood grants now available confirming information on earlier email. It was suggested that the VH apply as they are eligible. Cllr Grimley was thanked by the Chair for his input to the meeting and left at 1855 hrs.

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5. Matters arising from minutes of meeting held on 4th March 2019

a) Traffic Cones are now in place in front of the pub to discourage parking in that area.

b) Greenhouse in field to be reported to Charnwood Borough Council

c) A letter to be written to Village Hall explaining no further monies are available until the next Small Grant issue in November 2019.

Though the matter will be discussed further by the Parish Council it was established that the existing arrangement of the CCF grant is not based on VH finances but is a fund which any Village organisation may apply to.

d) It was requested that the Clerk endeavours to locate a map of the South Croxton Drainage system serving Main Street to facilitate monitoring of applications for works made to LCC.

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Confirmed:

Chairman

Date:

- e) Clerk to email Councillors to establish a suitable work day for all to help carry out tasks advised by the ROSPA report.
- f) Clerk will distribute Defibrillator advisory information during the coming week.
- g) The Play a Part Grant has been awarded. Rural Community Council (RCC) who will be assisting the Parish in carrying out work on this project have been informed of the successful grant application.
- h) Bonfire site on the playing field has been cleared by the newly engaged grass cutting contractor in preparation for his work during the year.

6. Planning Updates

The Planning monitoring sheet was updated to show that the application number P/18/2481/2 has been granted subject to conditions. A new application number P/18/2101/2 has been submitted for a day room on the Travellers site. Parish Council viewed the documents provided for this application and consider there is insufficient information on the drawings to enable an assessment to be made. The 'reply by' date is 16th April 2019. Councillors considered the options for action including consulting solicitors about a letter of objection only; it was noted that reserve funds for this possibility was available. In the first instance advice would be obtained and should it be feasible then Councillors would be consulted individually as to their agreement before proceeding. Clerk to prepare an objection to the application from the comments made by Councillors at the meeting and coordinate with Solicitor if appropriate.

7. Election Update

Councillors are aware of the latest date of submission of their nomination papers (4pm Wednesday 4th April), some already made have been acknowledged as satisfactory while others await that notification.

Councillors retire on 8th May 2019. Consideration was given to the signing of a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Members Interests form against the dates of the May Annual Parishioners Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

It was agreed that the Clerk as Proper Officer should witness the signing by of the relevant papers as soon as possible after the 7th May with the Annual Meetings then to be held on 22nd May 2019.

8. Financial Matters

- a) Bank Accounts and Reserves are shown on spreadsheet summarising the Cash/Budget position to the year end was presented to the meeting.
- b) In a quarterly balance sheet for December to March 2019 the pence column balances differ as bank statements showing interest payments are awaited. A summary of the budget achievements for the year are also demonstrated. Cllr requested sight of the full spreadsheet for the cash book – clerk to action. It was noted that the AGAR sheet 2 was to be prepared in time for the Audit.

Confirmed:

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c) Cheques to be signed

HMRC	£ 31.60
Clerk Wages	£126.49
PBS Office Copying	£ 12.00
TP Jones (Payroll)	£ 54.00

Cheques were signed against invoices – invoice not available for PBS Office.

9. Playing Field

Pictures of preparatory work carried out by the grass cutting Contractor showed a considerable improvement in the condition of the site, including clearance of the bonfire area and preparation for seeding. Clerk to write to contractor with thanks for the work being carried out. Clerk to circulate Councillors with possible dates for ROSPA works to be carried out.

10. Awards for All – Grant

The grant has been awarded. The money is to fund a feasibility study with priorities of looking at access to the playing field (too steep), review the play equipment, possible levelling of the field, and establish the need for fencing. The study will be a public consultation which engages with the community and will need partners to be involved with the process. The long term objective is to access further funding to implement improvements.

11. Correspondence received

An envelope containing relevant correspondence was circulated at the meeting.

12. Opportunity for members of the public to speak

A parishioner suggested that there was a need for more openness to be seen in the functioning of the Parish Council to enable people to understand what decisions were being made, especially in planning and financial matters. Concerns were expressed about confidentiality for Members of the public. Cllrs highlighted the Website as a means of circulation of information and the advent of the General Data Protection Regulations last year regarding confidentiality. Work was progressing on communicating directly via email with parishioners on important issues.

13. Items for inclusion as future agenda items

None

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting will be the Annual Parishioners Meeting at 6.00pm followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 6.30pm on Wednesday 22nd May 2019.

This meeting closed at 1955 hrs.

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Chairman

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