

STENSON FIELDS PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 15th February 2024 at 7.15pm in
Fields Primary School**

Participants: - Cllrs C Fellows (Chair), I Baker, P Richardson, D Morris and B Broadhurst

In attendance: - DCllr David Shepherd, Steve Hawkrigde (Lengthsman), J Irons (clerk) and one resident.

1867/23 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Cllr GS Dhillon (unwell) & DCllr Lakhvinder Singh (at a SDDC meeting).

1868/23 **VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:** none

1869/23 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:** None.

1870/23 **To determine which items if any from Part 2 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.** None.

1871/23 **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

DCllr Dave Shepherd.

1. SDDC's Finance Committee is currently discussing council tax and social housing numbers; we need council houses in our area as we presently have none. SDDC may have to access reserves to accommodate these needs and the government's New Homes Bonus is another source of funds although this may be scrapped. District council wish to see 30% of housing as affordable but developers are more interested in building expensive homes. Erewash and Amber Valley will take up most new housing demand. The City cannot extend its boundary to include such houses.

2. DCllr Shepherd wrote to the health authorities insisting on the requirement for medical facilities, especially as the Cardwell Centre has been postponed. He and county council will now have quarterly meetings to discuss. Education and health provision is vital. He will also raise the issue of possibly extending the Arleston Lane practice.

3. DCllr Singh spoke to inspector Sisman at the police about ASB; they seem to act in other villages such as Repton & Hilton, but not ours. Members agreed that we need a visible police presence as a deterrent.

4. potholes (also see below). Wragley Way is badly broken up despite being repaired 3 weeks ago; DCllr Shepherd wrote to Chris Smith at SDDC Safer Neighbourhoods to pursue. It seems the City is more proactive as it has a department to address this.

5. the land strip issue at Rowan Close is still not resolved as county council has not progressed it. County has written to the resident twice but without reply.

DCllr Shepherd kindly provided responses from DCC to his enquiries over outstanding issues including the following:

- *Potholes and resurfacing requests at Pilgrims Way, Wragley Way, Garry Close, Tynedale Chase and Grampian Way;*
- *Surface strip of land at Rowan Close;*
- *Use of land for loading on/off of transporters & parking cars at Twyford Green (junction of A5132) and separate signage issues here;*
- *Overgrown vegetation & repairs at canal bridge, Barrow-on-Trent;*
- *Consideration of a mini-roundabout at the junction of Wragley Way/ Stenson Road and a pedestrian crossing on Stenson Road (opposite Pilgrims Way). Highways stated that it has no intention of installing either.*

Cllr Morris believed the birch tree at Goathland Road near the junction of Beaufort Road to be dangerous and needs trimming. DCllr Shepherd thought that this may be a county council tree but will check. A member asked DCllr

Shepherd about his visit to Dulverton Close (possible land grab) with an inspector; DCllr Shepherd awaits his reply. In the meantime, clerk to ask SDDC of any progress made and state we wish it to be followed-up robustly.

Cllr Richardson rued the state of the large pothole on the road near the Ragley Boat Stop, which had a traffic cone placed over it and which has now disintegrated.

After the chairman thanked him for his report DCllr Shepherd left the meeting at 8.05pm.

1872/23 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th January 2024. Resolved:** agreed after one minor amendment was made.

1873/23 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS** the chairman attend the recent DALC Forum which, among other items, discussed the climate crisis; we may have to adopt some of these principles. Also, councillors are required to create a '*gov or org uk*' email address for council matters and not a personal address; clerk to investigate.

1874/23 **CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Clerk had circulated an Action List prior to the meeting over the progress of ongoing issues of which several items were amended, added or require following up.

2. new benches. The location of the first at Zetland Crescent/ Pilgrims Way has been agreed by SDDC. District suggested a slightly different location for the one at Hambledon Drive to that provided by Cllr Richardson.

Resolved: clerk to ask SDDC whether our preferred location is acceptable.

