



## South Leverton Parish Council

### Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the **Meeting of South Leverton Parish Council** held on the 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021 at South Leverton Memorial Institute, the meeting commenced at 6:00pm.

**Council Members & Officer Present:**

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Cllr Pete Beeston    | Chairman            |
| Cllr Catherine Hoyle | Cllr Dan Styring    |
| Cllr Agi Tomlinson   | Cllr Chris Buckland |
| Cllr Andy Hardie     |                     |

**Also, Present**

|                         |                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ed Knox                 | Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer |
| Dist Cllr Ant Coultate  | District Councillor                 |
| 0 Members of the Public |                                     |

49/21 To Elect a Chairman of the Council

Cllr Hoyle **Proposed**, Cllr Hardie **Seconded** that Cllr Beeston be Chairman until May 2022. Therefore, the Council **resolved** that Cllr Beeston be elected Chairman. Cllr Beeston together with the Proper Officer, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman form.

50/21 To Elect a Vice-Chair of the Council

Cllr Tomlinson **Proposed**, Cllr Buckland **Seconded** that Cllr Tomlinson be Vice-Chair until May 2022. Therefore, the Council **resolved** that Cllr Tomlinson be elected Vice-Chair.

51/21 To Approve Apologies for Absence

After discussion, Cllr Beeston **Proposed**, Cllr Buckland **Seconded** that the Council approved the apologies of Cllr Chambers

52/21 To Record Declarations of Interest in any items to be discussed

None.

53/21 To Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting

After discussion, Cllr Hoyle **Proposed**, Cllr Buckland **Seconded** that the minutes be approved and the council **resolved** to accept the minutes. The chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record.

54/21 To Receive District & County Councillors Reports

**Dist Cllr Coultate:** Has concerns over the lack of policing in eastern Bassetlaw, with just 2 officers in the areas, Cllr Coultate advised that the two officers are doing the best they can but are overstretched and is taking up these concerns with the Police Commissioner. Cllr Coultate mentioned that PC Mitchell is looking for hotspots for speeding occurrences and the best times and locations to undertake this. A request to be made that the Police Speed teams visit Retford Road to undertake speed checks between 08:45 and 9:15. Cllr Coultate added, should anyone see poaching taking place they should call 999. West Burton Power Stn Working Group in the area are a group of residents who are working with EDF regards the future of the power station site. Cllr Coultate mentioned the proposed solar farms in the wider area and that the companies involved are about to start consulting with the local communities. Cllr Coultate is attempting to get an EDF community forum meeting resurrected with regards to Cottam. Lastly, Cllr Coultate advised that the Parish Council may wish to apply for a small Dist Cllrs grant application. The Council are about to refurbish the Parish Council civil burial ground in readiness for interments to start, and will make an application towards the various costs for this.

**County Cllr Ogle:** Did not attend

➤ Adjournment for Public Forum

None.

55/21 Finance:

Monthly Income & Expenditure

After discussion of the financial information circulated by email before the meeting, Cllr Tomlinson **Proposed**, Cllr Hardie **Seconded** and the council the council **resolved** to accept them as a true and accurate record. Direct Debits, and Standing Orders for staff salaries including PAYE, all **approved** unanimously.

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

| <u>Payee</u>                 | <u>Item</u>                             | <u>Amount</u>           |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| South Leverton Memorial Hall | Hall Hire Meetings 2021-22              | £60.00                  |
| Home Bargains                | Paper                                   | £2.99                   |
| Glasdon UK Ltd               | Replacement Bench – Retford Road        | £764.33                 |
| Gallagher Ltd                | Insurance Renewal 2021                  | £369.32                 |
| Wilko                        | Wood Stain for Bench Maintenance        | £30.00                  |
| B&Q                          | Bin Liners – for Litter Picker          | £7.94                   |
| Clerk (Soft Talk Ltd)        | Memory Stick Repair & Replacement       | £13.44                  |
| Clerk (HM Land Registry)     | Land Registry Search                    | £6.00                   |
| Royal British Legion         | Poppy Wreath 2021                       | £17.50                  |
| Groundwork UK                | End of Grant Refund of underspent funds | £637.54                 |
| <b>Total Payments</b>        |   | <b><u>£1,909.06</u></b> |

