

MINUTES OF REPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12TH JUNE 2023

Present: Councillors Sheldon (Chairman), McArdle, Griffiths, Fluck, Kingman, Mason, Brown and Rainey.

Absent: Councillors Steel and Hardwick

Staff and public in attendance: District Councillor Lowe, County Councillor Ford, Clerk Caroline Crowder and 4 members of public.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillors Steel and Hardwick offered their apologies. District Councillor Haines offered her apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Fluck for planning application DMOT/2023/0573. Councillors Brown and McArdle for planning application DMPA/2023/0559.

3. DISPENSATIONS ON DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Brown was given a dispensation for his interest.

4. ANY ITEMS TO BE TAKEN WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED

None.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH MAY 2023

Resolved: The minutes were unanimously approved and signed by Councillor Sheldon as a correct and true record.

Standing Orders suspended

6. PUBLIC SPEAKING

None.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

a. Applications

DMPA/2023/0559 Resolved, all Councillors agreed to submit the following objection

1. Historical Submissions. All previous applications where more than one new dwelling is proposed have been rejected. This proposal for 4 bungalows over develops the site and compounds all of the concerns and objections as outlined below. The SDDC in rejecting a previous application on this site for multiple dwellings stated that the development would go against the character of the Conservation Area at that time bordering the development. We would repeat this objection especially as it the site is now incorporated in the Conservation Area. The Village Design Statement (Referenced in Policy H4 of the Repton Neighbourhood Development Plan) under its building Guidelines states -

New developments and alterations in the Conservation Area should reflect and enhance those elements that contribute to its character.

New developments and alterations should respect and enhance the character and form of their immediate environment and surroundings.

We object as the proposed development does not meet these guidelines.

2. Flood Risk. We do not agree with the Environmental Agency assessment and object on the following grounds.

The flood risk assessment within the submission does not include recent flood events. Severe flooding in November 2019 and July 2021 resulted in several properties being evacuated. Amongst 38 properties flooded, several are located close to 7a Pinfold



Lane. Both events encroached Flood Level 2 locations. Repton has, subsequent to these events, developed a strategy for Natural Flood Management. The resulting report was shared with all relevant authorities in September 2021. The proposed development results in a serious reduction in natural drainage and the rainwater management proposed means 100% run off into the brook. This outcome can only increase the level of flood risk. The Flood risk assessment quotes risk of flooding from the River Trent. The floods that have occurred in Repton are caused by the Repton Brook that has a much more rapid response timescale to flood (hours) than the Trent (days). The Parish Council has installed a water level monitor to give early warning to the Repton Flood Wardens of a potential flood and enable any protective measures to be put in place including, if necessary evacuation of at risk dwellings. The proposed development will only worsen the situation.

3. Brown Water Management. We do not agree with the Environmental Agency assessment and object on the following grounds. The occurrence of heavy rain has sometimes resulted in drains on Pinfold Lane and the adjacent roadways flooding with contaminated brown water (sewerage). The proposal is to manage all brown water waste from 4 new properties via an existing pipe leading to the Pinfold Lane sewer. This existing pipe was designed to serve the existing single bungalow only. This proposal must be questionable on capacity grounds and can only increase the risk of surface contamination.

4. Environment. The site has already seen the removal of several trees despite protection orders being in place. This indicates a lack of regard for the environment and the laws designed to protect it. This breach of a well understood legal protocol should be considered. The Biodiversity Report rightly recognises the population of badgers present but fails to mention that at least five bird species on the RSPB Amber List (at risk) are resident or frequent visitors to the site. Also flying bats can be viewed on most summer evenings at the site location. The development would lead to be a loss of valuable open space in the centre of Repton. The site is within the Conservation Area and comprises part of the 'lungs' of this over-developed village. We therefore object on Environmental grounds.

5. Footpath. The footpath from Matthews Jitty to Pinfold Lane is a public right of way. Whilst the footpath is covered in the Heritage Statement, it needs to be explicitly defined in the development application site plan. It is important to highlight that we do not want any changes to the footpath and it must not be obstructed at any time.

6. If the planning application is approved, the Council wish that a caveat be added to remove permitted development rights

- b. Councillor Sheldon asked District Councillor Lowe if he could enquire as to why SDDC when they approved planning application 2022/1462 they increased the hours of business from the previous application. He agreed to talk to the Planning department.

