



SEIGHFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of
Seighford Parish Council held
at Great Bridgeford Village Hall on
Monday 15 January 2024
Starting at 7.30pm

Kelly Day & RFO: Tel: 07931 167 081 E-mail: clerk@seighford-pc.org.uk

Present

Councillor J Busby (Chairman)
Councillor M Hayward (Vice Chairman)
Councillor D Price
Councillor M Hodgkins
Councillor R Wilkes
Councillor C Allen
SCC Mark Winnington
SCC Jeremy Pert
SBC Councillor Jack Rose

Members of the Public - 15

1	<p>15/01/24/1</p> <p>To receive apologies and accept and record any reasons for absence:</p> <p>Kelly Day – Clerk (minutes being taken by Cllr Hayward) Cllr M Turnbull</p>
2	<p>15/01/24/2</p> <p>Declaration of interests:</p> <p>None made</p>
3	<p>15/01/24/3</p> <p>Public Open Forum:</p> <p>MOP requested the PC write to relevant individuals to raise the issue of the poor state of the road surface as you turn left from Beaches farm towards Seighford airfield before you get to clanford lane.</p> <p>Robert Eld raised the continuing noise from Seighford Airfield and that he believes there should be noise monitoring in place which does not appear to be in place. Cllr Rose updated that he had emailed enforcement officers from SBC on 11 December. However no response has been received. He has escalated this to the team manager but has still had no response. Cllr Pert noted that Cllr Rose could consider complaining to Environmental Health given that this issue is one of noise pollution. Cllr Pert went on to note that if a complaint is not satisfactory dealt with at stage1 it could be escalated to a Stage 2 or further and this may be a route to explore. Cllr Winnington stated that the agreement was to have bunds along with a monitoring station installed but the monitoring equipment is not present.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to write to Environmental Health regarding the issue</p>

	<p>Cllr Wilkes read a letter from a resident regarding an issue with a neighbours fence. Due to the height of the fence they cannot see vehicles coming down the lane and believe its height exceeds what is permitted. They have contacted enforcement at SBC but have not found a satisfactory resolution. The resident requests Cllr Wilkes visited the property to view the height of the fence. However, the resident did not provide their address. Cllr Wilkes has requested their address in order to visit and explore options.</p> <p>Cllr Hayward has been asked to by a resident to raise the issue of noise pollution from Drive Me at Seighford Airfield and that road signs on Black hole Lane appear 'skewiff' they ask the PC to write to the relevant organisation to request repair of the signs. Action: Clerk to write to relevant authority relating to the repair of the signage</p> <p>Members of the public requested the PC consider moving agenda items related to the business of the PC further down the agenda so that the public who have attended to hear discussion on non business items could do so sooner in proceedings Action: Clerk to make amendments to the agenda</p>
4	<p>15/01/24/4 Updates from Borough/ County Councillors:</p> <p>Cllr Winnington reported that county council will be considering an increase in tax of 5% in the coming weeks</p> <p>Cllr Pert reported that the cabinet member for highways has been visiting with Cllr Pert to review potholes and road conditions within the Parish. There is no update on HS2 monies that have been discussed in previous meetings, specifically for the bridge at Worston Mill. Cllr Pert went on to report that it is anticipated there will be significant delays caused by the widening of Beaconside which will start on 29th January and last an estimated 59 weeks.</p> <p>Cllr Rose reported that the graffiti on the bridge previously raised by Cllr Turnbull has been reported to network rail who intended to resolve this within weeks. He also updated on the progress of SBCs BeeFriendly accreditation</p>
5	<p>15/01/24/5 Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th November 2023:</p> <p>a) The minutes of the meeting were approved as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Wilkes. Seconded by Cllr Price. Unanimous.</p> <p>b) Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda</p> <p>Cllr Busby updated on section 106 matters in Seighford. SBC planning have visited the site and are content to progress. The next step would be for the SBC planning to seek to transfer the land.</p>

6	<p>15/01/24/6</p> <p>Planning matters:</p> <p>No new planning matters to discuss.</p> <p>Cllr Price noted that Cllr Busby and Cllr Haywards remarks were not recorded on the planning portal in relation to the most recent planning application considered by the PC.</p>
7	<p>15/01/24/7</p> <p>Parish Councillors Report:</p> <p><u>Derrington</u></p> <p><u>Cllr Allen</u></p> <p>Reported that residents are struggling to make use of the civic amenity visits as they are unable to get their rubbish to the site and need support doing this and that there are some residents are not aware of the service. Potentially there is an opportunity to support these residents to make better use of the amenity visits.</p> <p>Cllr Allen reported that she has decided to stand down as a parish councillor. She has enjoyed being part of the council and will follow the correct process in order to stand down.</p> <p><u>Cllr Hayward</u></p> <p>Cllr Hayward reported that the dog fouling signs provided by Saul Hocking are being erected along the greenway</p> <p><u>Cllr Wilkes</u></p> <p>Raised the issue of road works by Sainsbury and the disruption this is causing. Cllr Winnington responded with an update on the condition of current cycle lanes.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes asked Cllr Pert about the condition of the high street in Stafford and why monies have been earmarked for other schemes such as the Stafford Gateway. Cllr Pert responded that due to the changes in the use of high streets, changes in the type of facilities are required. The Stafford gateway is estimated to bring a range of benefits for business, tourism, education and jobs.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes plans to progress conversations with Cllr Rose over the erection of signs on the greenway.</p> <p><u>Great Bridgeford</u></p> <p>Cllr Turnbull emailed an update prior to the meeting. He reported that the Staying Well and Digital Skills Teams (Midland Partnership Foundation and Trust) have agreed further visits to Great Bridgeford Hall coffee mornings following positive feedback from residents, and engaging with their services last year. Visit dates yet to be agreed.</p>

Right of Way (ROW) Seighford path 26.

Following successful negotiations between Dominic Ward (ROW Officer Staffordshire County Council), Pat and Matthew MacGregor (land owner) and Roger Hopley (farmer) which had hitherto been recognised as ROW across both parties fields. However, Seighford path 26 is the original ROW, which always has been situated on MacGregors land. Therefore, this ROW has been reopened. Farmer Hopley, and Matthew MacGregor have created accesses to both ends of the ROW, and now awaiting Dominic Ward for to source two styles for installation at both ends of the walk, which both Matthew MacGregor and Roger Hopley have volunteered to install them. Local residents have been notified of this 'reopened' ROW on Great Bridgeford village Facebook, website as well as by word of mouth. Cllr Turnbull requests thank you letters to be sent to Roger Hopley, Pat MacGregor and Dominic Ward for their positivity and agreement to reopen for use of ROW Seighford path 26.

Action: Clerk to send thank you letters

Cllr Price

Cllr Price undertook a survey today and noted that there are 19 vehicles parked on pavements in the village. Cllr Price notes that this is a police matter as it is an obstruction. Cllr Busby suggested a letter on a windscreen may be an option to highlight the issues pavement parking causes.

Cllr Price raised the issue of flooding in Whitgreave Lane. He believes the outfall from the farmers field is not connected to the gully. He requested a site visit with Cllr Pert. Cllr Pert agreed to meet Cllr Price within the coming weeks.

Action: Cllr Price to meet Cllr Pert

Seighford:

Cllr Hodgkins had no updates to report

8 15/01/24/8

Chairman's report:

Cllr busby reported that the rebarking of the igloo at Derrington playing field has been completed. He requested Cllr Winnington support, through the CC, the erected of 'Beware of horses' signs by the bridge on Blackhole Lane. Finally Cllr Busby reported that the Chairs of local PCs will be meeting in the coming weeks to discuss opportunities to work together and share ideas and views.

Action: Clerk to write to Cllr Winnington regarding signs

9 15/01/24/9

Finance – Clerk (chair in Clerk’s absence)

- a) Bank reconciliation approved. Proposed by Cllr Wilkes Seconded by Cllr Price . Unanimous
- b) The Chair presented an update on expenditure against the budget for 2023/2024. Proposed by Cllr Wilkes and Seconded by Cllr Price
- c) The accounts for payment were reviewed. Cllr Price asked that payment 1753 be added to the list as it has been paid between meetings.

Chq number	Amount	VAT	TOTAL	Payee	Reason for payment
1744					
1753	204.89		204.89	LCS (on behalf of HMRC)	payment owed to HMRC (retrospective approval needed)
1754	£ 195.40	0	£ 195.40	HMRC	PAYE - HMRC (Jan 2024) payment
1755	£ 21.00	0	£ 21.00	Great Bridgeford Village Hall	Hire of hall for 15th January 2024
1756	£ 22.50	0	£ 22.50	Derrington Village Hall	December 20th Extraordinary meeting
1757	£ 59.64	0	£ 59.64	Staffordshire County Council	3x permanent speed watch signs - Seighford
1758	£ 512.80	0	£ 512.80	Kelly Day	Salary for November 2023 (inc back pay NALC increase)
1758	£ 344.80	0	£ 344.80	Kelly Day	Salary for December 2023
1759	£ 9.99	0	£ 9.99	Kelly Day	macafee antivirus for laptop for one year
1759	£ 47.91	0	£ 47.91	Kelly Day	reimbursement of HMRC payment
1760	£ 100.00	0	£ 100.00	Seighford Settled Estates	Lease of Kick about field - Smithy Lane 2024
1760	£ 500.00	0	£ 500.00	Seighford Settled Estates	Football playing field
1761	£ 234.99	0	£ 234.99	John Busby	reimbursement for playground woodchip
1762	£ 1,225.13	245.03	£ 1,470.16	Stafford Borough Council	grass cutting -Derrington and Great Bridgeford april 23 - mar 24
1763	£ 56.26	0	£ 56.26	Seighford Village Hall	Use of hall in 2023
1764	£ 244.00	£ 48.80	£ 292.80	JRB Enterprise Limited	Dog refill waste bags
TOTAL	£ 3,574.42	£ 293.83	£ 3,868.25		

Cllr Price challenged the inclusion of cheque 1756. He believed this should not be paid by the PC as, in his view, a PC meeting did not take place. Cllr Busby explained that Derrington Village Hall had been booked by the PC following receipt of a statutory notice that Cllrs Price and Hodgkins intended to convene an extraordinary meeting of the PC and that the PC should pay Derrington Village Hall. Cllr Price made the point that if the PC paid this he would speak with the auditor in relation to it. The accounts for payment, including cheque 1756, were approved for payment following a proposal by Cllr Wilkes seconded by Cllr Allen. Cllr Price abstained.

- d) To discuss any projects for inclusion in the 2024/25 budget

Project ideas that have been provided by residents and the proposed investment in Seighford playing field were discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

- e) To consider the budget and approve the precept for 2024/25. Subject to amendments to the values budgeted for the Civic Amenity visits and planning proposals acceptance of the budget and the precept was proposed by Cllr Price Seconded by Cllr Wilkes . Unanimous

10 15/01/24/10

To discuss actions and outcomes from 20th November’s meeting

1. Gully on Smithy Lane reported and has been logged for a visit (if not already fixed by now)
2. Graffiti has been reported and it was agreed it would be removed.

	<p>> SBC Jack Rose and Cllr Turnbull has reported this. Network Rail who said it would be done in the next 4 weeks. Cllr Rose enquired within SBC and if they have not removed it by mid/end January then we can issue a Community Protection Notice warning (CPNw) basically saying the graffiti is detrimental to the community.</p> <p>3. Clerk still needs to look into bus times in Derrington with bus providers. On plan to action.</p> <p>4. Footpath 20</p> <p>Statement from ROW officer: I am currently dealing with these issues. This has been ongoing for a while due to changes in land ownership. I am liaising with the current land agent to get the electric fences removed and new stiles put in. Once the fences have been removed our team can repair the bridge. However, it is very slow going and it seems to take a long time to get responses from the land agent.</p>
11	<p>15/01/24/11</p> <p>To discuss residents feedback for potential projects:</p> <p>Following a request for potential projects by the PC to residents, ideas received were reviewed.</p> <p>These included the potential installation of an artificial cricket pitch in Great Bridgeford. Cllr Price will contact the resident to explore this further</p> <p>Action: Clerk to forward the email from the resident to Cllr Price</p> <p>The condition of dropped kerbs in Great Bridge was raised along with the parking on pavements.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to write to the PCSO regarding the obstructions caused by vehicles parking on pavements and to write to Cllr Pert regarding the condition of dropped Kerbs requesting inspections</p> <p>Resident feedback from R. Eld in was also read out. issues raised are covered in discussions noted elsewhere in the minutes.</p>
12	<p>15/01/24/12</p> <p>To provide an update on the mapped assets via Parish Online</p> <p>Cllr Price has attended two zoom meetings to learn more about the platform. Cllr Price has requested passwords from the Clerk. The password provided does not work. The clerk is required to resolve.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to resolve password issues</p>
13	<p>15/01/24/13</p> <p>To provide an update on the online banking status</p> <p>Arrangements have been made and the system is ready to be used. However, Cllr Brown and Cllr Busby require card readers. Once resolved, is it intended the system be in use by the next meeting of the PC</p> <p>Action: Cllr Price to arrange card readers for Cllr Busby and Cllr Brown</p>

