

## Minutes of Smisby Parish Council Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Smisby Parish Council Attendance: Councillors Cuming (Chair), Sullivan and Dickens, Clerk Caroline Crowder

Members of the public and other organisations: County Councillor Hill, District Councillors Haines and Lowe

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Councillors Taft and Brooke.

2. To receive declarations of Interest on items on the agenda (under the Code of Conduct members are reminded that in declaring an interest you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is "personal" or "prejudicial").

None.

3. To determine which items if any on the agenda should be taken with the public excluded.

None.

4. Chairman's communications (if any)

Councillor Cuming advised of details about the Derbyshire Safer Homes scheme. It's a free joinery service run by CVS aimed at helping over 60s or the victims of crime by surveying homes and installing locks and other security devices. Their contact details are Tel: 01283 219761 or email: info@sdcvs.org.uk

5. Clerk's report

- i. Clerks' salary payment on 9th July should have been £260.44 but was paid £260.24. Correction added in September payments
- ii. **Resolved, all agreed to the £50 remembrance wreath and to deliver to Councillor Dickens.**
- iii. The clerk asked if the Council were happy to use last year's specification to gain quotes for grounds maintenance for the next financial year. Councillor Cuming advised that weedkilling around the war memorial would need adding.
- iv. The Clerk advised that draft minutes should be published on the website as the Council only meets every other month. **Resolved, all agreed to this.**
- v. The Clerk had checked the bank signatories and an old Councillor needed to be removed and Councillor Sullivan needed to be added. **Resolved, all agreed to this.**

6. Opportunity for public questions and comment (10 minutes)

No members of the public were in attendance.

7. Approval of minutes from Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Resolved, all Councillors approved the minutes, and the Chair signed them as a true and accurate record.**

#### 8. District and County Councillors Communications

- i. County Councillor Hill advised that she had checked the ownership of the verges that were discussed in the last meeting and they are not owned by DCC. She has re-reported all Highways issues and has not had any updates on them. She advised that anyone is now able to request DCC to install H-bar markings outside their property. There is a charge for this and she believed it would be around £300-400. She is not sure when this will become available but will keep the Parish Council updated.
- ii. District Councillor Haines, reminded the Clerk and Chair that they were invited to attend a planning meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. Councillor Cuming asked for contact details for the new tree officer, she agreed to get these for him. The local plan has been published in draft and they are now working on part 2. Councillor Cuming asked how he could request that Forties Lane be marked in the plan as a historic route, she agreed to take this query away. It was also discussed how DCC and SDDC could be involved in the Money Hill development that was in North West Leicestershire but would have an effect on Derbyshire. He was advised to contact the County Councillor in that authority responsible for that area. The next area forum meeting is 9<sup>th</sup> October, the venue is to be announced.
- iii. District Councillor Lowe, concurrent grants have been discussed and the paper went to committee. They have agreed to defer any decision until 2028 due to local government reorganisation. He confirmed that his meant the grants would still be paid until this time. The Planning Committee has changed name and is now called the Development Management Committee. The MySouthDerbyshire app is available to download to your phone and also on the website. Councillor Cuming reported that there is an issue with fly tipping at the moment, this may help to speed up reporting.

#### 9. Parochial Charity Communications

- i. Scattering of Ashes and Remembrance Plaque  
A request has been made to the Parish Council for permission to scatter ashes and erect a memorial plaque in the Jubilee Field. The Council have requested a response from the Parochial Charity on this as they own the land.
- ii. Trustee Dickens advised that the Charity are still waiting on the Charity Commission on their application to become a CIO. They are still happy to accept any referrals for assistance from parishioners. She advised that the parishioners will be notified in the next newsletter that they will need to re-register if they wish to continue to receive a Christmas hamper, and they also have the choice to not receive this and instead a donation will be made.

#### 10. IT Provider for Gov.uk Domain and Email Account

The Councillors reviewed all the quotes. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed to the quote from CAS Ltd.**

#### 11. Aircraft Noise Nuisance

Councillor Cuming advised that the airport wish to attend a meeting in Smisby. It was discussed and agreed to invite them to the next meeting.

#### 12. War Memorial

Cleaning of the memorial is still planned.