1875/23 **Matters for Discussion:**

a) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety. SNT visited Wragley Way with a 'speed gun' to deter speeding drivers on 19th January. Cllr Broadhurst saw a police van with the same intention on the same road although on the City side. Clerk to raise e-scooter nuisance with the police and copy DCllr Shepherd.

b) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. Members wish to know how much of the balancing pond has been adopted and clerk asked DCllr Singh after the last meeting. Clerk to ask both him and DCllr Shepherd again adding that we think warning signs are appropriate because of the danger posed, especially to children.

c) Lengthsmen Scheme. Steve Hawkridge gave the following report:

- The litter bin on Goathland Park has been replaced.
- A bin is still required at the bus stop on Grampian Way (near Kirkland Drive) although the clerk said this is on order.
- Preparation for a new bin at the railway bridge (Devil's Triangle) has been done.
- Clean Tean says that inner bins cannot be replaced, they come as one unit. Steve asked them for keys for access but they have none. Clerk to ask SDDC for square bin keys.
- A door on the notice board on Arleston Lane has been replaced.
- SID on Grampian Way is not working.
- A drain cover on Wragley Way has been fixed although one remains to be done.
- A bus stop on Grampian Way has 2 side panels missing; DCllr Shepherd will report.
- Grass to the left of Wragley Way junction with Stenson Road has been cut.
- Signage for bumpy pavement near the A50 on Stenson Road has been put back; DCllr Shepherd will ask whether a warning sign is needed.
- Potholes are reappearing on Wragley Way.
- Jane & Steve will be on holiday from 29th February to 6th March.

The chairman thanked Jane & Steve for their continued service.

d) Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins, etc). Clerk to ask SDDC when the road sweeper will visit again to clear the gutters. 2 trees, one at 24 Blankney Close and the other at 12 Goathland Road are overgrown; clerk to ask the tree officer to inspect. Severn Trent's barriers & mounds of earth still remain at Glenmore Drive; clerk to ask ST again to remove.

e) Possible employment of a private freighter/ skip refuse service. Clerk received no response from Rainbow Waste so will now contact Wilshees Waste at Burton.

f) Update on a new bus shelter on Wragley Way. No update from DCllr Singh as yet.

g) Update on the SID on Wragley Way. **Resolved:** clerk wrote to the 4 residents on Tedworth Avenue in answer to their letter and invite them to tonight's parish meeting, but no one did so. The SID on Grampian Way has malfunctioned again; clerk to inform the supplier.

h) Possibility of a new defibrillator at the community centre. Cllr Broadhurst's application to the British Heart Foundation was declined so clerk will ask them why.

1876/23 PLANNING

To consider planning application:

DMPA/2024/0148 - Retrospective application for the erection of a 2m high fence and change of use from highway verge to residential use at 31 Beaufort Road, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** clerk to ask SDDC whether the resident owns the land and if this fence will hinder or obstruct the view of oncoming traffic.

Decision

DMPA/2023/1594 - The erection of a rear ground floor extension and conversion of the garage into living accommodation at 9 Lupin Close, Stenson Fields. Approved subject to conditions.

1877/23 Finance for payment

(a) Accounts to be approved and paid via internet bank transfer.

Reference	Payee-	Total £
15 th Feb	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 12 th January	908.48
15 th Feb	J Irons – clerk's expenses January - February*	48.20
15 th Feb	J Hawkrige - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 12 th January *	302.01
15 th Feb	S Hawkrige - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 12 th January	254.23
15 th Feb	HMRC – employees' tax & NI January - February	275.36
15 th Feb	DCC – clerk's pension return in February	296.94
	TOTAL	2085.22

*expenses comprise the following:

Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return (28 miles at 0.65p per mile) on 15th February to attend the February meeting

£ 18.20

Clerk's home allowance (£24 per 4-week)

£ 24.00

Book 2nd class postage stamps on 22nd January

£ 6.00

£ 42.20

J Hawkrige – bin bags

£ 47.98

(b) Income: Bank interest on 31st January

£ 206.19

(c) Bank balance as at 31st January

£ 47581.82

1878/23

TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

None.

1879/23

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Clerk had circulated recent DALC newsletters and updates and other items from county & district councils.

1880/23 Agenda items for the next meeting.

- Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety;

- Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road;
- Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins, etc);
- Lengthsmen Scheme;
- Action List;
- Possible employing of a private freighter/ skip refuse service;
- Update (if any) on a new bus shelter on Wragley Way;
- Update on the SIDs on Wragley Way and Grampian Way;
- Update on a new defibrillator at the community centre;
- Change of councillor email addresses.

1881/23 **Date of next meeting** – the next meeting will be held at Stenson Fields Primary School on Thursday 21st March 2024 at 7.15pm.

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

Signed.....C Fellows (Chairman) Date.....