



**MINUTES OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY, 6 MARCH 2025 AT 6.30PM AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs J Jones (Chairman)	Councillor Mr R Butler
Councillor Mrs E Jones	Councillor Mr A Booth
Councillor Mr A Higgs	Councillor Mrs M Matlock
Councillor Mr J Walker (from min. no. 345/24-25)	Councillor Major K McRae
Councillor Mr N Matlock	Councillor Mr T Cox
Councillor Mrs M Wilson-Knight	

NOT PRESENT

Councillor S Gerrard (Apologies received)

IN ATTENDANCE

Borough Councillors Mr G Lawrence and Mr S Bellamy
Mrs R Richardson - Clerk
Mrs J Lovatt – Deputy Clerk
One member of the public

341/24-25

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE BY COUNCIL

RESOLVED to accept and approve apologies from Councillor S Gerrard. Apologies received from County Councillor Mr R Shepherd.

342/24-25

TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None

343 /24-25

CLERK'S REPORT A reminder that there is a meeting at the cemetery on Monday, 10 March at 11.00 am.

344/24-25

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

No police present; no report received.

345/24-25

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident came to express her disappointment that Quorn appear to be getting a lot more work being carried out from the recent floods. Councillor Butler confirmed that Quorn had received a lot of investigations and action, compared to Sileby. It was agreed that Sileby Parish Council would write to the EA to ask what support we can expect. The resident also expressed her frustration regarding the blocked drains and the frequency they are cleared. Councillor McRae offered to contact County Councillor R Shepherd regarding this matter, and will forward response to Borough Councillor Lawrence, who is part of the Resident's Flood Group.

346/24-25

TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2025

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

347/24-25

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS IF IN ATTENDANCE

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

"The Spring Edition of *Leicestershire Matters* is being distributed this week and next. Every home should have received a copy by 15th March.

If you become aware of any issues with delivery, please let me know.

Among the enquiries to which I have been responding recently is one from the group investigating "Leaky Dams". I have obtained some information from an LCC officer but am waiting for some more.

RECENT INFORMATION

I should like to draw attention to some information items and media releases I have forwarded recently. They are:

A note about Flooding, forwarded on 17th February;

A poster showing sources of flood risk and responsibility, forwarded on 17th February;

A media release headed "Extra cash to tackle flooding as budget agreed", forwarded on 24th February;

A media release headed "Have your say on Leicestershire's Rights of Way", forwarded on 24th February;

A media release headed "Council waives road closure fees for street parties to celebrate 80th anniversary of VE Day", forwarded on 4th March;

A media release headed "Improved bus services rolled out in rural Charnwood and Leicestershire", forwarded today, 6th March).

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

Borough Councillors Lawrence and Bellamy gave their report on behalf of the Borough Councillors.

FLOODING UPDATES

Geoff has been working with the Sileby Flood Action Group which was formed after the SPC meeting on 6th February. Supported by Geoff and Cllr. Butler, 24 blocked drain gullies have been identified and reported to Highways, who have issued works instructions for clearance.

Geoff has provided advice and support to the Action Group, including on writing to Edward Argar MP to ask for a meeting with Group members to discuss what he can do to help secure funding for improvements to flood defences, and to put pressure on the EA to clear silt and debris from the Brook channel.

Residents are starting to report the places where a lot of silt has built up in the Brook channel as blockages. We will be doing the same and would encourage others to do the same because the Environment Agency have a legal responsibility to remove blockages downstream of Heathcote Drive. Contact details: 0800 80 70 60 EMDenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Charnwood BC Flooding Scrutiny Panel - Naomi is a member of this group of councillors whose work is nearly complete; report and recommendations will be finalised next month. Some of the recommendations have already started to be actioned, e.g. setting up a fund so flood wardens and local communities can apply for lock boxes to store flooding supplies which local communities have decided would suit their needs best, e.g. hydrosnakes supplied by CBC. The draft recommendations and recording of the meeting can be found here: <https://charnwood.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=286&MId=1193>

Trent Rivers Trust has replied to Steve's email sent some weeks ago. They are open to working with the PC and Flood Group, but beyond initial discussions there would need to be project funding from some source. A Natural Flood Management scoping exercise for Sileby was started with EA backing two years ago, but did not progress because of limited engagement from upstream landowners. Steve has asked that any information from the previous exercise be made available. He has also asked for more information on the Wood Brook scheme in Loughborough, including evidence of flood peak reductions. TRT has replied that the Wood Brook scheme is still under construction so this information can't yet be shared and doesn't yet include the results of the changes. Steve has asked if a full report of a scheme similar to Sileby Brook could be made available.

THE BANKS SURGERY

Naomi and Geoff have been supporting the Surgery over the last year in their planning application to extend the premises, funded by S106 money from a number of developments. Unfortunately, The Banks has yet to receive an outcome to their application despite it being submitted in 2023. We are now supporting The Banks in their letter-writing campaign to call on Charnwood Planning Dept to put their application before the Plans Committee and end the stalemate they are currently experiencing.

348/24-25

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

Councillor Wilson-Knight reported on the following:

- Sileby Library are due to have a meeting on 20 March 2025, and Councillor Wilson-Knight will speak to them regarding the request for Christmas Lights.
- Councillor Wilson-Knight had reported an unsafe bridge to the Canal & Riverside Trust, and a temporary fix had been made.
- A resident reported that there has been a sewage spill near Raynes Island, but this is on private land, so the landowner is responsible for clearing the waste.
- Councillors Wilson-Knight and Butler had attended a Cycling, Walking and Wheeling Forum where Braunstone Town Council and Charnwood Borough Council gave presentations.

Councillor A Higgs had met Ground Control, who is responsible for the maintenance for the new landscaping on the park. The contract ends at the end of this month, but they will monitor some of the planting at the end of May and remedy if required.

349/24-25

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

(a) **P/25/0203/2** - Erection of single storey side and rear extension - 102 Highgate Road, Sileby, LE12 7PR

RESOLVED No objection.

350/24-25

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE PROJECT PARK! WORKING PARTY

The Clerk reported that she and Councillor Higgs had attended a progress meeting at the Memorial Park with Red Kite and MAC Construction. Things are progressing well, and they hope that the works should be completed within the next couple of weeks. The Clerk gave an update on the Unimini trail and Red Kite and Mac believe they have found a solution to this problem.

351/24-25

TO RECEIVE AND NOTE AN EMAIL FROM CLLR JEWEL MIAH, LEADER OF CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL GIVING AN UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

RESOLVED to note this.

352/24-25

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN EMAIL RE CHARNWOOD LOCAL PLAN COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) VIABILITY EVIDENCE CONSULTATION & HEARINGS. TO NOTE THAT RESPONSES NEED TO BE SUBMITTED BY 12 PM ON 17 MARCH

RESOLVED to note this.

353/24-25

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN EMAIL RE THE UK SHARED PROSPERITY 2025/26

The Clerk reported that the funding is more weighted towards revenue projects and so the pavilion would not be suitable. Also, the time constraint was not feasible as the application

has to be in by Monday, 10 March.
RESOLVED not to submit an application.

354/24-25

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN EMAIL RECEIVED FROM CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL SEEKING POTENTIAL SITES FOR NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS IN RURAL AREAS

This was discussed and considered and there is no suitable site at the present time, and the charging points on the King Street car park are under-utilised.

355/24-25

TO CONSIDER WAYS TO CELEBRATE VE DAY

RESOLVED To erect the bunting along the High Street and King Street and to put a commemorative plaque on one of the benches in the Memorial Garden in the Park

356/24-25

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER AN EMAIL FROM A RESIDENT RE PARKING ON PARISH COUNCIL LAND ON THE BANKS

RESOLVED To re-seed and install ground protection matting on the area to alleviate further damage to the grassed area.

357/24-25

TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE ORGANISER OF SILEBY YARD SALE ASKING FOR PERMISSION TO HOLD A MONEY RAISING EXERCISE, BY HAVING A FUN DAY ON THE MEMORIAL PARK.

RESOLVED to respond to the organiser that as building works will be starting on the Sports Pavilion it would be a Health & Safety issue, additionally there would be no access to water/toilet facilities as the pavilion will be closed. It was suggested they ask Sileby Town FC or the Rugby Club if they can accommodate their request.

358/24-25

ARTICLES FOR SOAR VALLEY LIFE LEAFLET (DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS 14 MARCH)

RESOLVED to publish an article in the Summer Edition

359/24-25

CONTENT FOR NEWS ARTICLE

Planning – Cllr E Jones

Project Park! Update – Cllr A Higgs

360/24-25

FUTURE PLANNING

None

Meeting closed at 7.41 pm.

Chairman's Signature: Date: