

SILVERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL MEETING held on MONDAY 14 OCTOBER 2024

Meeting Commenced at 8.00pm

Present

- **Councillors**
 - Greg Lavers – Chair (GL)
 - Mark Bladon – Vice Chair (MB)
 - Martyn Nash (MN)
 - Mark Haynes (MH)
 - Dermot Bambridge (DB)
 - Mohamad Djahanbakhsh (MD)
 - Sally Cann (SC)
 - Tim Coleman (TC)
 - Michelle Webb (MW)
 - Bruce Benyon (BB)
- **Clerk to Silverstone Parish Council**
 - Ross Sands (RS)
- **Members of the Public**
 - 16 x member of the public

1. Apologies of absence:

- Martyn Nash (MN)
 - Proposed: MH
 - Seconded: MW
 - All Cllrs voted in favour

2. Requests for Dispensations, Declarations of Interest, Gifts and Hospitality

- None

3. Open to the public (Max. 15-minute session):

- Gerald Lovell
 - Statement regarding News and Views including:
 - Previously no cross communication in the village before News and Views
 - News and Views allowed residents to know what was happening in the village
 - Parish Council has not spoken to residents about News and Views
 - Parish Council need to put aside personal opinions
 - Not fulfilling role as the Chairman
- Frank
 - Statement regarding News and Views including:
 - How do you know it's in the best interests of the community
 - What would happen to the money which isn't spent on News and Views
 - Concerned with the dangerous corner on church street
 - DB responded regarding the corner. Bungalow was sold 2/3 dwellings. It was meant to be used to establish a footpath which the Parish Council supported this. Currently with WNC/Highways and ownership details need to be resolved.
 - Martyn Dearsley has offer to let some of his land go for further round the corner.
 - Can a reduced speed limit be put in around the corner.
- Jimmy
 - Spoke up in favour of N&Vs and think it's brilliant
 - How are the Parish Council going to meet my needs if the News and Views is removed
 - N&Vs should be congratulated

- GL confirmed that N&Vs discussion is a closed item. Explained the processes which has been taken and highlighted the two options, proposed to the N&V team to enable it to continue, not end. Members of the public will be updated in the minutes and further communication
- Unknown
 - Role of the Parish Council is to represent the views of the village and listen to what they want

4. Councillors to approve and the Chair to sign the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting:

- Minutes approved as a true and fair record.
 - Proposed: DB
 - Seconded: MH
 - All Cllrs voted in favour

5. Chair to provide remarks to the Council on upcoming elections

- GL – May’s public elections. Local elections coming up and paper is being provided by NCALC and will be shared with the clerks in the county.
- GL - Thursday 1st May will be the night of the local elections, held in the church rooms. Elections of parish council and local ward councillors will take place. There are 2 outcomes for the Parish Council:
 - If 12 or more register to be councillor then it would be a democratic election otherwise known as a contested election. In this scenario member of public will have the opportunity to vote
 - If 11 or less it will be an uncontested election and councillors will be co-opted in
- GL – NCALC are advising Parish Councils to budget £1.50 per elector although this figure may reduce. NCALC negotiating with WNC on costs

6. Report back from the Chair of:

- a) Finance Committee
 - MH meeting did not take place as Quorum was not reached. Need to meet in November to discuss the budget
- b) Leisure Enhancement Committee
 - BB – still seeking some clarification for volunteers on the insurance policy. Plan to develop a Leisure Strategy
 - BB – Meeting new police officer next week
 - BB – War memorial. Received feedback from War Memorials Trust. Putting metal plates on the memorial may result in more damage. War Memorials Trust have provided some possible contractors but they don’t recommend suppliers. Target for repair/refurbishment is Remembrance Day in 2025
- c) Planning Committee
 - MW – 2 applications and no objections to either

7. West Northamptonshire (WNC) Councillor Update:

- DB - 7-9 Brackley Road. Believes its against policy. Previously identified as a special area of land. New policies carried forward to plan 2
- DB – DHL at Bell Plantation was refused on 10 September 2024. Understanding that the applicant is in the process of appealing. Grounds for refusal will be in the minutes
- DB – Syresham truck stop was refused as an area of open countryside and outside village confines. Other impacts on highways, drainage and loss of agricultural land
- DB – Northampton Market Square reopening. Events taking place on 19/20 October. Water feature in shape of a show lace

8. Neighbourhood Plan:

- BB – original plan back to Kirkwells and need to go to public consultation. Outline proposal for the consultation and form. Job for the new clerk that we have the proviso for support of Kirkwells. Consultant support and budget. Now use the same consultation process as WNC. Strict process for consultation and will go to referendum. Potentially the 1st May for a vote on the same day as local elections – simple yes/no. GL can it be held on same day as local elections. Kirkwells indicated that many councils try to do it on the same day of local councils. DB put in the potential request now. **Action: Clerk to contact the monitoring officer at WNC for 1st May**
- BB we must comply with certain laws and regulations

- BB we don't have to print vast quantities. Some printed copies are to be made available in locally accessible. GL might be able to use the AVM. GL we are looking at coinciding the F1/MGP information with the AVM
- Motion to take Neighbourhood Plan to consultation
 - Proposed: BB
 - Seconded: GL
 - All cllrs voted in favour

9. Silverstone Circuit:

- SC – 3rd October 2024. Discussion about success and failures
 - Success of closing abthorpe Road. Going to look at further
 - Going to look at doing more at Whittlebury
 - Discussed parking for residents
 - Need to consider the MGP to May
 - Should know more at CLG meeting and encouraged residents to look at circuit website
 - Looking to increase uptake in use of bus services
- MH – trying to improve the park and ride take up. Park and ride being significantly less costly. 63.5k used the buses last year. DB £130 for three-day parking ticket. GL one of the biggest challenges is the buses and drivers. MH used roughly 450 buses in 2024
- GL discussed a proper engagement plan but added complexity with MGP being in May. BB – can look at enhanced vigilance. Dates can be shared with the local police. MH suggested that information had to be sorted by April. DB - MGP doesn't cause as much impact as F1

10. Silverstone Recreation Association:

- GL – Martyn is an apology for the meeting. Councillors referred to the included report

11. Land between Cattle End and the Village:

- MW – enquired to clerk to see who owns the piece of land. **Action: Clerk to enquire with land registry**
- GL – Any communication must come from the Clerk. DB – would need to ensure we obtain a valuation

12. 7.5t Weight Limit:

- MB – No update.

