

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF FOSTON AND SCROPTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 4TH MAY 2021 7.30PM

Present: Councillors: Cllr G Thornhill MBE (Chairman), Cllr T Bowles, Cllr A Critchlow, Cllr P Groom, Cllr A Holgate A Barnes (Clerk), Cllr J Patten SDDC and DCC

Members of the Public: 3 Members of the Public

Min No 21APM1 Election of Chairman

- As all other members of the Parish Council had been co-opted, only Cllr Thornhill can hold office as Chairman for the next 2 years.

Election of Vice Chairman

- As all other members of the Parish Council had been co-opted, no one could be elected Vice Chair.

Min No 21APM2 Apologies for absence

- None

Min No 21APM3 Declarations of interest

- Cllr Critchlow on planning application DMPA/2021/0315
- Cllr Groom on planning application DMPA/2021/0315

Min No 21APM4 Election of Representatives

Election of Representatives To:

- Wall and Eld Charity. Cllr Critchlow proposed Cllr Thornhill and Cllr Groom seconded to the role, Cllr Bowles and Cllr Holgate in agreement
- Faccenda
- Highways Forum
- District Council/ Parish Council Meetings
- Safer Neighbourhood/ Etwall Area Meeting

Cllr Thornhill reported in recent years these have not been filled by anyone but filled as and when there is a need. Cllr Groom proposed and Cllr Holgate seconded that this continue.

Min No 21APM5 Clerk and Lengthman Salary

- Cllr Groom suggested they defer the discussions until the next face to face meeting. Cllr Bowles proposed and Cllr Holgate seconded agreed.

Min No 21APM6 County and District

- Cllr Patten reported the first meeting regarding the freeport took place, held by S Fisher and N Dolwin from Goodmans. Local board to be set up and website by the next meeting but very early days
- SDDC planning review has been agreed that a recommendation to take on further planning staff to support with current staff as they are inundated with work. They are looking at a Duty Officer to be a point of call. Enforcement officers will work closely with planning developers to work with planning applications in the beginning and policies will be put in place.

Min No 21APM7 Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Resolved by all Cllrs present that the minutes of 9th July 2019 Annual Parish Meeting and 13th April 2021 Ordinary Parish Meeting be accepted as correct records.

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Min No 21APM8

Clerk and Chairman's Matters

- Chairman confirmed he had no matters to report.
- Clerk confirmed the Internal Audit had taken place and no matters were arising, the signed audit will be sent to the external auditor even though an external audit is not required due to the turnover being under £25,000. All Cllrs in agreement for the accounts and Certificate of Exemption to be approved..
- Clerk confirmed the Flood Liaison minutes and updates have been sent out to Cllrs.
- Clerk confirmed the fire extinguisher service and PAT Testing is due at the parish hall. Cost is £48 the same as last year. Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to arrange the testing and service.
- Clerk confirmed remote meetings were unable to take place after the 7th May 2021 and Face to Face should take place after the 17th May 2021
- Clerk confirmed the Parish Hall is being used for elections on the 6th May 2021, a new first aid has been purchased.

Min No 21APM9

Planning Matters

- Cllr Thornhill confirmed the previous planning discussion was invalid due to there being no agenda sent in advance of the meeting and as Chairman took responsibility for the error and apologised to Cllrs and parishioners. Cllr Thornhill reported that this would be the last time the planning application would be discussed, and a decision reached. Cllr Critchlow asked if the Parish Council procedure had been changed and Cllr Thornhill confirmed that as many comments had been received from parishioners, public discussion became desirable. No discourtesy to anyone was intended, indeed the opposite. Cllr Groom said that a proper communication should have been sent out informing Cllrs that the planning application had to be discussed again. Cllr Thornhill confirmed that the need had been raised by a parish Cllr and confirmed by legal advice from DALC. He added that all Cllrs received the information on the agenda for today's meeting and there was no intention to mislead.
- **DMPA/2021/0315** The installation of up to 10MWp of solar photovoltaic panels and associated works, including substations, inverters, access tracks, security fencing and cameras at Land at SK1930 5342, Hawthorn Farm, Scropton Road, Scropton, DE65 5PR. Cllr Thornhill confirmed that comments made at the previous meetings could not be regarded as validly transferred to this one, but he reminded Cllrs of the numerous comments both opposing and supporting this application sent by parishioners to the clerk and also made public at meetings and forwarded to all Parish Cllrs. Cllr Patten advised that individual parishioners could forward their own comments to SDDC planning department. Cllr Bowles confirmed that more comments had been received from parishioners on this application than any other, and he recommended that parishioners send their comments to SDDC. Cllr Holgate said that the plans should be opposed on the basis of the entrance/exit. Cllr Bowles reported he liked the idea of the solar farm, but the Parish Council should heed parishioners' comments on the position of access. Cllr Thornhill said that a proposal and seconding were required to make a decision. Cllr Bowles proposed that opposition be registered on the basis of the planned site of the entrance/exit between two blind bends on the busy road through Scropton and suggested that a new exit be sought, Cllr Holgate seconded, and Cllr Thornhill agreed. The opposition became the Parish Council decision to be sent to SDDC planning. Cllr Groom stated that he considered that Cllr Thornhill had chaired the matter in a very poor way. Cllr Thornhill did not respond.
- **DMPA/2021/0201** Change of use of agricultural land for the extension of existing hard standing for external storage (B8) on Land near Brandons Poultry Farm, Unnamed Road From Cote Bottom Lane to Bent Lane, Heathtop – **no observations**
- **DMPA/2021/0598** The erection of a Hydrogen Storage Compound at JCB Power Systems Ltd, Dove Valley Park, Park Avenue, Foston – **no observations**

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Min No 21APM10 Finance

Do Cllrs agree to the accounting statements from the Annual Governance statement and Accounting statements to be adopted? – All Cllrs agreed to adopt the annual governance statement.

Foston and Scropton Parish Council Bank Balance 1st May 2021 - £38343.87

001652	A Barnes	Clerk's salary April	£200.00
001653	M Hayes	Lengthman salary April	£109.10
001654	HMRC	Clerk and Lengthman PAYE April	£77.40
001655	B Woodcock	Internal Audit	£271.85
001656	Butler Cooke	Quarter processing of payroll Dec	£60.00

Parish Hall bank balance 1st May 2021 – £584.54

No payments or receipts

Grants

- Church Yard Mowing Grant £275.00 (currently). Cllr Groom asked where the mowing was done. Cllr Thornhill confirmed 1 contractor and 1 done voluntary. Cllr Groom asked if the grant should be split between the 2. Cllr Thornhill confirmed the extension is done voluntary. Money should be split between the church and the church yard extension. Cllr Thornhill said that the grants could be split between the 2 areas. Cllr Critchlow reported he cut some of the grass and he agreed with Cllr Groom's comments. All Cllrs agreed that an additional £275 be awarded and spending split between the 2 sites. Cllr Critchlow proposed the amount be doubled and split between the 2 sites. Cllr Holgate seconded and Cllr Bowles agreed.
- Chairman's Allowance Grant £150.00 (currently).
- Royal British Legion Grant £75.00 (currently)
- All Cllrs agreed with the other grants.

Min No 21APM11 Matters Arising

- Play area – Clerk confirmed she has not received a reply from the Solicitor. Resolved Cllr Thornhill to call the solicitor direct.
- Clerk confirmed she had received an email regarding the legionella review for Parish Hall. Are the Cllrs happy for the work to go ahead? **Resolved** All Cllrs agreed for the work to go ahead.
- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 - Venue Hire requirements for publicly owned venues – Section to be added to the hire agreement. **Resolved** Clerk to add to the Parish Hall agreement
- Clerk confirmed she had not heard back from SDDC planning department regarding the trees being cut down at ATL on the highway. **Resolved** Cllr Patten will find out who is responsible and find out more information
- Road Sweep in Foston. **Resolved** Clerk to chase
- Actions from flood meeting - Cllr Groom confirmed he had spoken to SDDC for a delivery of sand for sandbags. Buildbase will be contacting Cllr Groom to arrange – Land at the back of the play area being used for flooding storage. VB has been emailing R Ward for an update, awaiting response. Cllr Groom confirmed he had spoken to Severn Trent re a return valve and a flat valve which is not up to spec and they will be speaking to their managers. Trip hazard has been removed. Survey completed at the East of Avara and is awaiting further data. Clerk confirmed she has chased R Ward for £500 contribution
- Ivy growing on pavement between Coplow Lane and Hay Lane Foston, near the layby, hindering people using the pavement. **Resolved** Cllr Patten to chase DCC
- Lorry being parked on Uttoxeter Road Foston, making it dangerous and drivers using this way as a shortcut to get to the business park. **Resolved** Clerk to gain more information for the next meeting
- Dog fouling on Coplow Lane - Cllr Critchlow reported Church Broughton has purchased dog bins which are expensive to empty. Cllr Bowles raised concerns about the waste bin on the main road which has to be emptied as it is always overflowing. **Resolved** Cllr Critchlow proposed the clerk

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contact SDDC to contact Cllr Thornhill or Bowles to look at a grey bin. Cllr Groom seconded; all other Cllrs agreed.

- Deep rut on Leathersley Lane. Cllr Groom confirmed he had sent an email to various people but DCC has not been back in contact. Cllr Critchlow confirmed the top end of watery lane was marked out to be cut and resurfaced, the markings has worn away and can we chase up what is being done. **Resolved** Cllr Patten to chase and Clerk to send information to Cllr Patten
- Speeding sign in Scropton. Cllr Groom reported that the sign at the Sudbury end of the village works occasionally and trees overgrown. **Resolved** Clerk to chase DCC

Min No 21APM12

Correspondence

DALC

Excellence Awards - DALC – Nominations

Youth Councils - Younger Councillors

Notes from clerk and chair forums 14th April 2021

Newsletter

SDDC

Paid election volunteers needed - deadline 25 April

General

Free Web Accessibility Virtual Summit - Friday 30 April, 10am

Ask for Ani

The meeting ended at 8.50PM

Date of Next Meeting: 8th June 2021 at 7.30pm. Cllr Groom proposed the public be able to have a say at the next meeting

Signature of Chairman..... Date.....