

Foston and Scropton Parish Council

Minutes of Foston and Scropton Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 7.30pm

Present:	Cllr. V. Blackshaw Cllr. A. Dolley Cllr. P. Groom Cllr. N. Hickman Cllr. J. Davies Cllr. J. Patten Cllr. G. Andrew
OPM090424/01 – To receive apologies for absence: ➤ Cllr. S. Meghani	
OPM090424/02 - Variation of Order of Business (if required) ➤ None	
OPM090424/03 - Declaration of Members' Interests appertaining to agenda items. ➤ Cllr. P. Groom: Community Hall and Allotments	
OPM090424/04 - Public Speaking, including County, District and Police Representation. Report from District Councillor Julie Patten Potholes: Teams out seven days a week repairing. Currently filling around 2000 per week. Also looking at new materials. Looking at different materials to fill in future. Bolsover Recycling Centre: First re-use shop (Derbyshire) in partnership with HW Martins is open at Bolsover household waste recycling centre. The shop is open the same hours as the recycling centre, from 8.30am to 6pm. Car Thefts: There has been a recent increase in car thefts in South Derbyshire, quite a few in Hilton. High performance cars are being targeted.	
How to protect your keyless entry car <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When at home keep your car key (and the spare) well away from the car. • Put the keys in a screened or signal-blocking pouch, such as a Faraday Bag and check if the bag or pouch is still working every few months. • Reprogramme your keys if you buy a second hand car. • Turn off wireless signals on your fob when it's not being used 	

Question:**Planning**

Panning email responses still carried the following strapline - Please note: due to the effects of COVID-19 we understand that it may be problematic for Parish Councils and amenity societies to hold meetings

Highways Contact:

Does the Council have an inspector where Third Party Utility contractors have re-instated works. If the depth of works is 1.5 meters deep is there a two year repair time period required by the contractor. Both Leathersley Lane and Watery Lane had works carried out by Network Plus/Western Power nearly 2 years ago for relaying of electricity cables with a two year warranty on the road works. Both are sinking in places where the road has been dug up, **repair works should refer back the utility companies.**

Cllr. Julie Patten investigating

(Cllrs, these websites maybe of interest <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-street-works-regime-to-clamp-down-on-pothole-pain> <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/street-works>)

Report from District Cllr Andrew and on behalf County Councillor Cllr. Davies.

1. The signs for Uttoxeter Road on Watery Lane and the entrance sign to Scropton had been removed for fixing by SDDC (Cllr Andrew to chase up timescales for re-instatement)
2. SDDC Planning had been chased regarding the PSED (Public Sector Equality Duty) statement relating to the Mill Green development
3. DMPA/2023/1494 Cllr Davies voted against the extension of the Solar Farm Planning Permission, however a majority of members of the Planning Committee did not, it has therefore been approved. Cllr. Davies commented that times have moved on and we would now build them higher and the fact that they haven't even built them yet is not a good start. At the time they were allowed through planning solar energy was a good way to produce energy, still is but as it is now the design would have been different and the councillors that voted it through before stated that they wouldn't have now.

Comments from Cllr. P. Groom.

With regards to this site and the development at HMP Foston Hall, the view is that SDDC Planners are not listening and there are no effective consultation when concerns are raised by the villagers and F&SPC have put in objections.

Councillor Davies commented that the original planning permission had already been approved and this was an extension from 30 to 40 years.

Section 73 of the 1990 Act provides for applications for planning permission to develop land without complying with previously imposed planning conditions.

Cllr. P. Groom very disappointed that although objections have been put to the council privately, no acknowledgment or response are received.

Cllr. G. Andrew to follow up.

4. Cllr Andrew advised that although later on the agenda he had already asked for the application by the Bottling Plant to erect a new 38m high warehouse next to the road, to be decided in front of Committee rather than an officer decision, having discussed the application at the Church Broughton Parish Council the week before.

I've already put in a request to call in planning application 1646 the bottling plant, following a request at the Church Broughton Council meeting.

Planning application 1614 still waiting planning committee

OPM090424/05 - Residents Correspondence

- **Resident raised concern (via Facebook) that Scropton is being used by criminals to avoid ANPR cameras.**

Police response:

I can confirm there has been no reported Vehicle crime in Scropton, the only crime in Scropton during the last 6 weeks has been fuel theft from an HGV on the A50

If I could encourage residents and indeed councillors at the meeting to sign up to Derbyshire alert, they can hear direct from the local team who send out messages via email using the system with updates relating to any crime trends/ CCTV requests/ appeals and crime prevention etc. <https://www.derbyshirealert.co.uk/> I have cc'd your local team into this reply.

There certainly has not been an 'Epidemic' of car thefts in Scropton/Hatton or Hilton, the last report of vehicle crime in those areas was on 08th March- Hilton Theft from vehicle.

- **Resident sent comment on play area refurbishment and its lack of access for disabled people.**

Response from: Parks and Green Spaces Manager

Like most things it's a balance and the words "appropriate" "reasonable" and "proportionate" are the key things here.

The general equality duty is not specific about the approach a council should take.

Equality Impact Assessment should be undertaken for any major projects that materially change things...however how you define major is very much down to interpretation as in this instance it's just installing new equipment in an existing play area. If I recall a number of items of equipment are indeed inclusive. The available funding also has to be taken into consideration. New footpaths alone could be 10-20K. So in reality no improvements would have been made. The argument could therefore be made that it was totally reasonable to install the play equipment.

EIAs are not a legal requirement, but they serve as evidence of compliance with the equality act and Parish councils should consider the impact of their actions on equality and take steps to address any disparities.

The important thing is to document the Parish Councils decision making process so going forward it may be good for the parish council to have a policy which identifies how it looks at such things and also defines what a "major change" is from the parish councils' point of view. (From a district council point of view it could be changing the way we empty bins, or the closure of a facility.)

