

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Castle Gresley Parish Council
Held on Thursday 8th December 2022

Present

C Cllr Ms R Lees (Chair), Cllr N Barker, Cllr Mrs S Jackson, Cllr I Woods, Cllr Ms H Davies, Cllr N Sellers

Also present

Mrs S Lloyd (Clerk and RFO), County Cllr S Swann, District Cllr Mrs M Bridgen

103.22 Apologies

Cllr A Hepkins apologies were accepted.

104.22 Declaration of Members Interests

None

105.22 Public Speaking

No public were present

106.22 County Council

Cllr Swann shared his report as below and offered a £500 grant towards the cost of the Speed Indicator devices, order by the council for installation in January.

Walton on Trent Bypass and Bridge Due to the significant delay in construction, it may be worth reiterating that the Walton on Trent bypass and new bridge are projects being undertaken by Countryside Properties and its contractors as a condition of the permissions granted to the developer by South Derbyshire District Council's planning committee in respect of the huge development of housing and commercial properties at Drakelow. The building of the bypass and bridge is a condition of the planning permission in exactly the way that the traffic roundabouts on Walton Road, the funds in respect of the new school and health provision, and matters related to many other aspects of this huge development are – and residents, taxpayers, and users of these assets expect the highest design and construction standards. As determined by South Derbyshire District Council, the full construction of the bridge and bypass by the developer is triggered by the occupation of the 400th of the planned 2,239 homes to be built at Drakelow. A taxpayer funded grant of £7.6 million has also been provided towards the cost of the bridge. Issues relating to the design of the bridge and bypass are technical matters and the developer's proposals in this respect are scrutinised by experts from the Environment Agency, Derbyshire County Council, and Staffordshire County Council. At the recent Drakelow Parish Meeting, a representative of Countryside Properties stated that the company is working with these bodies for a way forward to start construction. Once the bridge, bypass, and associated infrastructure are completed, the assets will be adopted by the relevant County Councils and maintained at the cost of the local taxpayers. Derbyshire residents, therefore, have every right to expect the Environment Agency and the local authorities to do everything in their power to ensure they are designed and built to the correct standards, with particular attention to potential flooding issues, which have always been a matter of significant concern to Walton on Trent Parish Council. I will continue to update residents throughout the area on this important local matter. Compliments of the Season I would like to wish Castle Gresley Parish Council a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

107.22 District Council

Council discussed the planning application, now approved, for the Oak Close development. Council expressed its concern to Cllr Bridgen at the apparent lack of transparency of the full process and appeal. Residents have commented directly to the Parish Council that they

have not been kept informed although they had requested to receive communications. A further discussion took place around the poor service received when communicating with SDDC, particularly since staff have been working from home. Cllr Bridgen advised there is a full council meeting in January at which she will attend and suggested a member of the Parish Council attend.

After Cllr Bridgen left, Cllr Lees commented that she had asked Cllr Bridgen on 23rd September for the full procedure of how the Parish Council are able to apply for a full judicial review, she has not received this information.

108.22 Police

Crimes reported November: 3 assault, 1 vehicle interference, 1 domestic incident, 2 harassment, 1 criminal damage, 2 sexual offences

109.22 Minutes

Council **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the council meetings held on 17th November 2022

110.22 Items (with the public excluded)

No such items

111.22 Chairs announcements

None

112.22 Clerks report

Groundsman. Instructed to clear the brambles on A444 embankment, opposite the council properties.

Defibs & Bleed kits. Chair preparing a postcard to be distributed to all homes. Chair has a quote for £125 to print 2,500 cards which was approved by council. Cost to be sought to deliver by Royal Mail.

Linton Road shops area. Some pruning/clearing has been done by SDDC. Also reported area between Indigo Hair and 35 Linton Road to be cleared of litter and vegetation.

Arnold Street Car Park – Reported to Paul Whittingham 5/12 to be cut back.

Bus shelters. 17 Burton Rd, will be inspected and repair as necessary. Opposite 112 and outside 96 were cleaned 22/11

Cultivation licence (by Old Memorial), will only be granted if rocks are removed. Resident suggested a small fence instead. Council **RESOLVED** to leave the rocks in place and for the clerk to organise a small sign to state “Please don’t mow”.

