

**SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes of the North Muskham Parish Council held on Monday 13th May 2019 at the Muskham Rural Community Centre following the Annual Parish Meeting**

**Present:** Councillor I Harrison, in the Chair  
Councillor P Beddoe  
Councillor S Dolby  
Councillor D Jones  
Councillor P Morris

**Mrs Tolliday-Jones – Minute Taker**

**Also in attendance: County Cllr B Laughton and 21 members of the public**

**NM01-20 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Saxton, District Cllr Mrs Saddington and Jayne Saunders, Clerk.

**NM02-20 Results of Uncontested Election**

The Chair referred to the Declaration of Uncontested Election Result received from the Returning Officer. The following candidates have been elected to the Parish Council without contest:

Phil Beddoe  
Simon Paul Dolby  
Ian Harrison  
Nicholas Hutchings  
David Eamonn Jones  
Paul Francis Morris  
David Harry Saxton

There were seven seats available and seven candidates had nominated themselves to stand. As there were no other candidates no election was required.

**NM03-20 Declarations of Acceptance of Office**

Those present were asked by the Chair to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office having been elected to the office of Member of North Muskham Parish Council.

**NM04-20 To Elect a Chairman of the Council – Civic Year 2019/20**

Nominations were requested for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council for the Civic Year 2019/20.

Councillor Hutchings proposed Councillor Harrison, seconded by Councillor Dolby.

A vote was taken on this nomination and the proposal was carried UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Harrison was duly elected as Chairman of the Parish Council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**NM05-20** To Elect a Vice-Chairman of the Council – Civic Year 2019/20

The Chairman called for nominations to the position of Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the Civic Year 2019/20.

Councillor Jones proposed Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Hutchings.

A vote was taken on this nomination and the proposal was carried UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chairman declared that Councillor Morris was duly elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**NM06-20** **Declarations of interest**

Councillor Nick Hutchings declared an interest in Planning Application 19/00800/FUL (Item 11b on Agenda).

It was AGREED that any other declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

**NM07-20** **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**NM08-20** **Update on Issues**

Members received and noted the updated issues document, attached to the minutes as Appendix 1.

Reference NM136-19. This will be considered at the next meeting where clarification and action can be obtained from the Clerk.

Councillor Harrison reminded members that the update of issues is published on the website. Any queries should be directed to the Clerk

Given the amount of items that required consideration, and the members of the public in attendance, it was agreed that agenda items referring to the Play Area, the Skatepark and an emergency item regarding changes to the village Bus Service, be brought forward for consideration now.

The Parish Council meeting would close at 9pm, any items not able to be considered would be included on the agenda for the 10<sup>th</sup> June meeting.

**NM09-20** **Play area**

Councillor Harrison stated that following an inspection in August 2018 various defects had been highlighted with the equipment and surfacing. Any high risk equipment had been removed but there needed to be a sustainable solution with regard to the safety

surfacing that would again be at risk of consolidation with the increasing high temperature and dry summers.

A bid for funding from Wren was unsuccessful and prices to remedy the surfacing ranged from a few thousand pounds to £22,000. He informed the meeting that the Parish Council had identified a budget of £2,500 that could be utilised for the project. Clare Cleverley (a parent of young children in the village) had sought costings for new equipment desired by parents and this suggested a project cost of £50,000. A fundraising committee had been started to purchase new equipment, which would look to raise £5,000 through fundraising activities to use as pump priming to facilitate a further grant application to various funding bodies. The Chairman suggested that Wren and other funding bodies were increasingly selective as applications increased in number. Gary Hobbs stated that The Mary Woolhouse Trust is designed for education in its widest sense so, while not promising that they would be supportive, the Charity could be approached for a donation towards the £5,000.

Councillor Harrison asked that Ms Cleverley and the Clerk to liaise regarding the opening of bank accounts and governance issues and confirmed that the Parish Council would make the application and make purchase of any new equipment or safety surfacing. Councillor Dolby stated that Claypole had been very successful getting grants and it would be worthwhile talking to them. Councillor Harrison said that the Clerk will be in contact with Ms Cleverley to work together.

