

SELSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of the Annual Council held on Tuesday 25th October 2016 at 7.00pm in the Old Council Offices Selston.

Present:

Cllr M Ashmore
Cllr M H Biggs
Cllr B Briggs
Cllr J Butler
Cllr A Gascoyne
Cllr A Hankin
Cllr D Hodgman
Cllr D Justice
Cllr C Lewis
Cllr M Lodge
Cllr D Martin also NCC
Cllr P Pilgrim
Chairman Cllr R Sears-Piccavey also ADC
Cllr B G Turner
Vice Chair Cllr C Quinn-Wilcox also ADC
Cllr R Young
Apologies:
Cllr C Chapman also ADC
Cllr B Jackson - holiday
Cllr S Jackson - holiday
Cllr S Wilson – family commitment

1. To receive apologies for absence
Apologies were accepted as above

2. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors
Cllr D Justice – item 18 non pecuniary
Cllr D Hodgman – items 15 & 17 non pecuniary
Cllr M Lodge - item 16 non pecuniary
Cllr D Martin – items 6, 7 & 17 UCC

3. Members of the public are invited to address the council
Residents from Westwood reported that they are experiencing violent, threatening anti- social behaviour from a particular household in Jacksdale. One was threatened with an iron bar and the police didn't come they were told to make an appointment. They said the police don't seem interested and are worried that someone will be seriously hurt. One lady said she had been attacked. The youths ride mopeds without lights on and when pipped at follow the vehicle home. Sometimes there are 20 youths. Another lady reported that there are youths on motorbikes revving engines in the car park at Jacksdale Community Centre.

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Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey said he had rung Chris Parkes, ADC officer for Community Safety, after receiving a phone call from a resident, and he is aware of the families concerned. Both families are in council houses so ADC is trying to get them evicted.

The residents were invited to stay for later in the agenda as we are trying to bring security into the villages.

Two residents asked if anything could be done about the hedge on Portland Green as footballs are kicked through the gaps into their fence which they have replaced once. Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey said he had met with Alex Moorhouse from ADC and a new hedge was being ordered it will be double thickness as small whips will not be enough. The hedge will be done in the autumn. The residents complained that the seat on Portland Green is the worst thing because it encourages youngsters to gather there. Cllr A Hankin suggested finding out if it was a Parish Council seat and if so relocating it.

4. To approve the minutes of the full council meeting held on Tuesday 13th September 2016
Proposed by Cllr Ray Young 2nd by Cllr Gail Turner all were in favour.

5. Business from previous meetings for information only
None

6. Proposed Public Consultation on Security

Cllr Gail Turner stated that the situation we have at the moment is as we were told earlier and we have the same reports in our villages. The police will no longer be at the Tin Hat or Hucknall so things are going to get worse. We have looked at Private Security so it's for the council to consider a public consultation, she would like us to have a referendum. We could possibly have private security but need to consult as it will have a cost implication.

Cllr David Martin told of the state of police cover in our area and explained that he had reported his concerns to Notts County Council at a meeting in March as we are paying for more and getting less.

Cllr Robert Sears Piccavey said that he and Cllr Chris Quinn-Wilcox had attended a special Overview & Scrutiny meeting on a new crime and disorder initiative but it is not being done in the Rurals. When questioned Inspector Glen Longden admitted that the Rurals have a rough deal and explained that the difficulty in getting through when dialling 101 is due to one of the call centres being closed so there is only 1 line instead of 2.

Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey stated that police budgets are being cut and the situation as described tonight is intolerable so doesn't think there is any option other than look at private security but it has a significant cost so we've got to consult with the public to give them a chance to say if they want it or not.

Cllr Mike Biggs said we don't get any response and accountability from the police but if we look to an alternative source it's guaranteed.

Cllr Dawn Justice asked for clarification on what we will be holding a referendum on as in previous meetings various options have been discussed

Cllr Gail Turner said we had a meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner who said if the Parish pays for one extra CPO he would pay for another but she is afraid if something happened elsewhere they would be taken, so we would have no control. We've spoken to a couple of private security companies who would be answerable to Selston Parish Council, we want a phone number people can ring and they will need to come to Parish Council meetings and tell us what they have been doing. Nothing is certain at the moment but its pointless going forward until we know if residents approve. We should seek a referendum throughout this Parish whether or not we should be tendering for extra security.

Cllr Dawn Justice suggested the referendum could be held at the same time as the Neighbourhood Plan referendum to save money as there is a cost for a referendum.

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The Clerk advised that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is meeting with the planning consultant Helen Metcalfe on the 17th November 2016 when any amendments from the pre submission consultation will be added and then the plan can be submitted to Ashfield District Council, who will then arrange for an independent inspector to examine the plan. A referendum will be held if the plan is approved.

Cllr Turner said we can't wait for that as we want to get this in the precept and the budget is in January.

Cllr David Martin stated that it's a difficult situation as people are already paying for the police service through their Council Tax so anyone not affected by the crime won't be too bothered. He said that the idea has been looked at extensively over the last 6 months.

Cllr Chris Quinn-Wilcox said it would be a good idea to hold information days at the Parish Hall so that people can ask questions and know what we are looking at, public consultation is important.

Cllr Chris Lewis said we need to give some idea of cost so that people know the implications and suggested we look at the worst case scenario i.e. the highest cost.

Cllr Gail Turner reported that she had looked at some figures and it could be £125000 for the year which equates to 5pence per day 35pence per week for Band A properties of which there are 2371 in the Parish and 15 pence per day £1.05 per week for Band H properties of which there are 2. She stated that this is a guide; it's a lot of money and needs the blessing of the public.

Cllr Dawn Justice reminded everyone that a good way of consulting with the public is through the Community News but as the deadline for the December issue is the 26th October Cllr Sears-Piccavey said a leaflet will have to be printed and hand delivered.

Cllr A Hankin informed that there are currently 2000 police in Nottinghamshire which will be reduced to 1664 next year, so what are we getting for our money. He said we have no police or security presence now and the council is appalled at the horrendous situations brought into these meetings so something has got to be done.

Cllr Josh Butler asked if for the pence per day we will have full control and they will not be pulled to another area. Cllr Sears-Piccavey replied that they will be answerable to this Council.

Cllr Gail Turner proposed to have a referendum throughout the Parish to ask the public if they would accept extra security and to give the Chairman and Clerk delegated power to sort the wording of the question. All were in favour.

Cllr Dawn Justice proposed that we request a joint referendum with the Neighbourhood Plan. All were in favour.

Cllr Dawn Justice said public consultation is important; people need to know what they are voting on and what the cost is.

Cllr Ray Young said that a lot of people don't know there are no police in the rural area.

Cllr A Hankin said we would have to sell it on behalf of the people who have incurred problems: not all crimes are included in the figures as they are now labelled as occurrences.

Cllr M Biggs said we will not let the Private Security under report everything will be included.

Cllr Martin reiterated that the crime figures are lower at the moment as people can't get through on 101 and van break ins are now occurrences and not crimes.

Cllr R Young asked if the Private Security will be able to prosecute. Cllr Sears -Piccavey said No they will gather evidence and build a case to take to prosecution and they will wear body cameras that's recording what's happening.

7. To decide the future use of the Eleanor Adams Room at Selston Parish Hall

Cllr Dawn Hodgman said the Eleanor Adams room should be kept for the public as it is used by them. The finance committee were unable to use it last week as the Nottingham Dog Agility held their AGM in there, as they have for the last 27 years. It's used on many occasions for

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different groups. The yoga lady is busy and looking at an extra group for a seated class. The room is perfect for her and the groups needs; it is carpeted has high windows and the correct ambience. It is also used 8 weeks of the year for childcare during school holidays and we do gain substantial money from that. It should be kept as a Community room and if we want to help businesses we should look at other alternatives.

Clerk reported that it is difficult to put a value on the total bookings for the room as it is part of a package for larger events but can give hours and the value of regular bookings. It has already been booked for 675 hours this year and 120 hours to come. The 8 week booking from the childcare is £1600; the yoga groups £1300 plus extra classes £200. It is also used for larger functions such as the Football Club presentation and larger parties if we didn't have the Eleanor Adams room they would have to look elsewhere as the capacity would not be enough. The Clerk read out a letter of support from Theresa Holmes for keeping the Eleanor Adams room in public use as she would have to look elsewhere. There was also a letter of support from one of the yoga groups the content of which was covered by Cllr D Hodgman

Cllr Hankin said so you can't put a figure on what's happening this year what about 2014/15. Clerk said it's difficult to report as it is given at a discounted rate as part of a package when booked with the bar area, I can tell you the regular bookings as stated earlier there is also various meetings/AGM's which bring in £20 to £25 each and a new toddler group has started which will generate £500 per year.

Cllr J Butler asked if the groups had been advised that another room will be built for them. The Clerk stated that a conservatory is not suitable for yoga and there is more than one yoga group, where are the groups to go whilst the room is built and why build another room when we already have one

Cllr Gail Turner said there is nobody for the Community more than her but the Parish Council is not just about the Community and Community Groups we also need to help businesses. I take on board what's said but it's not bringing in huge amounts of money. We have had an offer from a business to bring in over £4000 so that money would be ring fenced for another room so we wouldn't be losing anything and it would be a nicer place to go. We are going to provide something and get some proper rent.

Cllr Chris Quinn Wilcox suggested that it could be suitable for yoga as blinds could be put up in the conservatory/orangery and the floor would be suitable and the room would be completely confined. An orangery enhances a property we've put up with old buildings for too long and they need refreshing. Cllr J Butler said that if the business were paying for the alterations he couldn't see a problem. Cllr Sears-Piccavey confirmed they were.

Cllr Hodgman stated that whilst she was not against a conservatory there would be noise pollution from the adjoining rooms and groups should not be turfed out. If the council wants to help small business a specific place should be identified and not make do with a public room. Cllr D Justice advised on her own experience that a conservatory/orangery requires underfloor heating to provide an ambient temperature and to prevent condensation. There would be considerable costs to heat it day and night. In the Summer air conditioning is required to keep it cool. She also asked if there was a plan for the people currently using the Eleanor Adams room whilst the alterations are done. Cllr G Turner said that when the OCO was renovated groups moved temporarily without a problem although this is not temporary as the EA room would be occupied but there will be another room in the future. She believes the heating problems can be overcome by not having a glass roof.

The Clerk advised that the current times people have are not available elsewhere but Cllr Martin pointed out that the OCO is available on Tuesdays and the OCO is available Fridays so the Thursday yoga could go to there instead. The clerk stated that the OCO is used once a month on Tuesdays and Keep Fit are in the OCO on Fridays but Cllr Martin said they are not on the bookings and there are places available on different days. The Clerk said so people going to these groups for years have got to alter their time and place. Cllr Turner shouted Lisa

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so the Clerk said she had had enough and left the meeting stating you can do your own minutes. Cllr Martin said the orangery would have the same floor space as the EA room and make it a better venue for weddings and functions it's not just about rental increase. The Chairman asked for a minute taker Cllr Turner proposed CQW and all agreed. Cllr Hodgman said that she and Lisa has been working hard over the last 2 years to get more user groups in the centres (which is why Lisa is upset) and asked why anyone else wasn't trying to do the same to increase income. The Eleanor Adams Room and all Community spaces should be used by the Community.

Cllr G Turner proposed approach Glasshouse and ask them if they still want to use the Eleanor Adams room and allow them to move in and also improve the bar area and explore the idea of another room.

Cllr Hodgman proposed to keep the EA room in Community use and upgrade at a later date.

Cllr Turners proposal was voted on 9 for, including the chairman and 7 against so the first proposal was carried.

8. **Selston Parish Council Equal Opportunities Policy circulated with the Agenda was approved.**

9. Correspondence as per list circulated with the Agenda

The following were discussed

Burchell Edwards – Tenancy agreement – All agreed that the rent should be increased from £525 to £550 as discussed last year.

UCAN – request for raffle prize – all were in favour of donating a paintball ticket.

Fields in Trust – Impact Report –deferred - Cllr Lewis suggested anything don't know details of defer to next meeting.

Co-op Local Community fund - Cllr M Biggs reported that Selston Parish Hall and Recreation Ground currently had £1400 but it is running until March.

Via East Midlands – Winter Service fir Parish Councils – Cllr G Turner asked for volunteers to email her as she is the chief snow warden.

Theresa Holmes – Request for use of Selston Parish Hall – RSP said it had been read out by Lisa previously.

Portland road Post Office – Potential Change of use – Cllr R Sears Piccavey said it is closing and will end up being a convenience shop

Came & Company – News Letter update

Items 10 and 11 were swapped in order from the Agenda issued.

10. Finance - as per sheet attached to the Agenda – No questions

Feedback from Strategic Planning & Finance Committee meeting on 19th October 2016 – Cllr Chris Lewis as Chairman of the finance committee reported that the Finance Strategy Plan was reviewed at the meeting and will be updated year on year to maintain a 3 year programme. An email will be sent to all Councillors. Finances are on target so far this year so it was agreed to get quotes for 3 projects: The boiler and heating at Jacksdale Community Centre, to complete the kitchen at Underwood Community Centre and to complete the skateboard area at Underwood Recreation Ground installing equipment we already have.

11. County Council Update

Cllr Martin has met with an officer from the Post Office. He was advised that the new Post Office model is to be incorporated in a store. The base payment to cover the rent of the

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buildings has been removed so some Post Offices are no longer viable to operate for the owners. It is likely that Portland rd. Post Office will close but could possibly be in Greens Service Station.

Cllr Martin has asked Notts County Council for a list of roads that are due to be repaired in the next 5 years.

The Soldier War memorial is now a grade 2 listed monument.

12. Notice of Conclusion of Audit for year ended 31 March 2016 – to include matters not affecting the opinion of Grant Thornton Auditors but to be drawn to the attention of Selston Parish Council. – Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey informed that the Audit was complete and accepted with a couple of recommendations. A vote of thanks was given to the RFO for a good job.
13. Remembrance Sunday – signage for road closures in Jacksdale required.
Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey reported that Ashfield District Council have issued notices telling people the road will be closed.
14. Recreation Ground Update
Drainage works at Underwood Recreation ground appear to be working well and the area is improved, the cost was £3950.
Cllr Ashmore reported that the “dogs must be kept on leads” signs are not working, they have made no difference.
Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey has put all the signs up.
15. Planning Applications – as per sheet attached to the Agenda
V/2016/0638 There was support from all to send a letter of support to ADC due to the fact that it is an eyesore, is used for fly tipping and needs tidying up.
V/2016/0635 Cllr G Turner asked if there was any way we can say to the Council to check that they stick to the plans as they haven't in the past. Cllr Chris Quinn-Wilcox declared an interest in this application and V/2016/0610.
16. Allotments – Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey read out the response to the mirror request from Carl Whitley at Notts County Council. Mirrors are not allowed on the highways as they can create a false impression of the traffic. The Clerk is awaiting quotes to widen the splay.
17. Community Centres –
Parish Hall – to consider quotes for replacement blinds in the main hall, bar area and kitchen.
Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey read out the three quotes of £1800, £720 and £605 + VAT. Cllr Lewis suggested the decision is deferred until a decision has been made on building works but the RFO advised that the blinds no longer meet the Health & Safety requirements for children.
All were in favour to accept the quote of £605 but to only replace the kitchen and Main hall
After discussion including the use of light intrusion posts **all were in favour to submit a planning application for floodlights and Welcome to Selston Sports Club sign.**
Underwood Community Centre – to select a quote for works required for the completion of the kitchen. Cllr Martin explained the difficulties involved in obtaining the quotes as the works require 3 different tradesmen. Cllr Robert Sears-Piccavey read out the details of each quote and the prices were £2844.41 + VAT and £2300 no VAT. **The quote for £2300 from Bethell joinery was proposed and all were in favour.**
Jacksdale Community Centre – Cllr M Ashmore reported that ADC has tidied up the hedges and bushes.

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Cllr A Hankin asked how much Jacksdale Community Centre is used which will be brought to the next meeting. Cllr D Martin asked if the electric heaters to replace radiators could be brought to the next meeting and also the problem of the trees for cutting or removal.

The RFO advised she had 3 quotes for the electric heaters which Cllr R Sears-Piccavey read out; £3860, £4300 and £5499 which did not include a heater in the kitchen, £5000 and £4940 including the kitchen. The RFO advised there was £5000 in the budget. **All were in favour of the cheapest quote of £4940 from Alan Smith.**

Old Council Offices – nothing to report.

18. Neighbourhood Plan - Covered earlier in the meeting

19. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 29th November 2016 at the Old Council Offices Selston

Meeting Closed at 21.00

*R. J. Sears-Piccavey.
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