

Minutes

GREATFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 12th November 2024

7:30pm in Greatford Village Hall

Present

County Cllr Ashley Baxter, SKDC Cllr Vanessa Smith, Parish Cllr Phil Britton, Parish Cllr Gemma Taylor, Parish Cllr Tony Barker, Parish Cllr Jason Halsey, Parish Cllr Natalie Pretsell, Nigel Ashby, Ibis Channell, Ross Edgar, Sheran Essex, Bob French, Jon Getty, Jeremy Hockham, Kerry Hockham, Alison Horton, Lorna Stonestreet, Lois Webb, Helen Britton (Clerk).

2024/25 -24 **Apologies for absence**

Fr Aran Beesley, Richard McDermott.

2024/25 - 25 **Approval of Minutes from 10.9.24**

Proposed by Cllr Natalie Pretsell and seconded by Cllr Tony Barker.

2024/25 - 26 **Matters arising**

All addressed within this agenda.

2024/25 - 27 **Reports from District Councillors**

Cllr Baxter reported that he met with the LCC Highways team and that Greatford will be part of a consultation regarding a weight-restriction.

Cllr Vanessa Smith's report on District Matters

Recycling: Since September SKDC has been offering kerbside collection of batteries. Batteries can be left in clear plastic bags next to the wheelie bin every week. This initiative is going well with 735kg of batteries were collected across the district during the first week. It is anticipated numbers to settle at around 75kg per day.

New Waste Depot: Work is now underway on a new depot in Grantham which will be for bin collection, street cleaning and parks maintenance teams. This new depot is needed as the current depot was built in 1970's, is close to residential properties and is no longer adequate or fit for purpose. The new depot is costing £8.8m and is due to be operational 2025/26

Cattlemarket Car Park in Stamford: SKDC have recently approved the expansion of this car park. The adjacent brownfield land will be used to create 146 new car parking spaces with 11 accessible bays and 8 EV charging points. (Current capacity is 290)

To view any SKDC active consultations go to: <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/consultations> (Currently a consultation on Car Park Charges - Closes on 13th November. - due to go up but no overnight or Sunday charges as initially proposed)

SKDC is offering a Tree Planting Guide, designed to provide advice to town and parish councils and guide community groups on how they can best ensure the success of local tree planting initiatives. There is also a 100% funded, Make Space for Nature Biodiversity Projects Scheme, which also includes tree planting. The deadline for applications is 16th December 2024. Locations put forward for biodiversity improvements must be town, parish or county council owned and accessible to the public. All projects will need to conclude before the end of March 2025. Please direct any queries to climatechange@southkesteven.gov.uk

Empty Homes Officer: SKDC is looking to recruit an empty homes officer to address this problem.

Community Funding Workshop: SKDC is holding another workshop for community groups on 23 Jan 2025, 6-8pm in Stamford. Free event but tickets will need to be booked.

SKToday: Available online, Autumn 24 edition currently available:
<https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/sktoday>

Tulips to honour airborne forces: Maroon tulips are being offered for planting across the district as part of a growing international Airborne Tulip Memorials trail. SKDC's 'Soldiers from the Sky' project is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. A number of free bulbs remain available for visitor sites, schools, parks, parish councils, public spaces and members of the public, possibly with family links to airborne forces. To request bulbs, please email armedforces@southkesteven.gov.uk with quantities requested and proposed planting sites.

Quarry Liaison Committee for Greatford: First meeting on 25th September online. Not all representatives as outlined in the Section 106 were present. Landowner has kindly agreed to extend the invitation to neighbouring parish councils (Baston, Langtoft and Barholm/Stowe) as well as Greatford who were already invited. Workings of the land have been suspended as per the planning conditions as access needs to be built first. LCC have approved plans for this. A company to extract the minerals is still being negotiated.

Anglia Water Pipeline: Likely to be another couple of years until works complete. SKDC are unable to take any enforcement action on this delay.

Cllr Smith attended the Quarry Liaison Committee meeting, with Cllr Britton, on 25.9.24. Activity at the Manor Farm potential quarry site on Baston Road/ King Street corner is being monitored.

For works to go ahead, an access should put in before the planning application end date of July 2025.

2024/25 - 28 **Financial matters**

Statements have been available up to 1.10.24. The account balances at £9119.78. A Budget has been submitted for the next Financial Year. Once the Precept Notice is received, a slight increase will be proposed to contribute towards the cost of replacement playground equipment. It is agreed to hold five GPC meetings next year which will reduce costs to the Parish. (Hall hire and clerk's fees)

2024/25 - 29 **Planning matters**

The Parish Council has communicated with the Planning Enforcement Officer regarding activity on land north of Baston Road, heading east. Planning permission was given in 1998 to build a grain store and the activity there is legitimate.

The Parish Council has objected on grounds of proximity to the boundary and the lack of a site plan.

Application No: S24/1548

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Gilbert

Proposal: Proposed removal of existing conservatory and proposed single storey side extension.

Location: Julyas House, Carlby Road, Greatford, Lincolnshire, PE9 4PR

App Type: Householder

The Parish Council supports the application and has made a comment asking for the company to make contact with some detailed plans. The Clerk will contact the companies involved.

Application No: S24/1759

Date Registered: 1st October 2024

Applicant: Abi Wisker

Proposal: Fibre network build that is planned to start soon around the PE94QR postcode in Greatford.

Location: Land Adjacent To: 4 Glen Court

Decision/Date COMMENTS TO MAKE - 31st October 2024

The South Kesteven District Council have comments to make with regard to the development described, for the following reason(s):-

1. The Parish Council have requested that we pass on concerns relating to potential disruption from installation and associated cabling works.

South Kesteven District Council would advise that you contact the Parish Council to discuss these concerns in more detail.

2024/25 - 30 **Flood Warden update**

The annual ditch-clearing and checking of watercourses in Greatford Gardens and along Carlby Road has taken place, thanks to a team of volunteers. The Environment Agency (EA) has brought forward and carried out excavation along The Cut near the sluice. The last section will be excavated in 2025.

All assets have been set to winter levels (100mm lower than the summer setting). The Greatford, Fitzwilliam and Fletland Mill Sluices have been inspected and are in good working order. Like the Greatford Sluice, the Fitzwilliam Sluice is on automatic operation; it is part of an ongoing refurbishment project. The Fletland Mill sluice remains set to manual operation.

Cllr Halsey reported that sandbags are on standby for delivery from the Breedons quarry to three points in the village in the event of impending need. The Flood Warden and Flood Group monitor levels so as to expedite the delivery of bags as necessary. It was noted that the dykes along Carlby Road have not dried out as they have done in previous summers/ autumns.

The road drains on Main Street have been cleared but are, again, blocked despite parishioners reporting them on Fix My Street. Cllr Baxter is looking into this with LCC Highways.

2024/25 - 31 Response to LCC Section 19 Report

The report has been issued. It was discussed that the recommendations are not dated or enforceable. There is no mention of downstream sluices and any impact on Greatford. When approached before, The EA have said that there was no effect from downstream sluices, but these are still a concern to the PC. Cllr Baxter will ask about this. He read out the 6 recommendations:

1. Consider a review of the sluices in the Parish,
2. Consider addressing the erosion of the West Glen riverbank,
3. Consider reviewing the flood mitigation scheme,
4. Review the zone for parishioners to receive warnings,
5. For LCC to review which persons have riparian responsibilities of the small watercourses,
6. For LCC to offer assistance to the Parish Council in drawing up a Parish Emergency Plan.

Points 1 and 4 have been carried out by the EA. Point 6 will be put forward to the Flood Group to action. The Parish Council will write to Greatford Hall regarding riparian rights and responsibilities and will write to the Parish again with information about this and with offers of help to clear any watercourses. The Parish Council will attend the next Flood and Water Scrutiny Committee Meeting on 25.1.25 regarding progress from the EA and LCC with the

points above.

2024/25 - 32 Parish Emergency Plan

The Parish Council and Flood Group will work together to draw up a Parish Emergency Plan which will call on parish volunteers to step forward to help in the case of an emergency in a formalised way.

2024/25 - 33 Play equipment project

The Parish Council has talked with children in the parish and then met with two companies to design and cost the replacement of the older and wooden parts of the play equipment. The preferred design and quotation is for £62,000 and includes replacing the swings, like-for-like, adding a basket swing, and replacing the climbing frame and trim-trail with a small tower unit that comprises these elements. In addition, a rope-climbing frame (witches hat) is proposed. The Parish Council will seek funding from local and national businesses and councils.

2024/25 - 34 Any other business

Ibis Channell raised about traffic. Any points made have been discussed and minuted in previous meetings.

The Parish Council proposes 5 meeting dates for 2025: 14th January, 1st April, 24th June, 9th September and 25th November.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed at 9:10pm. The next meeting is on 14th January at 7:30pm.