13. Finance – Payment for Approval:

- MB highlighted the need to review contracts. GL - Tendering and contracts are going to be reviewed by the Clerk.
- TC it would be useful to have the invoice in the meeting pack. BB said the onus should be on individual councillors to contact the clerk
- MD – suggest that Silverstone Design Solutions invoice should be deferred to agenda item 17. All councillors agreed
- Payments Approved
 - Proposed: GL
 - Seconded: BB
 - TC abstained. All other Cllrs voted in favour.

Gross Amount (£)	VAT Value (£)	Payee	Details	Power
969.47		Ross Sands	Clerk Salary – September 2024 (including 11 additional hours)	LGA 1972 S112
102.00	17.00	Ross Sands	Remembrance Cross Expenses	LGA 1972 S111
100.00		Ross Sands	WFH Allowance (July, August, September 2024)	LGA 1972 S112
75.00		St Michaels Silverstone PCC	Room Hire – Community Afternoon (July/August 2024)	LGA 1972 S111
50.40	8.40	NCALC	Training – Mohamad Djahanbaksh	LGA 1972 S111
352.26	58.71	DNH Contracts	Dog Bin Emptying – September 2024	Open Spaces Act

76.44	12.74	Bechtle	MS Cloud Services – September 2024	LGA 1972 S111
504.00	84.00	PKF Littlejohn	External Audit 2023/24	LGA 1972 S111
101.25		Silverstone Recreational Association	Room Hire – April 2024	LGA 1972 S111
45.00		Silverstone Recreational Association	Room Hire – May 2024	LGA 1972 S111
20.00		Silverstone Recreational Association	Room Hire – August 2024	LGA 1972 S111
810.00	135.00	NJ Blackwell Garden Services	Grass Cutting – August 2024	Open Spaces Act
500.00		Silverstone Design Solutions	News and Views (October 2024)	LGA 1972 S111
108.00	18.00	NCALC	Training – Mohamad Djahanbaksh	LGA 1972 S111
2075.94	345.99	Simon and Sons Grounds Maintenance	Pocket Park Grass Cutting	Open Spaces Act
300.00	50.00	Forde and McHugh Ltd	Lamp Post Repair	LGA 1972 S111
660.00	110.00	Cuttlefish	Website Hosting and Domain Renewal	LGA 1972 S111
3328.34	554.72	PFL Group – Playground Facilities	Play Area repairs	LGA 1972 S111

14. Exclusion of the Public, including the Press:

The Chair may move “that in accordance with section 1 (2) of the public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted as summarised below.” Subject to the approval of the above motion the meeting will then move into confidential session.

- Proposed: DB
- Seconder: BB
- All Cllrs voted in favour

Motion Held

15. To approve the recommendations of the Complaints Committee

- GL provided an overview of the complaint and recommendations by the Complaints Committee
- Recommendations approved
 - Proposed: GL
 - Seconded: MW
 - All Cllrs voted in favour. MH abstained

16. To appoint the new Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

- GL successful recruitment process. MB/GL interviewed 2 candidates
- Clerk appointed
 - Proposed: GL
 - Seconded: MB
 - All Cllrs voted in favour
- Agreed that the Clerk will schedule payments prior to the next meeting. Cllrs will authorise payments to be made after they are approved/rejected at November PC meeting.
- **Action:** Clerk to add TC as authorised signatory on bank account

17. To approve the contractual separation between the Parish Council and News and Views

- Extensive discussion from all Cllrs regarding news and views

At 9.59pm GL proposed to suspend standing orders. BB seconded. All Cllrs voted in favour

- Further extensive discussions from all Cllrs regarding news and views
- It was approved for the Parish Council to support News and Views to move into its own entity and become independent. This was approved:
 - Proposed: GL
 - Seconded: BB
 - All Cllrs voted in favour
- Financial grant approved to enable a supportive transition and continuity of the publication:
 - Make payment for any outstanding advertising payments, intended for future editions of N&Vs (November 2024 onwards)
 - £1000 to cover the cost of printing for the last two N&V editions of 2024/25
 - Payment of £1800 (inclusive of EMR) immediately
 - Delayed payment of £1200 in August 2025 – this is subject to the Clerk being satisfied their commitment is being delivered in the first half of 2025/26
- To enable these payments, it was approved that News and Views would be requested to:
 - Communicate to the Clerk, written commitment to the Parish Council on what will be delivered in return for the funds awarded by the PC
 - News and Views would be asked to comply with the PCs statutory obligations in relation to the gifting of funds. The Clerk will communicate these to them
 - Proposed: GL
 - Seconded: BB
 - All Cllrs voted in favour

DB left the meeting due to ill health

- Payment to Silverstone Design Solutions (from Agenda Item 13) approved
 - Proposed: BB
 - Seconded: MH
 - Against: MD
 - All other Cllrs voted in favour

Date of next meeting: Monday 11 November 2024

The meeting was declared closed at 10.28pm

Signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair of the Council:

Chair:

Date: