

SNARESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC – UK IN LOCKDOWN On-Line Video Meeting

Meeting Minutes 22nd February 2021

Held at: On-line.

Date: Monday 22nd February at 7.30pm

Present **Councillors:** A. Gascoyne, J Drifill, B Walsh,
E Broadbent
Chair: A Archer
Parish Clerk: A. Callingham
Parishioners: x 4

218/2021 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
None

219/2021 **LOCAL POLICING REPORT**
The Clerk was unable to update the council of the recent crime stats for the parish as hadn't heard back from the PCSO. Crime report after the meeting was obtained:

4th February – Attempted Burglary at Farriers Close – unknown persons trying to break into a shed.

220/2021 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
1 - The Council heard from residents regarding the dual naming of Occupation Lane/Thorpe Lane. It was agreed that from historical records, the unadopted and unowned lane is Occupation Lane, and that the sign Thorpe lane was a gesture towards the Thorpe family, not an official road name change.

The Council agreed to remove the Thorpe Lane sign, and contact the Thorpe family to offer other ways to acknowledge the family i.e., plaque, bench, tree etc.

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact NWLDC to explain the decision of the Council and to draft a letter to the Thorpe family to offer alternatives.

2 – The Council heard about concerns from a parishioner regarding planning applications for containers in the parish. The parishioner believed that others had been allowed with no planning applications, yet his has been subject to an investigation to its necessary use.

The Council made clear that it had an obligation to raise any concerns from other parishioners to NWLDC, who then would act as they see fit.

RESOLVED: The Council agreed to liaise with NWLDC planning team to understand the legislation for containers for this district, and to then take the fair and necessary steps with regards to other containers that may need retrospective planning permission.

3 - A parishioner wanted to understand the decisions behind why his Quarry Lane planning application was objected to by the parish council, sharing frustrations that he could not see any evidence of discussions around his case in any minutes.

The council explained their concerns around the quality of the highway on Quarry Lane, and their nervousness to increase traffic flow, a logic that had been applied to all Quarry Lane applications. Later in the meeting the Council agreed to have a more robust methodology of looking at planning applications on Quarry Lane on a case-by-case basis, and to revisit this particular application on behalf of the parishioner.

RESOLVED: Clerk to find the historical application and the councils' comments, and feedback to parishioner.

221/2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Councillors of any agenda items in which they have a personal or prejudicial interest.

222/2021 MINUTES

The council confirmed the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting in January 2021 were an accurate representation of the meeting.

223/2021 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes that needed to be readdressed or placed as a formal agenda item.

224/2021 ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

A representative was invited to the meeting to help councillors to understand the current waiting list process for applications for allotment space, but no one was available.

The council agreed to inform the Allotment Chairman of the context for the meeting, and to make suggested amendments to the agreement first, to be openly discussed in a meeting.

RESOLVED: Councillor Walsh to contact the Allotment Society to coordinate the next steps.

225/2021 MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

Councillors to review progress report of ongoing items and advice Clerk on next steps.

The following have been prioritised and are on hold until face to face meetings:

- Damage to the canal bridge
- Using the National Lottery Grant for a community event
- Applying for an Environmental grant from LCC

The following are progressing, albeit slowed due to district and county council currently working on a skeleton staff basis:

- The Council have applied for a grant from IM Properties to help with the provision of enhancing the Conery with a path and lighting.
- Village Tidy Up Day potentially scheduled for the mid-may.

- The brick bus shelter has been demolished. The commemoration bricks will be retained and used elsewhere in the parish.
- The wooden bus shelter on Main Street will be refurbished and include clearer signage when the weather is warmer.
- The pavilion clear up of gazebos away and weed spraying will happen when the weather is warmer
- Councillors to clear the rented garage when social distancing allows and finalise asset list for April meeting and agree where PA System will be stored

226/2021 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following schedule of Payments were agreed for on-line payment.

- Nuneaton Signs – Dog mess signs
- G Cantwell – Conery Gate repair
- J Nicholls – Removal of brick bus shelter
- DGBM – January Newsletter
- G Cantwell – SID duties

Councillors Gascoyne asked the clerk for an account balance a few days before each parish meeting to update the budget document.

The Council heard the current balance, and outstanding invoices due in.

227/2021 CORRESPONDENCE

Councillors discussed two correspondences that has been sent in.

- 1) A resident had asked about when the next village litter pick would be, and the councillors also considered the 2) proposed price increase for grounds maintenance.

RESOLVED: Councillors instructed the clerk to feedback to the respective correspondence that 1) the litter pick is planned for middle of May (Covid reliant) and 2) they are happy with the price increase.

228/2021 PLANNING MATTERS

Councillors were invited to consult on application reference 21/00162/FUL - Erection of a single storey link extension between the dwelling and garages for Valley Farm, Bosworth Road, Snarestone Rd.

Councillors would like more time to review the drawings before making any comments.

RESOLVED: Councillors to feedback their thoughts on this application via collective email by the Friday 26th February for the Clerk to be able to submit to NWLDC.

229/2021 VILLAGE SURVEY

Councillors heard an update from Councillor Driffill about development of the next parish survey. It was discussed and decided that to achieve maximum completion rate, that hard copied should be offered, with 2 x drop off options for parishioners.

It will be marketed on the parish website, and Facebook, and will go out the last week of March.

RESOLVED: Councillor Broadbent to finalise the wording around parish asset hire mentioned in the survey. Once completed, Clerk to be notified to coordinate a print run.

230/2021 PARISH PLAN FOR PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

(Carried forward from January meeting). Councillors considered and agreed that a uniform approach to planning consultations was needed.

The council agreed that a blanket approach to all applications wouldn't feel fair to some residents, and that various factors should be taken into account to make each application case robust and based on its own rationale and design.

The council also agreed to write to Andrew Bridgen MP, and Councillor Richard Blunt, Leader North West Leicestershire District Council expressing their concerns regarding the lack of influence that Parish Councils have on planning decisions, and lack of assuring that planning conditions are being complied with.

RESOLVED: Councillor Driffill to put a framework together to support all Council decisions for future applications to be presented, discussed, and agreed at the April meeting for approval.

Clerk to contact Andrew Bridgen and Richard Blunt

231/2021 PARISH DOCUMENTATION RETENTION POLICY

Council agreed the Documentation Retention policy to allow the clerk to dispose of historical documents. Councillor Driffill has sorted through existing folders.

RESOLVED: Councillor Driffill to return documents to the Clerk for shredding and archiving.

232/2021 BIN REMOVAL IN THE PARISH

Councillor Archer shared considerations for the council members to agree the removal of the bin next to the demolished bus shelter. The Council agreed this was now redundant.

RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct NWLDC to remove the bin,

234/2021 CONERY AND PAVILION

a) Councillors discussed the notion to try and acquire some extra land adjacent to the pavilion to either locate a storage container, or an extension to the pavilion community asset. Councillor Walsh to obtain the contact details of the original landowner who gifted the land to the parish council, and Councillor Driffill to revisit the parish maps to understand the exact boundary of the Conery.

b) Councillors decided to address the necessary tidy up at the back of the pavilion, and possibly slab the side area by the fire door when the weather is warmer and social distancing rules have been relaxed.

RESOLVED: Councillor Driffill and Councillor Walsh to further investigate the boundaries of the Conery and pavilion area, and Clerk to draft a letter to the landowner to propose the opportunity to purchase more land around to next to the pavilion.

235/2021 GARAGE CONTENTS

Councillor Broadbent, Driffill and Gascoyne to meet at the garage to assess the contents and storage suitability for parish assets when restrictions allow.

It was proposed and seconded that the BBQ's in the garage need replacing at a cost to the parish council.

236/2021 AVAILABLE GRANTS

The Council heard about available grants to support writing a Neighbourhood Plan and Technical Grant from Councillor Driffill. It was agreed that this was an expensive and long project, with no strong evidence for effective results for a parish our size.

237/2021 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

All Speed Indication Device data to be sent to Councillor Archer for the future Newsletter to be issues after the next meeting, including an update from all village groups.

238/2021 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Internal Auditor approval
Planning Application Consultation Document approval
Outcome of the Allotment Society meeting

Next Meeting: 5th April 2021