

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN TICKNALL VILLAGE HALL ON 21st MAY 2024**

Present: Councillors Colleyshaw (Chair), Bentley, Scott, Woodhead, Oppenheimer and Thornhill

Staff and Public in attendance: District Councillor Haines, 6 members of the public and Celia Bunston (Clerk).

2987/2024 Election of Chair of the Council

Councillor Colleyshaw proposed was seconded by Councillor Woodhead and all agreed to elect Councillor Oppenheimer as Chair of the Parish Council. Councillor Oppenheimer chaired the meeting.

2988/2024 Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chair

RESOLVED: Councillor Oppenheimer signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chair, which was witness and signed by the Clerk.

2989/2024 Apologies: None

2990/2024 Appointment of Vice Chair

Councillor Colleyshaw proposed, was seconded by Councillor Scott and all agreed that Councillor Woodhead be appointed as Vice Chair.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Woodhead be appointed as Vice **Chair**.

2991/2024 Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Vice Chair

RESOLVED: Councillor Woodhead signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Vice Chair, which was witnessed and signed by the Clerk

2992/2024 Declaration of Members Interests: There were no declarations of interests.

2993/2024 To receive and approve requests for dispensations from members on matters in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. No requests were received.

2994/2024 Public Speaking:

County Councillor Muller sent his apologies.

- a) Councillor Thornhill reported that a member of the public had approached her with an interest in developing an environmental network group in the village. She was concerned that the verges have been cut by SDDC when their policy is 'No Mow May'. Councillor Haines responded that some verges have to be cut for safety reasons, but the Parish can contact SDDC asking for certain areas not to be cut during May.

The Parish Council noted Councillor Haines' information, and agreed that it would also consider supporting the request to develop an environmental action group.

Councillor Thornhill also reported that the bench made by Peter Woods, which is placed on the Market Place is rotting. It was reported that Peter will look at it and decide whether it can be repaired.

- b) A member of the public complained that the village looks a mess at the moment, which is caused by weed spraying. Vegetation, like wild flowers are being sprayed by SDDC, which is bad for the environment. Councillor Haines advised the Parish Council to contact SDDC to request that certain areas aren't sprayed.

It was also reported that once again a heavy vehicle has mounted the triangle and caused damage. The only thing the Parish Council can do is encourage the filling in of the tyre marks and putting down grass seed.

c) District Councillor Haines reported:

There have been complaints that SDDC does not communicate with Parish Councils well enough and is often too slow in responding to parishes on matters, particularly Planning. SDDC is considering resurrecting the Parish Liaison Meeting that was held in the past, where representatives from Parishes were invited to the SDDC offices in Swadlincote to discuss matters. SDDC will be in contact later in the year about this plan.

The Local Plan is progressing by looking at the sites that have been put forward for building on. By the summer they will then look at the strategic sites. SDDC has to decide whether to create large sites on which to build houses or create small sites which will be attached to already established villages. Once decided, the document will go out for consultation.

2995/2024 To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th April 2024.

RESOLVED: To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2024.

2996/2024 Adoption of Standing Orders, Financial Standing Orders, The Grange and Pavilion Risk Assessment, Parish Council General Data Protection Regulations and Complaints Policy.

RESOLVED: Councillor Scott proposed was seconded by Councillor Bentley and all agreed the adoption of Standing Orders, Financial Standing Order, The Grange and Pavilion Risk Assessment, Parish Council General Date Protection Regulations and Complaints Policy.

2997/2024 Clerk's Report:

- a) Richard Handbury, DCC in response to Parish Council query over inappropriate parking. The Parish Council wrote to Mr. Handbury regarding a matter suggested by the police that concerned motorists parking inappropriately outside of a property on Main Street. The suggestion was that lines placed in front of the property would stop motorists parking inappropriately.

Mr. Handbury responded:

"I have looked at the situation referenced and the site in question. Without meaning to cause any offence, if the Police who have visited the site feel that the parking in question is causing obstruction, what actions have they taken to resolve this matter? The offence of obstruction rests firmly with them as the responsible authority to address. I can see that there is some historic evidence of police no parking cones which I assume they have provided to the private property residents to utilise?"

