

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 8 January 2024 at 7:30 pm, at the Parish Council Offices, 1 London Road, Kegworth**

Present: Cllrs M Hawksworth, V Saunders, C Sewell, H Stanney, R Sutton (arrived during the meeting), W White, H Williams, also Clerk D Griggs, and two members of the public.

**01/24 Election of Chairman for the Meeting:** In the absence of the chairman and the vice chairman, Cllr Martin Hawksworth was elected to be the chairman for the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Sewell, seconded by Cllr White, unanimously agreed.

**02/24 Apologies for Absence:** It was resolved to accept apologies for absence from Cllrs Becky Mullaney, Andrew Priestley, and Ray Sutton. Reasons given and approved.

**03/24 Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

**04/24 Chairman's Announcements:** Councillors were advised that the Parish Council's appeal against the tree planting requirements for St Andrew's churchyard had been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate. They were also advised that the Clerk would meet with Bowls Club representatives and a representative from Voluntary Action Leics on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 at 2 pm to discuss the Bowls Club's desire to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and the implication of this should the Bowls Club cease to exist. Councillors were asked to attend if they could. The Clerk advised that she had met with Cllr Pendleton with a view to working together to arrange a meeting to address the highways issues raised by Parish Councillors previously.

**05/24 Review of Current Position Regarding Filling the Council's Vacant Seat:** The Clerk advised that the vacancy had been advertised for four weeks, but there had not been any applications for co-option to the Council. It was resolved that the vacancy would be advertised again, including on social media, and councillors would also speak to anyone they thought might be interested.

**06/24 Public Participation:** One member of the public spoke briefly to introduce himself as the prospective parliamentary candidate for North West Leicestershire for the Conservative Party. Another member of the public advised they were corresponding with the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the car cruising issues.

One member of the public left the meeting.

**07/24 Police Report and Police Matters:** The Clerk had received crime figures for the period 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024 from the Police, which showed 2 offences of attempted theft, 2 of theft from a person, 13 of theft from business, 3 of criminal damage, 6 of public order, 1 theft of a motor vehicle, 1 of anti-social behaviour, 7 of assault and one drugs offence. In addition, there had been 4 reports of vehicles racing on the highway. The

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Police had advised the matter was being actively tackled by the Police and the spike of thefts from a local store was being treated as a new priority.

**09/24 Receive any Reports from District and County Councillors:** Cllr Sewell spoke as District Councillor and advised that the planning application for the motocross training park at Molehill Farm [23/00129/FULM](#) would be discussed at the District Planning Committee meeting later in the week. She also advised that some residents had raised concerns that a crossing point had not yet been installed on Sideley as per the Section 106 agreement for the new development.

**08/24 Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 4 December 2023:** Councillors resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting 4 December 2023. Proposed by Cllr Sewell, seconded by Cllr White (5 for, 1 abstention).

**09/24 Consider Applying for the Local Council Award Scheme (Foundation Level):** After some discussion, it was resolved to apply for accreditation for the foundation level of the Local Council Award Scheme. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Sewell (3 for, 1 against, 2 abstentions)

**10/24 Review the Council's Grant Awards Policy:** Councillors resolved to adopt the Grant Awards Policy. Proposed by Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Stanney, unanimously agreed.

**11/24 Review the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy:** Councillors resolved to adopt the Equality and Diversity Policy. Proposed by Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Williams, unanimously agreed.

**12/24 Agree Changes to the Schedule for Collection of Allotment Rents:** The Clerk tabled a report showing that allotment holders who had responded to the survey in March 2023 had expressed a preference to change the allotment year to run from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30th September. Councillors resolved to change the schedule from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and to ask allotment holders to sign the tenancy agreement once for the period of the tenancy, not annually. Proposed by Cllr Hawskworth, seconded by Cllr Sewell, unanimously agreed.

**13/24 Receive a Breakdown of Income and Expenditure for the Christmas Market and Agree Any Actions (as per Minute 182/23f)** Councillors noted the income and expenditure report provided by OneKegworth. After a short discussion, it was resolved to pay for the Chapter 8 stewards and the portable toilets for the Christmas Market in 2024, as long as the cost was no greater than that for 2023 plus 5%. Proposed by Cllr Hawskworth, seconded by Cllr Stanney, unanimously agreed.

#### **14/24 Finance:**

- a. The Council's expenditure against cost centre budgets year to date was reviewed and total bank balances of £230,909.63 were noted as at 3 January 2024.
- b. Councillors noted the income received for the month. They resolved to approve the following accounts for payment. Proposed by Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Stanney, unanimously agreed.



**15/24 Planning:**

- a. Planning applications were considered by councillors. It was resolved to make no comment on the following applications:

[23/01501/PNH](#) - Erection of a single storey rear extension measuring 4.28 metres in length x 4 metres width, with a maximum overall height of 3.27 metres (Prior Approval) - 1 Bedford Close

[23/01502/PNH](#) - Erection of a single storey rear extension measuring 4.28 metres x 4 metres in length, with a maximum overall height of 3.27 metres (Prior Approval) - 3 Bedford Close

[23/01631/FUL](#) - Erection of a single storey extension to an existing Doctors surgery - Orchard Surgery, Dragwell

[23/01622/LBC](#) - Erection of single storey rear extension, single storey outbuilding, erection of trellis on existing boundary wall, partial demolition of garden wall, alterations and replacement of windows and doors, repairs to roof, installation of conservation style rooflights, demolition of driveway walls and the installation of front gates. (Listed Building Consent) - 34 London Road

[23/01621/FUL](#) - Erection of single storey rear extension, single storey outbuilding, erection of trellis on existing boundary wall, partial demolition of garden wall, alterations and replacement of windows and doors, repairs to roof, installation of conservation style rooflights, demolition of driveway walls and the installation of front gates - 34 London Road

[23/01610/FUL](#) - Erection of single storey rear extension and first floor side extension - 17 New Street

[23/01644/TPO](#) - Works to 2no Pine trees (Protected by Tree Preservation Order) - 3 Mulberry Gardens

- b. The Clerk did not report on any decisions made by the Planning Authority.

The meeting closed at 8:53 pm.