



**MINUTES OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY, 20 MARCH 2025 AT 6.30PM AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs J Jones (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs E Jones
Councillor Mr A Higgs
Councillor Major K McRae
Councillor Mr N Matlock
Councillor Mrs M Wilson-Knight

Councillor Mr R Butler
Councillor Mrs S Gerrard
Councillor Mrs M Matlock
Councillor Mr J Walker (up to and incl Min No 365/24-25)
Councillor Mr T Cox
Councillor Mr A Booth

IN ATTENDANCE

Borough Councillor Mr G Lawrence
Mrs R Richardson - Clerk
Mrs J Lovatt – Deputy Clerk
Miss L J Richardson – Admin Officer

Councillor J Jones opened the meeting by asking Members if they would have any objection to moving agenda items 13 and 14 regarding cemetery issues forward. This is due to Councillor J Walker having to leave the meeting early for another meeting. Members had no objection to this.

361/24-25

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BY COUNCIL

Apologies received from County Councillor R Shepherd and Borough Councillor S Bellamy.

362/24-25

TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Councillor A Higgs Min No 367/24-25 (b)

363/24-25

CLERK'S REPORT

Message from a resident re the council tax "Sileby Parish Council - A decrease of 3.5% shines out against the other FOUR claimants, please pass on to your Councillors my heartfelt congratulations".

Deadline dates for Soar Valley Life editions are:

June:	Friday, 9 May	Delivery completed: Sunday, 1 June
August:	Friday, 18 July	Delivery completed: Sunday, 10 August
October:	Friday, 12 September	Delivery completed: Sunday, 5 October
December:	Friday, 7 November	Delivery completed: Sunday, 30 November

364/24-25

TO APPROVE THE SPECIFICATION, AND LOCATION OF FENCING REQUIRED ALONG THE BORDER BETWEEN THE CEMETERY AND THE ALLOTMENTS

A lengthy discussion took place regarding how far to go with the fencing along the cemetery, garages and allotment borders. The Clerk advised that if members wanted to go the full length of the cemetery border – main gate to the Garden of Remembrance, it would need to be precepted for, and to also consider the costs of different types of fencing, this is to ensure that we have enough funds to cover the current several large projects that are ongoing elsewhere in the village.

Councillor Higgs proposed that the fencing should run from the tree on the driveway to the Garden of Remembrance. Councillor McRae proposed that the fencing should run the full length of the border. A vote was taken, and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal of Councillor Higgs – to run the fencing from halfway along the driveway to the Garden of Remembrance.

There were two proposals for the type of fencing – Councillor Higgs proposed chestnut fencing and to plant native hedging, and Councillor McRae proposed Stock Fencing. A vote was taken, and it was **RESOLVED** to approve chestnut fencing, clear the ivy and make suitable to plant a native hedge.

Councillor Booth reported that he had spoken to ‘Payback in the Community’, and they may be able to assist with the installation of the fence, which would save costs. He asked if Council thought it would be beneficial in having a site meeting at the cemetery with the organisation to see if it would be a viable option. Council agreed to this, and Councillor Booth will be meeting them at the Cemetery on Saturday 22nd March 2025, and would report back to council.

365/24-25

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SITE MEETING TO INSPECT THE TOP PATH AT THE CEMETERY AND CONSIDER OPTIONS

Councillor J Jones had been up to the Cemetery and taken photographs of the areas highlighted in the risk assessment. These paths were not considered a trip hazard. It was **RESOLVED** to put the works required on hold and review the paths within the Cemetery as a whole. This project could then be precepted for later in the year.

366/24-25

POLICE MATTERS - INCLUDING CRIME FIGURES AND REPORT FROM POLICE, IF IN ATTENDANCE

No police present; no report received. Councillor R Butler commented that police figures are not being sent through. Councillor S Gerrard agreed to chase this up with Rupert Matthews

PCC.

367/24-25

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public present.

368/24-25

TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 MARCH 2025

RESOLVED To accept as a true record and these were duly signed.

369/24-25

FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) To note the Income

RESOLVED to note the income in the sum of £87,825.20.

(b) To approve the Expenditure

RESOLVED to approve the Expenditure in the sum of £104,140.97.

(c) To receive and consider the options to renew the ADT Maintenance Contract

The Clerks reported that when they called for an engineer earlier in the year, due to the CCTV showing a fault, it turned out to be the router, which ADT were not liable for. The staff would not have known this, and then an invoice was charged to the Parish Council of £403.00 + VAT – this was for a 45-minute visit. The Clerk disputed this invoice, and a credit was given, as a gesture of goodwill of £113.00 + VAT – making the callout £290.00 + VAT. The Deputy Clerk commented that they now felt worried calling for any issues, in case it is another fault, that it is not the responsibility of ADT, e.g. line fault etc.

RESOLVED Not to renew the ADT Maintenance Contract due to very high costs. To review CCTV as a whole, and what the requirements are.

370/24-25

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS IF IN ATTENDANCE

The Deputy Clerk read County Councillor R Shepherd's report, as follows: -

"I understand that the Parish Council has today received information about changes to Bus Service 24/24A, operated by Centrebus, which will take effect from 27 April 2025.

Every home should by now have received a copy of the Spring Edition of *Leicestershire Matters*. Please let me know if you become aware of any issues with delivery.

I should like to draw attention to the media release headed "New "hotboxes" deployed to maintain thousands of miles of county roads", which I forwarded on 6 March.

Please let me know of any matters which the Parish Council would like me to follow up or about which more information is needed".