In terms of waiting restrictions such as double yellow lines being introduced along further sections of the A514, we must be initially careful that such measures are not promoted to simply to protect or enhance a private access arrangement. I would add that the parking does with the road width push people over the centre line to pass the parked vehicles, however the forward visibility within a 30mph Speed Limit is sufficient and the onus is on the driver to attempt passage when it's clear and safe to do so.

I would also add that we have historic issues with the levels of vehicle speeds on the A514 Main Street and it remains an issue which is evidenced by the previously regular request for the VAS sign to be back in situ on Main Road, therefore introducing long swathes of restrictions which aid in keeping the carriageway clear can lead to vehicle speeds increasing when the parking is not present to aid in slowing approach speeds.

We currently have a TRO backlog that is running around 2 years, and we currently have an external resource who is attempting to get this backlog down to a manageable level and is something which was identified from a report which was presented to the Scrutiny Committee (for which I attended) some time ago. Therefore, we have taken the decision through a review of the processes involved in the TRO process that we are only able to take forward proposals which are currently scoring a HIGH priority status. In relation to this specific one I am afraid it is not something that I can consider a TRO for further double yellow lines for."

The Parish Council instructed the Clerk to forward Mr. Handbury's response to the property owner.

RESOLVED: To forward a copy of Mr. Handbury's response to the property owner.

Since agenda:

b) The Clerk reported that she has received and accepted the DCC – Minor Maintenance Agreement for 2024-2025.

2998/2024 Financial Support for Ticknall Village Hall

It was agreed by the Parish Council to support the Village Hall financially up to £6000 per year dependent on need. The Village Hall reported that its finances are not healthy, and bookings are down, so requested that the Parish Council pays for the first £1500 now and pays the further payments quarterly.

The Clerk requested that the Ticknall Village Hall being a registered charity, provides the Parish Council with a copy of its audited accounts, each year in September, so that it can consider any financial help in its budget.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Thornhill that the support of £1500 can be paid quarterly, and that the Village Hall provides a copy of its audited accounts, in each year.

2999/2024 Lease of The Grange

The lease of The Grange Recreation Ground and Pavilion is due for renewal on ?? June 2025. The Parish Council has written to SDDC to start proceedings of renewal, but is waiting for a response.

Councillor Colleyshaw offered to take part in any negotiations involved, on behalf of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: To start proceedings to renew the lease, and that Councillor Colleyshaw will negotiate on behalf of the Parish Council and report any progression.

3000/2024 – Appointment of Councillors to outside bodies and special duties

Internal Audit Check of Cheques/Invoices	Whole council
Village Hall Committee	Councillor Colleyshaw
Preservation & Historical Society	Councillor Thornhill
Bus Shelters & Public Footpaths, Village Cleansing	Whole Council
Parish Liaison Meeting	Clerk
Dame Catherine Harpur School Management Team	Councillor Oppenheimer
Safer Neighbourhood Group and Area Forum	Councillors Oppenheimer and Woodhead
The Grange & Pavilion	Councillors Colleyshaw and Bentley
Grange field and Play Area checks	Councillors Colleyshaw and Bentley
Calke Park – Stewart Alcock will be invited to occasional meetings	Whole Council
Drainage	Councillor Colleyshaw
Speedwatch	Councillor Scott
Delivery of the Newsletter	Whole Council
Data Protection Officer	Clerk

3001/2024 The Grange Recreation Ground & Pavilion

Councillor Colleyshaw reported that the Cricket Season has started and said what a great tribute to the village the ground is, how well drained it is, and how immaculately it is looked after by the Cricket Club.

We would like to see more local people using the recreation ground. Last year, The Harpur Crewe Estate donated and install some new play equipment to commemorate the 100th year anniversary of the recreation ground. It would be nice to see it used. We will remind people that it is their ground and encourage them to use the facilities.

RESOLVED: To reach out to local people to encourage them to use the facilities, by putting in some photos into the newsletter.

3002/2024 Speed Watch

Councillor Scott reported that 9 volunteers have been trained, and there are 6 more to train. The group held its first one hour speed watch session on Ashby Road on the 8th and 9th of May, when they counted 389 vehicles were counted and 3 vehicles were clocked at going above the speed limit. The 3 speeding individuals have been sent letters from the Police.

The group plans to hold another couple of sessions after the bank holiday, and reported that the 3rd to the 9th of June is National Volunteers Week. The plan is to organise all the speed watch groups in South Derbyshire to come out on 3rd June in one joint effort. The groups agreed to meet annually.

3003/2024 – Drainage

Councillor Colleyshaw reported that he will be in contact with SDDC to get the contact details of Severn Trent, which is presently difficult to get any response from regarding the regular maintenance promised in Ticknall.

3004/2024 Planning Matters

a) Planning Applications:

DMPA/2024/0486 - Replacement of garden shed at Spring Cottage, 42 High Street, Ticknall.

DMPA/2024/0530 - The replacement of the front door at 11 High Street, Ticknall.

DMPA/2024/0542 - Listed Building Consent for the replacement of the front door at 11 High Street, Ticknall.

DMPA/2024/0580 - The erection of extensions at 10 Grange Close, Ticknall.

DMOT/2024/0614 - The felling of two Ash trees at Honeysuckle Barn, 138 Main Street, Ticknall.

RESOLVED: No comments on the above applications.

b) Planning Decisions:

DMOT/2024/0344 – Pruning of a hazel tree in a Conservation Area at 154 Main Street, Ticknall. No objections.

RESOLVED: To note the planning decisions.

3005/2024 Finance

a) Receipts since last meeting.

HMRC – VAT Reimbursement 23-24 £2377.26

HSBC – Bank Interest for May – Money Maker Account £19.88

HSBC – Bank Interest for May – Money Maker Account £16.31

b) Payments since last meeting: - to 31st March 2024

K. Howe – Internal Audit 2023-2024 £145.00 BACS

C. Bunston – Travel to auditor 2023-2024 £83.20 BACS

H. Brandon – Cleaning pavilion in April £27.00 BACS

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Adobe – Monthly cover for April £16.64, £3.33 VAT £19.97 DD

P. Colleyshaw (Timson Ltd), Key cutting £8.33, £1.67 VAT £10.00 BACS

CJ Lewis Printers – Printing newsletter £89.00 BACS

CJ Lewis Printers – Printing leaflets for Ticknall Project £51.00 BACS

HP – Ink account for April £9.99, £2.00 VAT £11.99 VISA

Morrisons – Postage stamps £21.60 VISA

HSBC – Bank charges April £8.00

C. Bunston – Net pay for April £346.50 BACS

C. Bunston – Use of Clerk's home as office April £30.00 BACS

The Plumbing Expert – repair of sink in pavilion £185.00 BACS

H. Brandon – cleaning pavilion – April £27.00 BACS

Start Traffic Ltd (Dame Catherine's School) purchase of traffic cones

For Parish Council £266.66, £53.33 VAT £319.99 BACS

Heath Pest Control – Pest Control contract	£167.50, £33.50 VAT	£201.00 BACS
S. Buxton – Rose Garden maintenance		£60.00 BACS
Curry’s – Computer insurance cover for May		£9.00 DD
Melbourne Print – Stationery	£19.56, £3.91 VAT	£23.47 VISA
H. Brandon – cleaning pavilion in May		£27.00 BACS

RESOLVED: Proposed by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Woodhead and all agreed to approve the payments.

c) Balance of Accounts at 14th May 2024

HSBC Current Account	£16162.94
HSBC Money Manager Account	£12487.93
HSBC Reserve Account	£10247.39
TOTAL	£38898.26

d) Payments for Approval:

Ticknall Village Hall – 1 st quarterly payment	£1500.00
C. Bunston – Net pay for May	£346.50 BACS
C. Bunston – Use of Clerk’s home as office May	£30.00 BACS

e) Internal Audit - Checking of bank statement against invoices:

Councillors Woodhead and Scott checked and signed the bank statement against invoices.

3006/2024 Correspondence:

- a) SDDC - Draft Cycle Network Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
- b) National Grid – The Great Grid Update – Chesterfield to Willington.
Councillor Colleyshaw noted that the route for the grid update, might affect Ticknall, so needs looking into.

RESOLVED: To check the route of the Grid Update and to note the other correspondence.

3007/2024 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils: May Newsletter 2024.

3008/2024 Reports to Note: No reports.

3009/2024 Reports from representatives to outside bodies and special duties:

Councillor Oppenheimer passed on Dame Catherine Harpur School’s thanks for the Parish Council’s support of its fete. Councillor Scott commented that he had noticed that the cones purchased for the Parish Council had been left out in the open.

3010/2024 Date and time of next meeting. Tuesday 25th June 2024.

THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.