



SAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD at SPICERS PAVILION - 05 JANUARY 2022 - Meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

PRESENT:

Parish Clerk Jo Keeler

Councillors

David Bard

Kevin Cuffley

Jayne Merrick

Ian Reeves

Neil Reid

Paul Smith

Brian Milnes

+ Brian Page – Chairman of Towgoods Charity

+ Councillor Kieran Cooper

1 TOWGOODS CHARITY REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS THE SPIKE SITE

Councillor David Bard welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Brian Page who is the Chairman of Towgoods Charity.

Brian Page explained that Towgood's was a small charity which owned the Spike recreation field with the original purpose of providing recreational facilities for Sawston Church and the Church Choir. The main function of the charity now was supporting the snooker club, but it had no income to do this. The Spike Ground had in the past been a good space for cricket and football and had provided a recreational facility for the church choir. Since the church choir had been discontinued, however, this recreational facility was no longer required. Some years ago, the Parish Council had leased the field for a peppercorn rent to provide a BMX track, but since the track was now no longer used, the lease had been discontinued. The planning authority had placed this area outside the Village Envelope in the adopted Local Plan (2018), a designation which precludes most development.

Towgood's Charity had been approached by a resident in Brookfield Road who would like to purchase part of this land to extend their garden by a few meters. The charity looked into the possibility of selling a strip of land that covers 5 gardens on the Northern boundary of the site. The trustees approved this proposal provided that the residents completed and paid for the application, met legal fees etc. The conveyance would include a covenant restricting the use of this land to garden use. They would not therefore be able to seek permission to build on it.

Brian Page also explained that the environment agency is still investigating the ground water pollution under the field arising from the former Eastern Counties leather works. He asked if the parish council had any suggestions for use of this site.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss this at a future meeting.

Councillor David Bard thanked Brian Page for attending the meeting.

Brian Page and Councillor Kieran Cooper left the meeting 7.52pm

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Tony Fell - Personal

Anand Pillai – Work commitments

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS MEETING

None

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 09 NOVEMBER 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 09 November 2022 were read, confirmed and signed.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor Jayne Merrick to **accept** these minutes.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

5 MATTERS ARISING – NEW INFORMATION ONLY

None

6 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/05608/FUL	Installation of a new entrance with ramped access, replacement windows and exterior cladding at Falkner House Mill Lane. It was proposed by Councillor Brian Milnes and seconded by Councillor Kevin Cuffley to support this application.	Support/No objection Vote: 7 For Unanimous
22/00062/HFUL	Single storey front and part two storey, part single storey rear extensions, and application of external insulation to existing walls at 20 Evans Way. It was proposed by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and seconded by Councillor David Bard to support this application.	Support/No objection Vote: 7 For Unanimous
22/00074/HFUL	Single storey side extension at 14 Teversham Way. It was proposed by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and seconded by Councillor Paul Smith to support this application.	Support/No objection Vote: 7 For Unanimous

For information only - Noted

Appeal - Noted

Planning Decisions - Noted

7 TO DISCUSS RESIDENT REQUEST TO PLACE A BIN IN THE LAY-BY ON HUCKERIDGE HILL

The Clerk explained that a resident has requested a bin to be installed in the lay-by on Huckeridge Hill. The Clerk confirmed we do have a spare bin on the ground store.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Jayne Merrick and **seconded** by Councillor Ian Reeves to install a bin at this site.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

8 TO DISCUSS CLEARING THE PATH AT THE BACK OF GRANTA ROAD

The Clerk explained there is an overgrown area with footpath in Granta Road and a resident has asked the parish council to clear it. The footpath leads to an area at the back of some houses. The Clerk is unsure that this area belongs to the parish council. Councillor

Brian Milnes and the Clerk will investigate further. This will be an agenda item for the next planning meeting to update.

9 TO DISCUSS FOOTPATH RIGHT OF WAY REGISTRATION

Councillor David Bard explained that there is a deadline for registering rights of way (2026) and there appear to be some former rights of way not registered. Councillor Brian Milnes explained that SCDC has a Public Rights of Way Programme, and he will put the officer in touch with Councillor David Bard to discuss.

10 TO DISCUSS TREE REQUESTS IN THE VILLAGE

Councillor Jayne Merrick explained she has received several requests from residents asking if they can plant trees on verges. One resident has asked if they can plant trees on the verge at Lynton Way. They have offered to pay for the trees and maintain them for 3 years until established. The Clerk explained that the verges are owned by either SCDC or County Council and not the parish council. This was discussed and the committee would be supportive of them planting trees but would need permission first. The Clerk will speak to the relevant council and report back to the Planning & Environment Committee in February. This will be an agenda item for that meeting.

Councillor Jayne Merrick also explained we are replacing two trees on Lynton Way recreation ground as the trees recently planted have died.

11 TO DISCUSS LETTER FROM STEPHEN PARTRIDGE-HICKS REGARDING CSET (CAMBRIDGE SOUTH EAST TRANSPORT SCHEME)

Councillor Kevin Cuffley explained that Stephen Partridge-Hicks has put together a legal team to challenge the proposal of the GCP (Greater Cambridge Partnership) to construct a bus way between the A11 and the Cambridge Biomedical Campus on the south-east of the city.

Some parish councils have donated funds towards this legal challenge. Stephen Partridge-Hicks had written a draft letter and asked parish councils to support this campaign. He asked if Sawston Parish Council would like to add their support.

Councillor Kevin Cuffley was not keen on the parish council offering any funding for the legal fees but was happy with the draft letter of objection. This was discussed at length. It was also felt that were the project to proceed, greater consideration should be given to alternative alignments.

It was **proposed** by Councillor David Bard and **seconded** by Councillor Brian Milnes that we **DO NOT** endorse the letter and reply to say the parish council does not support it.

VOTE: 4 FOR : 3 AGAINST

It was agreed to make this an agenda item for Full parish February so that the whole parish council can be updated.

12 TO DISCUSS NOMINATION FOR SCDC EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

The parish council has been asked to nominate exceptional community volunteers who have supported the efforts during the pandemic who will then be randomly selected and invited to the first ever Cambridgeshire County Day which will take place on Thursday 23 June 2022 at the July Course, Newmarket.

All councillors were asked to put forward nominations. This was discussed.

It was **proposed** by Councillor Kevin Cuffley and **seconded** by Councillor Brian Milnes to nominate Councillor Kieran Cooper for all his work and support with regards to Sawston Mutual Aid.

VOTE: 7 FOR : 0 AGAINST (UNANIMOUS)

13 UPDATE ON LOCAL PLAN

There is currently no update.

14 CORRESPONDENCE

None

15 COUNCILLORS ISSUES AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: CONCERNING P & E ONLY

Councillor Jayne Merrick explained there are two caravans in the village which look abandoned, one having no roof. Councillor Brian Milnes will investigate who to speak to at SCDC and let Councillor Jayne Merrick know.

Meeting Closed at 8.52pm