14	<p>15/01/24/14</p> <p>To approve the civic amenity site visit locations for 2024/25 at a cost of £118 per visit for one hour. Dates to follow.</p> <p>It was agreed that there would be 2 visits for Derrington and 2 visits to Seighford.</p> <p>After consideration it was agreed civic amenity visits would take place in Great Bridgeford and that a resident (present in the meeting) would support the leafletting of residents to promote the visit.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to seek dates for Great Bridgeford and share with Great Bridgeford Cllrs and to book dates for Derrington and Seighford</p>
15	<p>15/01/24/15</p> <p>To provide an update on the proposed housing questionnaire to be sent to residents in the parishes</p> <p>Cllr Price will share with Cllrs a proposed set of questions based on examples he has found.</p> <p>Action: Cllr Price to share questions with Cllrs</p>
16	<p>15/01/24/16</p> <p>Highways, Footpath & Playing Field matters</p> <p>1. To provide an update and to seek approval on the proposed playing field in Seighford.</p> <p>A tenancy agreement has been provided by the landowners agents. Cllr Price raised concerns over the length of the lease and the security it offered the PC. He believes that due to the lack of security the PC should not invest in play equipment and that for the investment to take place a longer lease is required.</p> <p>M Eld raised a point that the current agreement is a tenancy of will and that this has been in place for over 20 years.</p> <p>Cllr Price requested that the PC seek the advice of the Staffordshire Parish Council Association and proposed that the PC write to PFK asking them to consider a longer lease which would provide the security required for an investment of such value.</p> <p>Cllr Busby said he felt that at present Seighford children are at a disadvantage compared to those in Derrington and Great Bridgeford because of a lack of play equipment.</p> <p>Cllr Hayward made the point that if the lease was not lengthened the PC would need to make a decision of either progressing at risk or not</p>

	<p>progressing at all. Action: Clerk to write to PFK to request a longer lease</p> <p>2. To discuss whether to write a letter to Aston Hill Livery Stables to highlight that the use of the Derrington track for horse riding is causing a regular hazard for walkers and that the track is for the shared use of walkers and cyclists.</p> <p>Cllr Wilkes requested a letter be sent due to the issues caused by the horses. He believes that the horses are coming from those stables Action: Clerk to write to the stables to request cessation in the use of the track for horse riding</p>
17	<p>15/01/24/17</p> <p>To amend paragraph 22.3 of standing orders for the public open forum to take place at the start of each scheduled council meeting</p> <p>Cllr Price explained that he would like to see amendment to the standing orders to create a clear division in the public open forum and the business of the PC. Proposed by Cllr Price Seconded by Cllr Hodgkins. Action: Clerk to amend the agenda</p>
18	<p>15/01/24/18</p> <p>SPC news in Church Parish magazines: Copy date is the 15th of each month but maybe bought forward by a month. Members to email the Clerk their contributions to the publications.</p> <p>Nothing specific was raised for inclusion.</p>
19	<p>Next meeting: to agree items for the next meeting of Seighford Parish Council to be held on the 18 March 2024 at Seighford Village Hall at 7.30pm.</p>
20	<p>The Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21:35</p>