Borough Councillor G Lawrence gave his report on behalf of the Borough Councillors:

Flooding Updates

- a) Councillor Lawrence attended the very useful meeting organised by Councillor Butler between Quorn Flood Warden Duncan Jack and members of Sileby Flood Action Group on the 15th of March 2025.
- b) Drop-in sessions for residents affected by the serious flooding in January and previously have been arranged by the Lead Local Flood Authority (LCC); Environment Agency and Charnwood BC representatives will also be in attendance:
 - Wednesday 9 April, 2pm - 6pm – Syston Community Centre
 - Thursday 10 April, 2pm - 6pm - Loughborough Town Hall

The Banks Surgery

Councillors Bottomley and Lawrence have been supporting the Surgery over the last year in their planning application to extend their premises to accommodate the extra patients registering for GP services. 400 patient letters were submitted to Charnwood Planning Department this week requesting that they put their application before the Plans Committee for determination. We have written to the Head of Planning requesting the same.

Barnards Drive Reserved Matters Planning Application P/25/0375/2

Councillor Lawrence was glad to be invited to discuss this application with the Sileby Parish Council's Planning sub-committee last week and we support their conclusions and recommended comments. The comments deadline has been extended until 4th April 2025 and, with the assistance of Councillor Walker, we are ready to distribute a letter to residents living near the site encouraging residents to submit comments, if they share our concerns.

371/24-25

TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED OR REPORTS RECEIVED – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Clerk reported that she had received a March update for Sileby Parish Councillors. This has been emailed to all Councillors, and the update has been posted on the new section of our website and social media. Link below will take you to the article.

<https://www.silebyparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/2025/03/rt-hon-edward-argar-mp-march-2025-update-to-sileby-parish-council>

Councillor A Booth had attended a Strategy Planning training session at the LRALC, where he came back with a couple of useful pieces of information.

372/24-25

TO CONSIDER AND AGREE COMMENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS: -

- (a) **P/25/0375/2** Reserved matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for 288 new dwellings, including affordable housing and public space, pursuant to Outline Planning Permission ref: P/21/0738/2 for the erection of up to 228 dwellings and means of access approved - Land off Barnards Drive, Sileby, Leics
RESOLVED Objection on the grounds of site plan shows a densely packed layout, only 1 SUDS pond instead of 2, and a concern regarding heavy machinery access through Barnards

Drive. Councillor E Jones to prepare an indepth response to Charnwood Borough Council Planning Department.

- (b) **P/25/0468/2** Development Management Southfields Road Loughborough Leicestershire LE11 2TN Erection of 2m high fencing and gate to front of dwelling. Proposed cladding materials, replacement fenestration to dwelling, and raised terrace to rear of dwelling - 196 Seagrave Road, Sileby, LE12 7TS.

RESOLVED No Objection

- (c) **P/25/0517/2** Installation of replacement front ground floor windows Mill Cottage, 35 Cossington Road, Sileby, LE12 7RW

RESOLVED No Objection

- (d) **P/25/0524/2** Installation of replacement front ground floor windows (**Listed Building Consent**) Mill Cottage, 35 Cossington Road, Sileby, LE12 7RW

RESOLVED No Objection

373/24-25

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE PROJECT PARK! WORKING PARTY

The Clerk reported that Planning Permission for the alternations to the Sports Pavilion on the Memorial Park had been approved.

Councillor A Higgs reported that ROSPA has been to inspect the new play areas. This will go on the next agenda for consideration / information.

- (a) To receive an update and consider options to erect fencing on the young children's play area.

Councillor J Jones reported that she had held a meeting with the Clerks, Councillor Higgs, Red Kite, and Cara Baker regarding the concerns raise by residents about the lack of fencing. It was agreed to do a news article with an update, and review the issues once more information had been obtained from the Charnwood Borough Council Dog Warden. Link to article giving residents an update:

<https://www.silebyparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/2025/03/young-childrens-play-area-fencing-update>

374/24-25

TO ARRANGE A DAY AND TIME FOR THE PARKS WORKING PARTY TO DISCUSS THE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

RESOLVED To hold the meeting at 5.45pm on Thursday 3rd April 2025 prior to the Parish Council meeting. Councillors A Higgs, E Jones, N Matlock and M Matlock agreed to attend but all councillors are welcome to attend.

375/24-25

TO APPROVE A RESIDENT SITING A BENCH IN THE CEMETERY IN MEMORY OF HIS SON TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A PRESENTATION OF ALTERNATIVE WEBSITE OPTIONS

RESOLVED To approve the bench, but with the condition that the resident is aware that the bench is sited at their own risk, and any upkeep of the bench is down to the resident, with the bench being removed if in a state of disrepair.

376/24-25

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A PRESENTATION OF ALTERNATIVE WEBSITE OPTIONS

Councillor A Booth had previously prepared a presentation for Councillors to consider. He requested permission for a link to be posted on the Sileby Parish Council website signposting residents to a new Resident’s website, where they could get up to date information on flooding, road closures, travel etc.

RESOLVED To agree to put this link on the Parish Council website, with a disclaimer stating that Sileby Parish Council is not responsible for any of the information posted on the Resident’s website, and that there would be no cost to Sileby Parish Council. Council is happy for the Resident’s website to share any of the information that is on the Parish Council website.

377/24/25

CONTENT FOR PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ARTICLE

Children’s Play Area (Cllr J Jones)

Barnards Drive Planning Application (Cllr E Jones)

378/24-25

TO REVIEW ACTION STATUS REPORT

This was reviewed and updated accordingly.

379/24-25

FUTURE PLANNING

Reviewing current allotment plots with a view to a new Health Centre site (Cllr K McRae)

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Chairman’s Signature: Date: