

Foston and Scropton Parish Council

Minutes of Foston and Scropton Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7.30pm

Present:	Cllr. A. Dolley Cllr. P. Groom Cllr. J. Smith	Cllr. J. Patten Cllr. G. Andrew Cllr. S. Meghani
OPM110325/01 – To receive apologies for absence: ➤ Cllr. J. Davies ➤ Cllr. N. Hickman		
OPM110325/02 - Variation of Order of Business (if required) ➤ None		
OPM110325/03 - Declaration of Members' Interests appertaining to agenda items. ➤ None		
OPM110325/04 - Public Speaking, including County, District and Police Representation. District Cllr. S. Meghani ➤ Local matters: Bins issues at Foston and Scropton, muddy paths/hedge flailing residue, drain cover and concerns about a possible business being run from home. ➤ SDDC annual budget concluded on 27 th February, financial shortfall met from reserves at £120,000. ➤ Council Tax increased by 2.99% ➤ Council Complaints policy change – Recommend for Constituents to notify District and County Councillors or Parish Clerk initially.		
County Cllr. J Patten ▪ Leathersley Lane issues – Left side repaired, right side (from Scropton to A515) still not repaired manhole, grill still proud. Layby potholes filled with leftover tarmac instead of filling outstanding road potholes. Use of tarmac missed managed. Continuing problems emanated from works by Network Plus on behalf of Western Power. Parish Councillors have raised this problem now for well over 2 years which is now outside the 2 years contract liability period. Watery Lane verge and road edge is collapsing into the brook this has been reported a number of times by Cllr. A. Dolley Cllr. Patten reporting to Inspector ▪ Local Government Reform Derbyshire / Derby City see https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/news-events/news-updates/news/council-submits-bid-for-countywide-reorganisation.aspx ▪ Secondary School places – allocation of 9,000. 96% of people have got their first choice. ▪ D Day Veteran freedom of Derbyshire https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/news-events/news-updates/news/d-day-veteran-looks-set-to-receive-honour-of-freedom-of-derbyshire.aspx ▪ Community Fund - nothing in the account		

- SDDC are going ahead with new civic offices costing millions even the reform is going to happen and will have to be abolished.

Cllr. P Groom

Follow up from previous meeting on– Proposal to withdraw Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme Grant to Parish Councils. <https://www.southderbyshire.gov.uk/our-services/council-tax/ctrs> rebate people on benefits get their council taxed paid that affects the number of properties (18 properties) that qualify for Precepts.

Cllr. Groom asked about voting against proposal for zero increase in council tax.

Response:-

Cllr Andrew did not agree the alternative budget put forward by the Conservative Group on the District Council, and spoke against it at the meeting, as he felt it was something the Conservative Group only proposed knowing it would grab headlines and not be considered by the ruling Labour Group. He noted that in all the years that the Conservative group had been in control of the Council they had not once put forward anything other than the maximum rise allowed, as they have done at the County Council recently. He and his Lib Dem colleague abstained from the vote on the Labour group rise, as it was not something they had participated in producing.

Joint report from District Cllrs J Davies and Cllr. G. Andrew

- Cllr Davies is pursuing the SDDC enforcement team regarding the Bus Depot on Woodyard Lane
- Cllr Andrew secured an amendment condition on the recent Planning Application to extend the Dove Valley Business Park to give access to WG Tankers so they will no longer need to use Woodyard Lane. Their Planning application is awaited soon.
- Cllr Andrew has escalated the various fly tipping concerns expressed yesterday to the relevant teams.
- Both Cllrs Davies and Andrew continue to chase various other enforcement actions in the area including the Mill Green.
- Local Government reorganisation – special meeting of the District Council next week to discuss the Labour groups response (no direct impact on Parish Councils mentioned)
- Cllrs. Davies and Andrew separate meetings with the 2 MPs over the impact of new Nursing Home on Salt Box site about getting better funding for the Wellbrook surgery. Only getting £8,000 p.a. extra funding for looking after the 66 bed home.

➤ Cllr. Warriner (Church Broughton PC) Coach Park at Woodside Farm on Woodyard Lane.

The site was purchased in mid-2024 following sale of old Edgar Bentley Farmhouse and grounds.

There have been a number of problems to date:

1. Coaches turning from and onto Woodyard Lane on the blind bend present a significant traffic hazard. A number of people have reported near misses. DCC Highways have been notified.
2. A fire was started on site on 30th October 24 producing black, noxious smoke – fire brigade called and environmental complaint raised with DCC, investigated and now closed.
3. Felled tree stumps and wood brash have been dumped on Woodyard Lane from the site. A further environmental complaint has been raised (by SDCC Planning compliance).