2. Receipts:

| <u>From</u>                 | <u>Item</u>   | <u>Amount</u>            |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Sturton Parish Council      | Share of 2021 Notts County Council Lengthsman Grant | £962.50                  |
| HMRC                        | VAT Refund 2021                                     | £507.12                  |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>       |   | <b><u>£1,469.62</u></b>  |
| <u>Bank Balances</u>        |   |                          |
| The Current Account Balance |   | <b><u>£15,745.50</u></b> |
| The Deposit Account Balance |   | <b><u>£5,708.59</u></b>  |

56/21 To Progress Work at the Burial Ground

After discussion, Cllr Hardie agreed to continue to be the main coordinator of the project. A Yew Tree hedgerow has been agreed as the boundary marker along the majority of the boundary between the Churchyard and the Parish Council Burial Ground, leaving a suitably sized gap at either end for pedestrians, funeral internments and for mowers to access. Once the Yew's have been plated these will be the responsibility of the Parish Council to maintain to form a neat and suitably tastefully sized hedge, the Lengthsman and/or a contractor will be used once the desired height and width has been achieved, to ensure the hedge is maintained on an annual basis.

The Council resolved that Cllr Hardie will arrange a working party to undertake the purchase and installation of the Yew's as soon as possible and that between Christmas & New Year the working party will cut back/remove/reinstate the overgrown vegetation on the north, east and south boundaries of the burial ground to return it to a decent respectful state, including the removal of the waste, the derelict shed, litter bunker, mounds of earth near the shed and removing all vegetation covering the Cremation Wall of Remembrance.

The remaining items then for 2022 to be:

- *Install a suitably worded sign on the fence welcoming visitors to South Leverton Parish Council Burial Ground and providing contact details for the Clerk.*
- *To investigate if the Parish Council water tap hidden in the undergrowth is still in working condition and if necessary, repair/replace it.*
- *Authorise Cllr Hardie to form an informal working party tasked with arranging the necessary works to completion.*
- *Replacement of the bench*

In the meantime, the Clerk to write a letter to the two properties boarding the Burial Ground to let them know of the refurbishment works taking place.

57/21 To Progress the Possibility of a Parish Council Playground

The Clerk wrote to 3 local land owners. After discussion, the Council resolved that Cllrs Styring & Buckland be the lead on this project and they will approach the landowners to ascertain what is possible regards leasing or donating any land for a play park.

58/21 To Approve a Scheme of Delegation

When a planning application comes from Bassetlaw either in a month with no meeting or soon after a council meeting, the Council cannot send in a potential response (Parish Councils don't have to respond but may do if they wish to) as the decision for the response has to be made at a meeting or via a scheme of delegation. At present no scheme of

delegation is in place. Delegation cannot be to an individual Councillor only to an Officer (Clerk or RFO) of the Council. After discussion, Cllr Hardie **Proposed**, Cllr Styring **Seconded** and it was **resolved** that the scheme of delegation as follows:

Any planning applications received to the Council from Bassetlaw will be emailed around the Council, should 3 or more Cllrs wish to make a response based upon Material Considerations, after consultation with a minimum of 3 councillors, a summary response will be drafted by the Councillors, checked by the Clerk and circulated to all councillors for comment prior to submission to Bassetlaw District Council by the Clerk before the deadline date. At the next Parish Council meeting, an item will be placed on the agenda to note the contents of the submission to Bassetlaw Council Planning authority for the minutes.

If a very contentious planning application was submitted it may be necessary to call a full Council meeting.

#### 59/21 To Receive an update from Cllrs site meeting with Notts County Council Highways Manager

Cllr Tomlinson & Beeston met with the Highways Manager from County in Leverton on Tues 9<sup>th</sup> November at 10am to look at and discuss potential improvements to various South Leverton road issues as follows, response of the Highways Manager in red:

- **Treswell Road Issues** - Interactive Speed Sign is in a poor location and overgrown by vegetation – **Ref No CSC379661424 County Council arranged a cut back of vegetation. Item Closed.**
- **High street Issues** - Blind exit onto Treswell Road. Can County install a mirror? - **mirrors are no longer installed or allowed permission for. Item closed.**
- **Busses reversing into Glover Close** - Highways Manager spoken to bus company to cease the busses from turning there with immediate effect, the Highways Manager advised the busses should never have done this. **Item closed.**
- **Historic Sign Post – Junct Retford Road/Church St** Can the County Council remove the corrosion and restore the paintwork? **Item Closed – Ref CSC367712254 raised, Highways Manager confirmed that this has been added to the County Council restoration/maintenance programme and may take 2 to 3 years to be undertaken.**
- **Retford Road Issues** Interactive Speed Sign in the wrong place. Potentially move to start of the village further along Retford Road. – **Cllr Ogle has this in hand with the Highways Manager and the Parish Council plan to apply for funding for Village Gateways. Item Closed.**
- **Millfield road/Meeting House Lane Issues** -According to current signs it's a National Speed Limit Road with houses along it. Can speed limit be reduced due to further homes in the 60mph zone? – **The 2018 Notts County Council feasibility study identified extending the 30mph zone to the end of the houses on Meeting House Lane, to be progressed via the existing feasibility study. Item Closed.**
- **Rampton Lane/Mill Lane – Verge Parking Issues** - Can the County Council do anything to stop the large amount of cars parking regularly on the verge on this narrow lane? **Cllr Beeston advised that the Highways Manager cannot assist with this matter, nothing can be done about the parking - Item Closed.**
- **Highways Potential Solutions from Feasibility Study**  
The Highways Manager presented a 2018 Feasibility Study for improvements to several parishes in the area. For South Leverton this included:
  - The extension of the 30mph zone on Meeting House Lane,
  - The introduction of a 40mph zone from the railway line down Station Road as far as the bend with Mill Lane.
  - The extension of the 30mph zone along Cottam Road as far as Holmleigh.
  - Refresh White Lining on Retford Road, Church Street, and Treswell Road.
  - The installation of 'Slow' Markings on Treswell road either side of the junction with High St and Meeting House Ln. The potential for permission for the Parish Council to install 'Village Gateways' at the entrances of the village to help psychologically effect drivers into slowing down as they approach the village.
- **Cllr Tomlinson advised that the Highways Manager agreed as a quick fix, that in 2022/23's Highways Budget the High Friction Red Surfacing with the 30mph painted roundel on Treswell Road will be refreshed. Interactive Speed Signs on Treswell Road and Retford Road – Request these are moved to better locations on these roads.**

After discussion, the Council **resolved** that **1)** the Clerk emails the Feasibility study back to the Highways Manager and Cllr Ogle to ask when the above actions can take place? **2)** Cllr Beeston leads on the Village Gateways Project, to obtain quotes from Glasdon UK Ltd for the gateways appropriate to the sizes of verge available and contacts the Highways Manager to arrange site visit to agree the locations and obtain the licence document that is required to be submitted as part of the Notts Community Grant application form.

#### **Foot Path No 31 as you walk north from Broad Lane, at the side of Catchwater Drain**

This issue has been reported several times to County Council. Walking through the first field from the road, you cannot proceed further because the stile/kissing gate was removed by network rail. In June 2019 the Previous Footpaths

Officer at County Council advised *"I have contacted Network Rail about South Leverton Footpath No31. This is the path that crosses the railway line (line no longer in use was for Cottam power Stn). I will give you a further update when I can."* No further update has been received. The kissing gates and styles were removed by Network rail several years ago who were doing repair works on the line, which is now redundant railway line. They never reinstated them, if you walk up to the edge of the line, you can go no further, a post points you north, there's no gate, no access. Some walkers who are brave have climbed onto and over the barbed wire fence and scrambled through the vegetation which is not acceptable form of access. Please investigate and arrange for the access styles/gates to be reinserted. On 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug 2021 the current Rights of Way Officer has advised *"Unfortunately this is still unresolved despite negotiations with Network Rail. My colleague at NCC RoW team, is dealing with NR and I understand he has spoken with Mrs Cawthorne earlier in the year with an update. If any progress is made, I will let you know."*

*On 8<sup>th</sup> Sept the Countryside Access Team Manager advised "Thank you Councillor Ogle for the email regarding FP31. Discussions are taking place with Network Rail and we hope to be in a position shortly to open the path across the former Power Station Railway line. I will be back in touch."*

The Council has escalated the matter to the attention of County Cllr Ogle and the Clerk has chased the Countryside Access Team Manager again for an update on the timescales involved.

60/21 Closure of the Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8:10pm.