

# Foston and Scropton Parish Council

## Minutes of Foston and Scropton **Non Quorum** Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr. V. Blackshaw Cllr. A. Dolley Cllr. J. Patten Cllr. G. Andrew
<b>OPM120324/01 – To receive apologies for absence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cllr. J. Davies</li> <li>➤ Cllr. N. Hickman</li> <li>➤ Cllr. S. Meghani</li> <li>➤ Cllr. P. Groom</li> </ul>	
<b>OPM120324/02 - Variation of Order of Business (if required)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ None</li> </ul>	
<b>OPM120324/03 - Declaration of Members' Interests appertaining to agenda items.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ None</li> </ul>	
<b>OPM120324/04 - Public Speaking, including County, District and Police Representation.</b> <p><b>Hedge – Mill Lane</b>  Who is responsible for cutting the hedge in Mill Lane, cuttings not been cleared up.</p> <p><b>Railway Crossing – Mill Lane</b>  Are there plans to close a railway crossing?  Residents the other side of the crossing at Mill Lane received a letter from Network Rail asking to discuss the crossing being unmanned.  Cllr. V. Blackshaw spoke to Stella Thomas from Network Rail to what has triggered the letter being issued. There was a couple of incidents that train drivers have reported around safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One was the gates to the line being left open.</li> <li>• The another was a van edging out to cross the railway without phoning first.</li> </ul> <p>I asked her if they were looking to close the crossing, no.</p> <p>Network Rail have now put up temporary CCTV camera to look at the activity across the crossing to see if drivers are not following crossing instructions. If delivery drivers not following crossing procedures, Network Rail will be working with those companies to make sure that the drivers are aware of the rules around crossing the level crossing. They are also looking at improving signage.</p> <p><b>Watery Lane:</b>  The water course that runs parallel to watery lane, the east side of the woods has been cleaned out and believe has broken into a balance pond. This is causing Watery Lane to flood much quicker.  Update from Parish Clerk:-  Notification has been sent to the Environmental Agency and DCC.</p>	

Location of the Balance Pond required by the Environmental Agency hasn't been ascertained as on private land. Notification has been sent to Phil Lenton at SDDC to investigate. Cllr. V. Blackshaw is also investigating.

**Woodyard Lane:-**

Pothole location (What 3 words yelled.joked.officer) is long and deep and could cause vehicle damage. Parish Clerk to report to Highways.

**Cllr Julie Patten – Derbyshire County Council**

**New East Midlands Mayoral Combined Authority**

The new Mayoral Combined Authority which includes, Derbyshire, Derby City, Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire has now been confirmed and agreed, with the election of the new Regional Mayor taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May this year. This is an exciting and new development in local democracy which will give devolved powers to our region instead of being decided in Westminster. Government have promised us £1.14 over a period of 30 years and we will be able to make our own decisions on housing, transport, skills and adult education and economic development.

**Community Alarms**

We have been informed by our Trading Standards officers that scammers are targeting older people either on the doorstep or by phone to change or buy bogus alarms. These are individual safety alarms which many residents have in case of falls etc. Please be aware and if you have been approached, please call the Police on 101.

**Highways Update**

Our teams are filling in around 2000 potholes per week, focussing on hot box repairs where possible. The teams are out seven days a week, and I know there are many to be repaired. The highways team are trialling new materials and technology, and now the weather seems to be improving stepping up the backlog of repairs. Please report any repairs needed to me or you can log on the DCC website directly.

**Cllr. J. Patten on behalf of Cllr Sundip Meghani - South Derbyshire District Council**

My wife, Manny and I are thrilled to share the wonderful news that our son, Reevean Meghani, was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024. Reevean is our first child, and the last few months have been very exciting (and exhausting) for us! I took an extended period of paternity leave

and I would like to thank my fellow councillors for picking up the slack in my absence.

In view of the above, my update this month is limited. The latest big development at South Derbyshire District Council occurred at a Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February, where the budget for the forthcoming year was passed.

The budget will increase council tax for all residents in Hilton ward and despite this, it will still leave a large hole in the Council's finances over the next few years. This is because the Council has continued to spend vast sums of money on vanity projects and failed to make sensible savings.

**Cllr Grahame Andrew - South Derbyshire District Council**

- Both he and Cllr Davies had been working with a number of local residents connected to Planning Enforcement issues around the Mill Green development
- He confirmed he had chased the payment of the invoice reported last meeting
- He informed the meeting of the discussions held at the Church Broughton Parish Council concerning the proposed height increase by the bottling plant on Woodyard Lane to 38m
- He offered praise to the County Council drainage teams who had been out to look at the issues by the Aldi Roundabout in Hilton
- He accepted an action to get the damaged road name sign on Uttoxeter Rd (near watery lane) repaired

## 2024 Council Tax

Several queries received concerning the 2024 council tax for Foston and Scropton being the highest across South Derbyshire as we don't have any amenities.

## Grass Cutting.

Residents noticed last week that the council were out cutting grass which they felt was a bit early. Asked Parish Council to investigate.

Parish Clerk to email head of operation. *Issued 13/03/2024. Contact Cllr. G Andrew if assistance is required.*

## OPM120324/05 To Confirm and agree as a true record the minutes of the Ordinary Foston and Scropton Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024

- Deferred to April PC meeting.

## OPM120324/06 – Finance

### Parish Council Expenditure cheques to be approved:

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
12/03/2024	M Hayes	Lengthsman wages	£136.50
12/03/2024	J Allen	Parish Clerk Wages	£153.60
12/03/2024	HMRC	Month 8	£38.40
12/03/2024	A G Platts	Allotment grass cutting	£300.00

### Parish Council Income :

Date	Name	Description	Amount
12/03/2024	Allotment Holders	Renewal	£80.00

### Parish Hall Expenditure Cheques to be approved:

Date	Name	Description	Amount
12/03/2024	Water Plus	Water Rates	£394.45
12/03/2024	Yu Energy	Electricity Bill (DDM)	£134.66

### Parish Hall Income

Date	Name	Description	Amount
12/03/2024	Chair Exercise Class	Chair Exercise Class	£36.00

- Donation for chairs?
- Magnets for Noticeboards 40 £33.20 (Parish clerk to purchase)

## OPM120324/07 - Planning Applications

- **Application ref. DMPA/2024/0181:** Advertisement consent for the erection of 3no. illuminated fascia signs at Plot 10A, Dove Valley Park, Foston. (**Comment:** Ask if illuminated signs could only be illuminated when site was open to reduce light pollution).
- **Application ref. DMPA/2023/1646:** Erection of Phase 2 of the facility for the extraction, processing, bottling and distribution of water based products (combined B2 and B8 use) along with associated ancillary offices approved under planning permission DMPA/2019/1205 to include an increase in height of southern high bay warehouse to a maximum height of 36metres and alterations to layout of western production hall at Plots 5 and P2-01, Dove Valley Park, Derby  
  
*Objections to be issued personally - doesn't seem to be in keeping with the general practise of being built in a rural area. It would be incredibly intrusive.*
- **Proposed East Midlands Freeport** (near to the Toyota roundabout) (Article in Burton Mail)  
Concerned was raised about the level of traffic coming on and off the A50. A50/A38 Toyota roundabout volume of traffic from 3:30 to 7:30 is already at capacity and an accident black spot.

Due to meeting being non quorum objections to be submitted personally .

<b>OPM120324/08 – Community Hall re-name</b> Governance document needs updating before submitting request to the Charity Commission to change name.  ➤ Deferred to review at a later PC meeting.	
<b>OPM120324/09 – Adverse Possession of Car Park - To approve the process to adversely possess the land adjacent to the hall &amp; allotments known as 'the car park'</b>  ➤ Deferred to review at a later PC meeting.	
<b>OPM120324/10 – Land South of Leathersley Lane, Scropton - Heidelberg Materials</b>  ➤ Ongoing correspondence with Heidelberg Materials concerning a confidential non-public meeting.	
<b>OPM120324/11 – Small Parish Councils with Parks - funding</b>  ➤ Email from Finding Fitness 05/03/24. Deferred to review at a later PC meeting.	
<b>OPM120324/12 – Action Tracker</b>  ➤ Website update – review next financial year. ➤ Allotment meeting – awaiting Cllr. P. Groom to confirm. ➤ Signage, top of Leathersley Lane and Scropton sign outside Scropton riding School still pending. ➤ Councillor Vacancy – poster on noticeboards ➤ Speedwatch - volunteers still required. ➤ Sand store level – okay. ➤ Policies update – ongoing ➤ *Hedge cutting – arranging community event ➤ Woodyard Lane – street sign needs renewing.	
<b>OPM120324/13 – Chairman Report</b>  ➤ Nothing to report.	
<b>OPM120324/14 - Clerk's Monthly report/Items</b>  ➤ Watery Lane Flooding see <b>OPM120324/04</b> ➤ Membership of RAD? Annual scription £30pa ➤ *Playground Hedge cutting date – to be arranged as a community project	
<b>OPM130224/18 - Date of Next Parish Council Meeting</b>  ➤ 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	
<b>OPM130224/19 – 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.</b>  ➤ None	

<b>Signed:</b>	
<b>Date of issue:</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2024