Graffiti on underpass – Reported to SDDC 21/11

Chapel – Reported overgrown vegetation, owner said will clear 24/11, this has not been done, clerk to contact again.

Clerk (office closure), last working day 15th December, return 3rd January.

Road on the recreation ground. Clerk advised council that Richard Hanbury of DCC Highways will meet on site in January to discuss.

113.22 Finance

a Payments were authorised as below

Eon	131	0	131	Electricity for Pavilion & container salary inc homeworking (Nov) less
Payroll (Clerk)	674.73	0	674.73	Tax&NI
Expenses (Clerk)	5.98	1.19	7.17	Mobile Oct
Expenses (clerk)	9.99	0	9.99	Instant Ink
Expenses (Clerk)	9	0	9	Travel. Nov meet. Deliver to Castle Court x 20
Expenses (Clerk)	17.11	0	17.11	Mince pies & Napkins (Castle Court)

Expenses (Clerk)	8.4	0	8.4	Stamps
HMRC	8.2	0	8.2	Tax
Christ Church Linton & Castle				
Gresley	180	0	180	Room hire for Brick room. May-Nov 22
Gresley Male Voice Choir	125	0	125	Singing at Castle Court Care home
Plantscape	3060	612	3672	Christmas lights
TOTAL			£4,842.60	

114.22 Planning

DMPA/2022/1425 Erection of first-floor side extension over the garage and single-storey rear extension at 159 Mount Pleasant Road
Council **RESOLVED** not to comment on the above application.

DMPA/2022/1372: Proposed erection of 3 No Detached Dwellings with associated access, parking and garaging at Land at Mount Pleasant Road
Council **RESOLVED** to comment as below.

Objection: Access is not suitable for construction traffic. The Highways report is not attached to the application on the SDDC portal (8/12). Council object as access and egress is a concern for all traffic. Clerk to also add the application to the Council and residents Facebook pages linking to SDDC application.

115.22 Outside meetings and training

None

116.22 Correspondence

The correspondence report was noted

117.22 Items for Discussion/ Decision

a) Wildflower planting plan for 2023

Council **RESOLVED** to move this to January's agenda.

b) Parish Warden vacancy

Council **RESOLVED** for the clerk to contact the clerk at Linton to ask if they know of someone. No applications have been received.

c) Poppy numbers for 2023

Council **RESOLVED** for the clerk to purchase 50 additional poppies in readiness for remembrance 2023.

d) Christmas events – actions

Castle Court Care Home 7th December. 5.30pm. The event was attended by Cllrs Mrs Sheila Jackson and Cllr Ian Woods who reported it a great success. The Parish Council arranged and paid for Gresley Male Voice Choirs to sing and provided mince pies. Council **RESOLVED** to make this an annual event. Clerk to also send a thank you to the Gresley Male Voice Choir. Council also agreed to look at an event to be held at the care home in the summer, possibly an afternoon team with entertainment.

Councillors reported very positive feedback on the Christmas tree lights and **RESOLVED** to add more for next year.

For the Drum and Monkey event, Cllr Sellers will purchase and deliver a tree to the pub on Monday 12th. Cllrs will decorate it on 13th, mince pies and gingerbread men will be delivered by Buckley Bakehouse on 16th.

e) Memorial professional cleaning consideration

This was deferred to January's meeting.

f) Play equipment at Mount Pleasant Recreation Ground, consider removal by SDDC

After much discussion it was **RESOLVED** for the clerk to advise SDDC the Parish Council would request SDDC to remove all of the play equipment and make good the land.

g) Summer play from SDDC

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Mrs S Jackson will confirm dates and activities with the clerk to book for Summer 2023. A budget of £2000 has been allocated.

h) Councillor vacancy

With elections to take place in 2023, council discussed the vacancy and possible re-election of current councillors.

i) 2023-2024 budget and SDDC precept request

The budget for 2023-2024 was confirmed and it was **RESOLVED** that the precept should remain the same at 2022-2023 at £25309.

j) Items for next meetings

Location of meetings, clerk to speak with Castle Court Care home

118.22 Items for information only

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 12th January 2023, 7pm**, at the **Brick Room, Linton**