

Shackerstone Parish Council

Minutes of the Shackerstone Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 20th September 2023 at 7.00 PM at Congerstone Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Bannister, Cllr Foley, Cllr Matthews, Cllr Meller, Cllr Wright. Borough Councillor Maureen Cook, County Councillor Harrison-Rushton, 5 members of the public and the clerk.

2531/2023 Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- Apologies were received from Cllr Ayres.

2532/2023 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

- Cllr Bannister and Cllr Mellor declared an interest on item 2523 as part of the Gopsall Walk goes across their land.

2533/2023 – To receive reports from County, Borough and Ward Councillors and Police

- A copy of Cllr Harrison-Rushton's report was circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that the county council are facing ongoing budget issues and are having to make various cuts on buses, highways, etc. It was reported that he had met with Cllr Bannister to look at the situation with Ibstock Road and the verge and that highways have confirmed that nothing can be done. Cllr Bannister commented that the highways officer had replied and had said that this is the responsibility of drivers to drive more appropriately.
- A copy of Cllr Cook's report was circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that Bosworth in Bloom have won the East Midlands large village category again and that is all credit to its volunteers. Cllr Wright asked what the decision on the Gladmans application was, it was noted that it had been refused on reasons that cannot be mitigated, one was that there was no approach to the battlefield and that it would take away from the ambience of the area. Cllr Bannister asked what is the conservation area of Shackerstone because this does not seem to be considered by the planning department. Cllr Cook reported that they had pushed the property back.

2534/2023 - Public Questions

Members of the public were asked to declare their name when addressing the Chairman if they wished for their name to be minuted in this section of the meeting, if they did not want their name mentioned they need not declare it.

- A member of the public from Barton commented that he does not believe that a lot of investment has been made in Barton over the last few years and does think that some investment would be beneficial. He commented that road safety is a real issue as the village is used as cut through for a lot of people travelling to work and school. It was noted that there is a lot of excessive speeding vehicles. It was noted that some traffic calming measures, including speed humps, flashing signs, etc. would be useful. Cllr Wright reported that the parish council have made representation to the highways about traffic calming in the village and they will only invest if there has been a fatality or serious injury. It was noted that the parish council have looked at getting mobile speed indicators but highways have indicated that there are no appropriate places to site them. Cllr Meller asked why other parish councils have speed signs on posts and that this needs investigating. Cllr Bannister commented that there had been a death at Odstone but highways still did not think traffic calming measures were appropriate. It was agreed that the clerk would speak with Cllr Harrison-Rushton to see whether he can get a site visit around the parish so that the various options can be looked at again.
- A member of the public from Barton commented that there are a lot dog walkers in and around the village and there is a lack of bins. Cllr Wright commented that a few years ago the parish council did speak with HBBC about new bins and they confirmed that they would not empty anymore bins. Cllr Meller commented that he had spoken with HBBC and they do not have any issues with additional bins but that we need to wait for the gentleman that covers our area to look into this. It was agreed that Cllr Mellor would provide the clerk with details of who had been in contact with. It was suggested that if HBBC will not install bins could the parish council not do it. It was also suggested that we find out why there are no bins in Barton or Bilstone.
- A member of the public asked how much money there is for s106 for Barton. Cllr Wright commented that it will be discussed under agenda item 2539.

2535/2023 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the meetings held on the 19th July 2023

A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on the 19th July were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Matthews proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true reflection of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Foley and councillors were in agreement.

2536/2023 – Resolution to approve payments

A copy of the payment scheduled, totally £18,317.71 was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. It was noted that the second instalment of the precept had been received (£17,500). Cllr Wright proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Bannister and councillors were in agreement.

Bosworth Groundcare	£4,352.40
PWLB	£1,606.34
Helen Chadwick	£561.60
PAYE	£421.20
Helen Chadwick	£3.97
2Commune Ltd	£847.20
Congerstone PCC	£25.00
Trigger Creative	£10,500.00

2538/2023 – Complaint to external auditor

The chair reported that a formal complaint had been submitted to the external auditor and that we are waiting to hear the outcome of this.

2539/2023 – To review s106 funding and agree actions

The chair explained that a section 106 agreement is a legally binding agreement or “planning obligation” between a local planning authority and a property owner. The purpose of a S106 agreement is to mitigate the impact of the development on the local community and infrastructure. Cllr Wright confirmed that the s106 funds available for Barton were approximately £2,500.

Cllr Meller asked why we are not spending the money. Cllr Foley commented that there is a very narrow window for the use of the funds and Cllr Bannister reported that we have tried repeatedly to spend the money and have been told that we cannot spend it on other things outside of the ‘play’ remit.

A member of the public commented that they can provide ideas for the use of the money and asked whether it could be used on an experience. Cllr Wright confirmed that it had to be spent on something that is capital.

Cllr Meller asked if we can proceed with the purchase of bins and benches for Barton. Cllr M Cook commented that if there was a strict planning condition it has to be used for that purpose outlined.

Cllr Meller commented on the Gopsall Walk project and that he had asked the residents of Barton and they did not want it. Cllr Bannister commented that the s106 monies for Barton had been identified that they could be used for open space, the largest open space in Barton is at the crossroads. He commented that at the last meeting of the Barton Jubilee Committee he attended they wanted some items on the crossroads. Cllr Wright commented that if there was some land that we could acquire for children’s play then the parish council would be very interested.

It was agreed that the clerk would liaise with Cllr M Cook and Lesley Keal, the Compliance & Monitoring Officer at HBBC, to seek clarification on the purpose of s106 and what it can be spent on.

2540/2023 – Update regarding the Gopsall Walk project

Cllr Bannister reported that in terms of the contract, the funding has been received by the contractor and we are waiting on a delivery date for the boards.

Cllr Meller commented that he is not against the Gopsall Walk project as such, but was against the amount the project cost. Cllr Foley commented that Cllr Meller has made his point and we should not be going back over previous discussions.

2541/2023 – Update regarding Odstone play area

The clerk reported that an order had been placed for the swings, following the agreement at the last meeting, but there is a manufacturing issue with the product. It was noted that no further action will be taken until the issue has been resolved.

2542/2023 – Update on the replacement bus shelter at Odstone

The clerk reported that the bus shelter has been installed and thanked colleagues from Cabin Store. It was noted that the new noticeboard will be installed inside the bus shelter over the coming days.

2543/2023 – Update regarding the lease for Shackerstone village hall and agree actions following inspection

The clerk reported that she is waiting for a Word version of the lease so that it can be updated. Cllr Wright commented that we are not interested in the commercial value and that the lease will remain a token amount but scaled with inflation. In terms of repairs and maintenance, it was agreed that we need to be clear on who is responsible for what work. Cllr Foley suggested that we ask a local builder to look at the repair work that has been suggested needs to be done by the parish council.

2544/2023 – Planning applications

The clerk reported that planning applications had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting for comment.

Cllr Foley commented that he was embarrassed to find out that there was going to be an extra house at the paddock south of Poplar Terrace and that we had no knowledge of this and whether it has been passed. The clerk confirmed that we are not notified of planning decisions but that she can check prior to each meeting. Cllr M Cook agreed to check why planning decisions are not sent out.

2545/2023 – Agenda items for the November meeting

- Planning
- Budget 2024/2025

2546/2023 – Date of next meeting

The clerk confirmed that the date of the next meeting is Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.00 PM and will take place at Shackerstone village hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20:00 PM.

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT Minutes