Standing Orders Resumed

8. COUNTY, DISTRICT AND PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

- a. County Councillor Ford, has invited the new cabinet member to visit Repton and discuss footpath issues, he will invite Councillor Dickson along to this meeting. He had recently attended a meeting at Toyota on the Freeport; there is currently nothing to report as they are still sorting governance issues. Councillor Sheldon is concerned about Japanese knot weed near to the hockey pitches at Repton School on what he believes may be DCC land. Anna Parish advised that it not currently on the Schools land but their grounds maintenance team are monitoring where it borders onto their land. Councillor Fluck had received a lot of complaints from Milton residents about the amount of traffic through the area during the Download festival. He advised that diverting the traffic through small villages, needs reporting back as the traffic situation was worse this year. He also advised that the No Mow May had prompted lots of comments that some of the verges towards the end of the month were very overgrown and were dangerous to traffic as well as pedestrians. He asked if DCC could review this. It was also reported to County Councillor Ford that the undergrowth is starting to encroach on the pavement near the bridge on the causeway.
- b. District Councillor Lowe, advised that details had gone out via email for the East Midlands Airport noise plan consultation. The larger litter bin for Milton is due to be fitted next week. There is a new Chairman and Leader at SDDC. Police have seized a van that was found to be fly tipping. Councillor Dickson asked if SDDC could have a portal to report issues on their website like DCC have. He advised that it is very hard to report issues to the correct area.
- c. Anna Parish from Repton School advised that they are offering another afternoon performance of their current show to the pupils from the primary school. They have been involved in the beaver reintroduction in Willington. The School is hosting an event party on the paddock on 28th June, all are welcome to attend. Councillor Sheldon asked about parking for the events, Anna advised that they are aware of the issues caused last year and are making plans to try and alleviate that this year. Councillor McArdle asked if there were any plans for fireworks, Anna advised that none are planned.
- d. Councillor Fluck had run the Parish Council surgery the previous week. There has been no attendance from any parishioners. He advised that the Council need to advertise this better and ensure that they are held on a



regular time schedule. **Resolved, the majority of Councillors agreed to the second Friday of the month between 10am and 11am.**

9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Councillor Sheldon suggested that a log is kept of who has completed the weekly playground inspection and when. Councillor Griffiths is looking to see if this can be recorded electronically via the website.

10. CLERK'S REPORT

- a. Clerk on annual leave 16th – 23rd June 2023
- b. **Resolved, all Councillors agree to SSE Energy Solutions as the provider.** The unmetered electricity supply to the street lamp on Springfield is now live.
- c. Annual inspections received from SDDC for the playground at Mitre Field. There are some areas that may need maintenance, SDDC are looking into this and will provide a quote for any work they consider necessary.

11. CLERKS HOURS

Clerk would like to work Thursdays 09:00-12:00 instead of Thursday afternoons. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the change in working hours.**

12. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Resolved, all Councillors agreed they had received and noted the report.

13. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Resolved, all Councillors approved the annual governance statement. The Clerk and Chairman signed the statement.

14. ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

Resolved, all Councillors approved the accounting statement that the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer had already signed. The Chairman signed the statement.

15. APPOINT INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2023-24

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to appoint East Midlands Audit Services. The clerk will write to them to advise of this.

16. COMMERCIAL WASTE CONTRACT

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to reappoint SDDC, increase in price of £19.50.

17. WORKING PARTIES/COMMITTEES FOR 2023-24

The chairman had circulated details of these groups before the meeting. **Resolved all Councillors agreed to the membership. The clerk will update the documentation.**

18. REPTON VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEE

Councillor Sheldon asked to postpone until the next meeting



19. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUPS

a. ELDERLY PROVISION (COUNCILLOR SHELDON)

Councillor Sheldon is still communicating with SDDC.

b. ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE (COUNCILLOR BROWN)

Councillor Brown had received a complaint about mowing, which he had responded to. The area concerned has now been mown twice in June. He had also asked the Clerk to report to SDDC a tree that was tangled with phone wires. The Clerk had received a response from SDDC over the concerns the Council had with the Dovecote, the Clerk had replied that the Council wished for the conservation office to inspect it. He reported that some new street signs had gone up and the post box had been repainted.

c. RIGHTS OF WAY/MAINTENANCE (COUNCILLOR DICKSON)

Councillor Dickson advised that the Clerk had circulated the minutes from the last Broomhills Lane meeting. He advised that he was planning to meet with the leader of the group to discuss further. DALC are still checking into the legalities of the Council paying and reclaiming VAT. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed that they would not alter their previous decision of being able to offer 20% of the costs, this is with the caveat that they would not make their final decision until the costs were know.**

d. BURIAL GROUND AND ALLOTMENTS (COUNCILLOR STEEL)

i. Allocation of Spoil Area

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to an area for the spoil to be stored. They agreed that a Councillor would meet the grave digger on site to show them where this was. They also agreed that the old spoil site should be grassed.

ii. Allotment inspection

Clerk had submitted a report to Councillor prior to the meeting. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the letters being sent to the allotment holders and a re-inspection for those plots. Re-inspection to be early July 2023.**

e. RECREATION, PLAY FIELDS AND YOUTH

i. BROOMHILLS (COUNCILLOR BROWN)

No updates

ii. MITRE FIELD (COUNCILLOR MASON)

No further updates.

f. FLOODING COMMITTEE (COUNCILLOR SHELDON)

No updates.

g. FREEPORT (COUNCILLOR FLUCK)

No updates.

h. SPEED WATCH (COUNCILLOR KINGMAN)

Councillor Kingman is now trained for speed watch and will be undertaking her first speed watch next week. All Councillors would like SIDs to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

i. ACCESSIBILITY (COUNCILLOR DICKSON)

Councillor Dickson advised that the majority of barriers had now been removed. He asked Anna Parish from Repton School if they could look at the barrier on Mitre Drive at the Pastures end, she advised they cannot do any work this academic year but will look into it in the next one. For the area on Springfield Road the landowners believe that responsibility is now with SDDC, they are looking into this and will report back.

20. FINANCE

a. Bank signatories

Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the signatories on all accounts being the Clerk and Councillors Sheldon, Dickson, McArdle, Rainey and Fluck, ex Councillor Lloyd to be removed.

b. Receipts since last meeting: None

c. Payments already made and for approval:



Date	Payment method/cheque number	Description	Name	Vat	Total	Details for banking	Payment from
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Clerk Salary	Clerk		£980.60	Information only	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Clerk pension	DCC		£262.53	Information only	Current account
12/06/2023	Direct Debit	Office rent	Repton Village Hall		£175.00	Information only	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Broomhills cleaning	Cleaner	£0.73	£49.40	Approval sought	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Mobile phone	Vesta Payment Solution UK Ltd (via clerk)		£10.00	Approval sought	Current account
06/06/2023	Direct Debit	Broomhills electricity	British Gas	£1.94	£40.90	Information only	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Grounds Maintenance	Mercia Garden Care		£390.25	Approval sought	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Insurance	Zurich Town & Parish	£94.60	£882.86	Approval sought	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Internal audit	East Midlands Audit Services Ltd		£128.25	Approval sought	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Audit mileage	Clerk		£10.80	Approval sought	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	First part of work at the old spoil heap	Tree & Garden Services	£56.00	£336.00	Approval sought	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Room hire	Milton Village Hall		£40.00	Approval sought	Current account
12/06/2023	Direct Debit	Unmetered electricity supply for light on Springfield	SSE		£12.42	Information only	Current account
12/06/2023	Bank transfer	Skip for allotments	Burton Skip Hire Limited	£51.67	£310.00	Approval sought	Current account
			TOTAL	£293.88	£4,162.67		
31/05/2023	Bank transfer	Insurance	Zurich Town and Parish Insurance	£94.60	£882.86	Paid via delegated powers to Clerk and Chairman	Information only

d. Bank balances

Current Account = £ 48,818.43

Recreation Ground Account = £240.98

RBS Reserves = £42,613.71

Petty Cash = £81.76

e. Asset Register, nothing to add

21. CORRESPONDENCE (RECEIVED SINCE LAST AGENDA UNTIL 6TH JUNE 2023)

- DCC: Newsletter x 2; Temporary Road Closure | Ingleby Lane, Milton | 15.06.2023 to 16.06.2023
- NALC: Newsletter x 4; Chief Executive's Bulletin x 4
- SDDC: New South Derbyshire Community Grant Fund Launched
- Sterilizing Solutions monthly report x 2
- Response to letter x 2
- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England: Derbyshire warding launch



- g. South Derbyshire CVS: Funding Bulletin
- h. District Councillor Haines: Updated SDDC Management Chart; Active Communities and Health Team Spring 2023 Newsletter; Update; Download Festival
- i. EMA Noise Action Plan 2024-2028 Consultation
- j. Derbyshire Pension Fund - Employer newsletter issue 196
- k. Mercia Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) - May 2023
- l. Audit details

22. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 10th July 2023 in the meeting room at Repton Village Hall at 19:30

10th July 2023

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Chairman's signature, once full Council has approved: _____

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