Planning history

The entirely separate transport site to the rear of the property was sold some years ago after planning consent for the wider Edgar Bentley farm in 2010. This has an appropriate entrance further South on Woodyard Lane. The farmhouse and farmyard at Woodside Farm (where the Coach Park is operating from) was included in the initial 2010 planning request but was rejected. One key reason appears to have been the problems with a proposed further “transport entrance” onto Woodyard Lane on a blind bend. SDDC Planning compliance team has raised Enforcement Notice ENF/2024/00191 having confirmed that the site doesn’t have the necessary consents to operate a coach maintenance and parking business (Jaqueline Scott is the main point of contact via Jacqueline.Scott@southderbyshire.gov.uk).

2 of our 3 Ward councillors (Grahame Andrew and Jayne Davies) are both briefed and involved in the enforcement notice to date. Sundip Meghani is less involved.

A retrospective planning application is expected to be submitted in the next 4-6 weeks.

Next steps

CB PC will review the planning application when it arrives and circulate it around our Parish (as normal). We will determine if we wish to raise an objection ourselves. Some individual residents are likely to base on their experiences, views and statements to date.

A key action is likely to be to mobilise DCC Highways to review the application and the site's traffic risks. Our own experience is that DCC Highways won't always provide an input without encouragement. We will consider lobbying Charlotte Culpit directly and via our DCC Councillor (Julie Patten).

If F&S PC wish to object, and want to co-ordinate a response with CB PC, we'd be happy to discuss that further, to cover both the geographic location (in F&S) and the breadth of local residents being impacted (CB & F&S).

Comments from meeting:-

Believe the business is coach maintenance.

Coaches being parked off site in Foston Village

➤ **Community Hall Postcode**

Correction needed on <https://www.royalmail.com/find-a-postcode> to DE65 5PS

OPM110325/05 - Other Correspondence

➤ None

OPM110325/06 - To Confirm and agree as a true record the minutes of the Ordinary Foston and Scropton Parish Council Meeting held on 11th February 2025

▪ Alteration to item OPM110225/09 - VH Electrical quotes / reviewed and reported

➤ Approved.

Proposed: Cllr. J Smith

Seconded: Cllr A. Dolley

OPM110325/07 – Finance

Foston and Scropton Parish Council Meeting - 11th March 2025

Parish Council Expenditure cheques to be approved:

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
11/03/2025	M Hayes	Lengthsman wages	£ 146.32
11/03/2025	J Allen	Parish Clerk Wages	£ 336.00
11/03/2025	HMRC	Month 12	£ 86.40
11/03/2025	J Allen	Expenses	£ 9.35
11/03/2025	DSK Engineering	Playground Inspection	£ 48.00

Parish Hall Expenditure Cheques to be approved:

Date	Name	Description	Amount
11/03/2025	Scottish Power	Electricity Bill	£ 136.32
Parish Hall Income			
Date	Name	Description	Amount
11/03/2025	Chair Exercise Class	Chair Exercise Class	£36.00

➤ Cllr. J Smith to be cheque signature

➤ Approved.

Proposed: Cllr. J Smith

Seconded: Cllr. A Dolley

OPM110325/08 - Planning Applications

Application ref. DMPA/2025/0166: The erection of an extensions and alterations and changes to existing roof to allow for additional loft space at Edgemon, Scropton Road, Scropton, Derby, DE65 5PS

No Observation

OPM110325/09 - Surveillance Cameras

Camera cost ranges from £100 to £400 +. £950 costs infra-red beam doesn't glow. Others have ariel with monthly subscription.

Possible having 4 cameras – 2 at each known rubbish site

Sign notification required at site

Notification notice

Recording of registration plate notification to District Council legal team

OPM110325/10 – Hinckley & Rugby Building Society.

- Completion of application forms
- 2025/26 precept £22,783 1st payment £11,391.50
- Approval to transfer £40,000 to savings account

Approved Cllr J Smith

Seconded Cllr. A Dolley

OPM110325/11 - Simpler Recycling Letter by post from SDDC

Information under:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/simpler-recycling-collections-and-tougher-regulation-to-reform-waste-system>

OPM110325/12 - Chairmans report

- Playground fencing still pursuing quotes to be on next month's agenda

OPM110325/13 - Clerk's Monthly report/Items

- Great British Spring Clean / litter Pickers
Areas to be picked
Notification on Scropton facebook page and noticeboard
Date: Sunday 6th April 10a.m. to 12 noon

OPM110325/14 – Date of Next Meeting

- 8th April 2025

OPM110325/15 – Exclusion of the Press and Public Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

- None

Signed:	
Date of issue:	3 rd April 2025