You are by no means unique, and many play areas, both in rural and urban locations, do not have good access so I would suggest that the best way forward is to have a plan on what you wish to do in an ideal world and then seek to make improvements where you can as funding pots come along. I am aware of new funding coming on stream later this year to help with this very issue for parish councils, so further improvements could be phased in.

- **Resident requested additional compost bin(s) for the allotments/Parish grounds.**

Suggestion to have a compost area instead. Item to be on the agenda for Allotment Holders AGM in May.

OPM090424/06 - To Confirm and agree as a true record the minutes of the Ordinary Foston and Scropton Parish Council Meeting held on 13th February 2024

➤ Approved.

Proposed: Cllr A. Dolley

Seconded: Cllr. P. Groom

OPM090424/07 – Finance**Parish Council Expenditure cheques to be approved:**

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
09/04/2024	M Hayes	Lengthsman wages	£146.32
09/04/2024	J Allen	Parish Clerk Wages	£153.60
09/04/2024	J. Allen	Stationery	£17.00
09/04/2024	HMRC	Month 8	£40.80
09/04/2024	DSK Engineering	playground equip. insp.	£48.00
09/04/2024	DALC	Annual Subscription	£275.95

Parish Council Income

Date	Name	Description	Amount
09/04/2024	SDDC	1st Precepts payment	£8,553.00

Parish Hall Expenditure Cheques to be approved:

09/04/2024	Yu Energy	Electricity Bill (DDM)	£180.75
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Parish Hall Income

Date	Name	Description	Amount
09/04/2024	Chair Exercise Class	Chair Exercise Class	£36.00

1. DALC invoice: Payment £275.95 - approved
2. Chairs donation: £50 approved – payment details to be provided by Cllr. A. Dolley
3. Donation to F&SPHC: £1,000 - approved
4. Chairs donation from Tutbury Church: £50

- Approved.
Proposed: Cllr P. Groom
Seconded: Cllr. A. Dolley

OPM090424/08 - Planning Applications

- **Application ref. DMPA/2024/0389:** The erection of a single storey front extension at Millers Barn, Uttoxeter Road, Foston, Derby, DE65 5DL (comments no later than 15/04/2024)

No Observation

OPM090424/09 - Draft Statement of Community Involvement Consultation. (SCI)

Statement of Consultation to discuss and agree Response Draught Statement Consultation closes 5:00 PM Monday 13th of May

Consultation about the local plan. It is an acknowledgement by the District Council planning service of all the things they people have observed, for instance the way planning has been going about over the last 20 years. Cllr. G. Andrew has been trying to persuade planning to incorporate plans for a passenger rail station to go with Freeport rail due to the amount traffic this is going to generate on local roads. Planning Practice Guidance issued by central Government outlines the requirement for SCIs to be reviewed every five years. SCI was adopted by the Council in 2018 and are replacing the existing SCI. Please see <https://southderbyshire.inconsult.uk/SCI2024/consultationHome> for more information.

OPM090424/10 – Land South of Leathersley Lane, Scropton - Heidelberg Materials

We had asked for advice for from various Parish Councils concerning Heidelberg Materials request for a confidential non-public meeting. The consensus was you can.

The Councillors confirmed that we have fully investigated Heidelberg Materials request for a confidential non-public meeting and if a parishioner wishes to challenge, we have the documents supporting this decision.

Clerk to arrange a meeting for a Wednesday evening.

OPM090424/11 – Scropton Playground

- Cllr. Pete Groom to issue report on remedial works by Streetscape
- Swing frame not level
- Request to re-issue the 3 monthly report from DSK Engineering. (issued 10/04/2024)

OPM090424/12 – Election 2nd May

- Hall booked
- Hall Hire invoice issued
- Reminder of photo ID.

OPM090424/13 – Allotments

- Cllr. Pete Groom to update the Clerk concerning amendment to plots 6 and 6A, existing and new plot holder requirements.

OPM090424/14 – Parish Hall Charity

- Old community hall chairs to Tutbury Church- donation of £50
- Quiz night 19th April 2024
- Park opening 8th June in conjunction with the Church Fete.
- Hall car park -To approve initiating the process to adversely possess land and register with Land Registry.
- Hall Governing document update - To discuss and agree to the update of the charities governing document for the change of name. Approved

OPM090424/15 - Action Tracker**items:-**

1. Signage outstanding since June 2023
2. Play area hedge cutting + Community Hall hedge needs cutting
3. Water storage/balance pond top of watery lane. If response not received from Cllr. J. Patten to be brought up at the Flood liaison meeting in May.
4. Grass cutting query from resident - no response from SDDC contact email forwarded to Cllr. G Andrew. (Done)
5. Letter to HMP Foston Hall sent 04/03/2024 email response sent to Councillors 15/04/2024

OPM090424/16 - Clerk's Monthly report/Items

- To agree date for Parish Hall Charity AGM in May (date to be arranged) notification 14 days before – *to be arranged*
- Arrange for Parish Hall electrical equipment to be PAT tested. *In progress*
- Complete AGAR form - *done*
- Complete Concurrent expense claim form - *done*

- Complete VAT claim for 2023/2024 - *pending*
- Arrange internal audit – *done*
- Complete Rights of Way Minor Maintenance form (F&SPC do not participate) - *done*
- His Majesty King Charles III Portrait: Ordered – *received*

OPM090424/17 - Date of Next Parish Council Meeting

- 14th May 2024
Community Hall Group: 6:30pm
AGM: 7:00 followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting

Non number:

Resignation of Cllr V. Blackshaw received.

OPM090424/18 – 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:	25 th April 2024