

SOUTH MUSKHAM/LITTLE CARLTON

Note of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 17 May 2016 at 7 pm in South Muskham Village Hall

- Present: From the Parish Council
Councillors D Catanach, H Clack, L Francis, R Gill, Mrs G Gilroy and Mrs K Walsh
An apology was received from Cllr Mrs K Carr
- With: County Councillor, Bruce Laughton and District Councillor Mrs S Saddington
- And: 9 members of the Public

Howard Clack, as Chairman of the Parish Council during the term 2016-17, presided.

WELCOME

Howard expressed a very warm welcome to everyone present. He welcomed Cllr Bruce Laughton as the newly elected County Council representative for this Parish; and he thanked Cllr Mrs Sue Saddington for her assistance and for all her support over the past year and previously. It was encouraging to have two such experienced Councillors on our side; and it was appreciated that with the very large number of wards to be covered in respect of their County and District roles, the likely practice would be that only one of them would be present at future Parish meetings where their overall and over-lapping knowledge of local issues would be very much welcomed.

SS responded that it had been a pleasure and a privilege to represent the Parish for the past 12 years. She had been sad that the Boundary Commission changes had required change, but she accepted that the number of parishes and the distances involved made change necessary. She was very pleased to know that this Parish would be well looked after by Bruce Laughton and she would, of course, continue to keep a close interest on in her ongoing role as District Councillor.

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that 2016-17 had been a very productive period for the Parish Council, mentioning in particular the production of an Emergency Plan, the reduction in local Speed Limits along the A616 and at the mini roundabout; the siting of a Defibrillator at the Village Hall, and replacement seating/bin and improved maintenance to the mini roundabout; the placement of a new bench at Forge Close, the design and materials for which had been provided and constructed by students at Lincoln College and Central College, Nottingham, under the supervision of local resident, Mr S Pask, and Councillor participation at the local Neighbourhood Safety Watch Group and also the Newark Healthcare Consultative Group, together with voluntary support from residents involved in the Speed Watch team, and also assistance with grass maintenance at the Cricket Ground.

The Chairman thanked his fellow Councillors for all their hard work and support during the last twelve months. Considerable time and effort had been willingly provided by all: particularly Cllrs Mrs K Carr, R Gill to achieve the comprehensive Emergency Plan and the still ongoing efforts to involve the local authorities, (Environment Agency, STW and Internal Drainage Board) with long outstanding flooding/drainage issues; Cllrs Francis in undertaking to maintain the buildings at Beckitt Field; Cllr Mrs Gilroy for her involvement with safety related issues; and to those Councillors who also served on the Village Hall Management Committee.

With regard to the VHMC he wished to thank Mrs Hazel Hall for her constant attendance to update the Parish Council on the activities and plans of the VHMC and for everyone's involvement to achieve a much closer liaison between the Council and the Village Hall.

The Chairman, again, thanked the Parish Clerk for all her hard work on behalf of the Parish Council and concluded by saying that overall he felt that it had been a very good year and that he had been proud to be the Chairman of such a hard working group.

OPEN SESSION

The Annual Parish Meeting provided an opportunity for local residents to raise any issues they had which related to the Parish now and in the future; and most of the residents present had come specifically to raise concerns with regard to the **vehicle parking problems at Forge Close**.

The issues raised were formally reported and considered at the Parish Council meeting, following the Parish Meeting, and below is an extract from the PC Minutes (Minute 17.)

“Cllr Mrs K Walsh had recently visited local residents and reported back on her findings; this confirmed a large number of privately owned cars and the particular problem of regular visits, specifically care assistant staff.

It was **AGREED** that any possible changes would have to be agreed by Highways and Newark & Sherwood Homes, and Cllr Laughton said he would contact both organisations to determine particular responsibilities and possible solutions. He advised that information could be supplied by NCC making everyone aware of the problems being experienced by some residents and requesting more co-operation and consideration by motorists. But with regard to parking on the pavement and obstructing access, this was a police matter and persistent reporting – by telephone on 101 – would log the area as a problem to which the Police would, eventually, have to be intervene. He also suggested that if the action of registered carers was exacerbating the problem it might help to contact the companies involve and ask for their co-operation.”

Cllr Laughton also wished to update residents of the revised position regarding the **Minerals Plan**, and again below is an extract from the PC Minutes (Minute 20)

“Notts Minerals Local Plan Public Examination : Update and financial implications

Cllr Laughton reported at the Parish Meeting that, as an urgent step, the new Conservative Administration now in place at County Hall were reviewing previously held concerns with regard to the absolute need for further extraction at this time. The matter was now the subject of consideration with the intention to withdraw the current Plan, scheduled for review by an Independent Examiner starting next month. Meetings at County Hall were being arranged to consider a way forward to ensure that the all the necessary requirements were not at risk by looking at, e.g. the levels of gravel to be extracted for use outside of the County, and the use of existing and new but, as yet, unworked, sites, in order to minimize any further large areas of extraction within the County, and thus avoid the consequent detrimental effect on the quality of the lives of local residents.”

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm
Clerked by Christine Slim