It was agreed that this would take some time and Councillor Harrison was asked what the plan is in the meantime to keep the park open.

Councillor Harrison discussed a strategy, an action report and costings for the playground.

Andy Willey has volunteered to lead a volunteer working party. If the Parish Council accepted Mr Willey's kind offer Councillor Harrison would ask him to obtain a detailed installation specification and revised costings. As stated the Clerk had identified some funds. It was asked how are the temporary works will be validated as safe. The Chairman confirmed that the Council's insurance company was content with the use of volunteers to install the new safety surfacing as long as the installation was carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's specification and the relevant BS EN 1177. Councillor Harrison suggested that the new equipment would extend the current area of the playground and permission would be required from the MRCC to whom he would ask the Clerk to keep informed and to seek formal permission. It was agreed that the remedial work needed to be done before the Summer.

Councillor Harrison asked Ms Cleverley to advertise to mums that assistance is needed. Mr Willey to talk to Ms Cleverley

The vote for accepting Mr Willey's offer and to carry out works to defects included in the action plan was taken. Proposed by Councillor Dolby and seconded by Councillor Hutchings

It was AGREED that the Clerk be instructed to proceed (£1500 for grass netting, £1016 for pod swing and £906 to replace the swing legs, plus additional small cost works as necessary). Councillor Harrison reiterated that if the work could not be done in the next few weeks more of the park would have to close.

**NM10-20 Skateboard park update:**

No further news and awaiting confirmation from Clerk re CCTV.

**NM11-20 None Agenda Emergency Issue Regarding Bus Service 39**

The Chairman clarified that new bus timetables were now in place from May 20<sup>th</sup> causing one service to be withdrawn as it was not commercially viable. Bus service 37 route would continue to provide a near hourly service.

Councillor Harrison introduced John Gray who was going to present a short assessment on how he sees the loss of the bus service in the context of an ageing rural population.

Mr Gray suggested there was a need for a strong Parish Council agenda to plan for actions locally to mitigate some of the issues. Mr Gray reiterated to County Councillor Laughton the need to be getting this across to the decision makers. County Councillor Laughton responded that it was important to put into context the decision. The County Council as a whole had taken a major hit over the years and had a drop in resources. There was a 40% reduction in budget and reliance of income coming from residents via council tax across the County. Nottinghamshire County Council had a resource that uses 68% budget to deal with seven thousand vulnerable individuals in a population of 600,000. Mr Gray also supported the view of the Parish Council that there was a lack of meaningful consultation when such decisions were undertaken. Councillor Laughton concurred with this view with regard to these current changes and stated he would request that this be considered by County Council officers in the future.

The Chair thanked Mr Gray for his presentation and Councillor Laughton for his input. He said he would like to peruse the document further.

The Clerk would be asked to send a letter expressing the lack of concern shown over none consultation.

**NM12-20 Planning**

- (a) 19/00688/OUTM – Land Adjacent Rose Cottage, Main Street, North Muskham - Outline Application for Proposed Residential Development with all items other than access as reserved matters  
Members considered the application.

The Chair invited, Mr Hobbs, a member of the public to speak as an objector. He stated various concerns including:

The site is outside of the built up area of village and constitutes development in the open countryside. Mr Hobbs was very clear that adjoining shouldn't be a case. Need already being met: He believes it reasonable to point out the houses at the other end of village are currently being built  
The proposed development site is not within the existing built extent of the village and as such does not comply with Spacial Policy 3.

In support of this view we are mindful of SP3 para 4.25 and also mindful of the previously used village envelope for North Muskham to which this site is adjacent but not within. In the absence of a "village envelope" for North Muskham, we suggest that the determination of whether the site lies within the village and not in "countryside" should at least consider any previous "village envelope". This did not include the area of land in question. It is not an exception site and therefore we are strongly of the view that it constitutes open countryside along with land to its north and east. Adjacency should not be allowed as a reason for development as this would lead to an indefinite creep into the open countryside. Further the most recent NSDC SHLAA for North Muskham by Newark & Sherwood District Council confirms the site to be in countryside.

Contrary to the stated basis of the applicants case in the design and access statement, we suggest that the only "development" to the North is a motorway service station and associated retail outlets and 1 dwelling. It is predominately open countryside, as too is land to the East.

Again, in the design and Access statement there are inaccuracies.:

The site is not "surrounded by dwellings to the north" and there is no "convenience store" accessible by foot or vehicle from the village. To access the service station services a pedestrian has to cross private land which is only available by granted allowance and importantly this access is expected to be removed shortly by the land owner. Public access for pedestrians is only available by the hazardous route of walking up the south bound carriageway of the A1. There is no easy direct route from this site to the service station- this ended some years ago.

This then does not constitute the stated " sustainable location within a 10 minute walk to shop and services" and again, as such, does not meet the requirements of SP3.

Along with objectors from neighbouring properties we question the accuracy of the Ecological study given the local knowledge that roosting bats and other mammals including deer and badgers exist and use the land and adjacent land associated with the proposal site

SP3 core strategy requires that new housing in rural areas should only be allowed where it helps to meet an identified proven need. The applicant states that the need identified in the 2016 housing needs survey has not, as yet, been met as the developments, including the affordable housing and market value house development

adjacent to the Old Hall on Main Street, are not complete. Both this development, and the permission at Mulberry Cottage, Crab Lane, are now well underway and the footings are in at both with completion by the end of the year. Also, given the public subsidy of £170,000 already invested in the locally controversial affordable housing development, Parish Council members respectfully suggest it would be a travesty and misuse of those public resources if that scheme did not complete. As such it is clear that will not happen and that it will complete and as such, its assured completion should be a substantial part of any consideration of "need" for additional housing on this site.

Highways: It is noted that the Highways Authority will not be objecting to the application on the grounds of stated speed surveys of vehicles coming off the A1 and also the injury record at this location. Again, whilst fortunately no serious injuries, local knowledge is aware of many vehicle damage accidents where drivers coming off the A1 southbound carriageway are taken by the surprise by the shortness of the pull off and collide with the island and/or its signage. Any increased parking on Main Street at this location, associated with this proposed development would increase the hazardous potential of the slip way. The comments of the Highways Agency are not known but we would expect them to be consulted for the reasons stated above.

We are aware, having been informed by objectors, that the site plans submitted do not accurately represent the boundaries to the south side of the development and do not highlight the buffer zone provided at the time of the adjacent housing development by Wilcons.

For all of the stated reasons above the Parish Council wish to object strongly to this application

- (b) 19/00800/FUL – Holmedale, Main Street, North Muskham - Householder application for the demolition of glazed sun room and chimney with internal alterations and to form a rear extension and roof light replacing the existing chimney.

No issues raised. Proposer Councillor Paul Morris Seconded Councillor Dave Jones

**Unanimous for the application to be supported**

- (c) 19/00784/FUL – Land to the rear of 16 Dickinson Way, North Muskham - Change of use of wasteland, to form domestic garden area at the rear of the property

This has already been done. Councillor Paul Morris felt there was a point of principal where Nottinghamshire Wildlife were the custodians and had just given it away. This was raised at the time and it was agreed that they should communicate with the Parish Council in the future.

Proposed Councillor Paul Morris and seconded by Councillor Phil Beddoe

**Unanimous for the application to be supported**

- (d) Decision Notice - 19/00322/FUL – Tresco, 5 Main Street, North Muskham - Householder application for single storey side extension, porch, loft conversion with rear dormer, and

render to all elevations

The extension is now in line but the size of the dormer has not changed.  
Councillor Morris to raise with Planning as to why this application has been granted permission.

**NM13-20** Accounts for payment:

The Chair referred to the accounts for payment. It was AGREED unanimously that the following accounts be agreed for payment:

● Clerks Wages	248.88
● Payment to HMRC for clerk's wages	62.22
● Village handyman	255.01
● PWLB First payment	1697.24
● MRCC April meeting	31.75
● NALC subscription renewal	180.48

**NM14-20** Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019

The meeting closed at 9pm

All items not covered from the agenda will be considered at the June meeting.