#### 13. Pinfold

It was discussed to get a quote for an information board on the Pinfold. Councillor Cuming agreed to take this action away.

#### 14. Playground Inspections and Repairs

The Clerk advised that there are now several areas of the playground that are showing as a moderate risk on the monthly playground inspection. **Resolved, all Councillors agreed to not go ahead with any of the work needed as they are due to replace the playground in the near future. If the risk becomes worse they will shut the playground.**

#### 15. Highways

Councillor Cuming has spoken to the speed watch police liaison and they have agreed to attend site and review the current issues. Once a time has been agreed he will liaise with County Councillor Hill to see if DCC Highways can also attend. There has been no progress since the last accident on Heath Lane and the hedges and verges need urgently to be cut back.

#### 16. Speed Watch

The local area conference was held a week ago, Councillor Cuming attended. He advised that on national speed watch day South Derbyshire and in particular the Mercia area accounted for about 50% of the data collected in Derbyshire.

#### 17. Newsletter

Councillor Dickens agreed to work with Councillor Taft and asked the Clerk to request articles from all the usual groups.

#### 18. Jubilee Field

##### i. Hedge Cutting

The Councillors reviewed one quote for this work, but also asked the Clerk to gain another before they made a decision.

- ii. Councillor Sullivan reported that the working group had met and feedback from the recent picnic had been taken onboard. Three quotes are being gained and this will be discussed further when they have been received.

#### 19. To discuss and agree any response to any current Planning Applications

No comments on the applications seen in the agenda.

#### 20. Dates of future meetings

11th November 2025, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 8<sup>th</sup> September and 10<sup>th</sup> November.

#### 21. To approve payment of accounts as follows:

Date	Method of Payment	to whom paid	Particulars of payment	Total (£)	VAT (£)	Paid under delegate authority to the Chairman and Clerk
01/08/2025	Bank transfer	Clerk	July Salary	260.44		Yes
01/08/2025	Bank transfer	Shed Grounds Maintenance	July	333.56	55.59	Yes
01/08/2025	Bank transfer	SDDC	Playground inspection and minor maintenance July	65.58	10.93	Yes
01/08/2025	Bank transfer	L South	Website	20.00		Yes
09/09/2025	Direct debit	Information Commissioners Office	Data protection fee	47.00		
09/09/2025	Bank transfer	Clerk	Missing 20 pence from July salary payment	0.20		
09/09/2025	Bank transfer	Clerk	August Salary	301.91		
09/09/2025	Bank transfer	Shed Grounds Maintenance	August	333.56	55.59	
09/09/2025	Bank transfer	SDDC	Playground inspection and minor maintenance August	65.58	10.93	

09/09/2025	Bank transfer	Lengthsman	Lengthsman	66.67		
09/09/2025	Bank transfer	HMRC	NI and PAYE month 4	65.00		

22. Payments Received

- i. 17/07/2025 refund of payment to Kilworth Machinery £41.16
- ii. 11/07/2025 remaining amount of 2<sup>nd</sup> precept payment SDDC £273.77
- iii. 31/07/2025 July interest on business reserves account £6.41
- iv. 29/08/2025 August interest on business reserves account £5.86
- v. 05/09/2025 HMRC vat reclaim £376.55

23. Bank Balance

- i. Current Account = £6,613.79
- ii. Business Reserves Account = £7,031.45

24. Communications received since last meeting

- i. NALC: Chief executive's bulletin x 10
- ii. DALC: Newsletter x 1; August Forum – Local Government Reorganisation in Derbyshire
- iii. DCC: Newsletter x 9; Parish & Town Council Liaison Forum 15 September 2025 x 2
- iv. SDDC: Playground Inspection Report x 1; Information concerning the Electoral Registration Canvass 2025; Local Government Reorganisation consultation - drop-in sessions: Community Insights Engagement; Meeting with Parish Councils; Concurrent Functions Grants Review - Parish Councils
- v. South Derbyshire CVS: Mental Health Training & Amazing Youth Opportunity; Community Bulletin x 2
- vi. Public Perspectives: Proposed changes to councils in Derby and Derbyshire – Consultation x 2
- vii. District Councillor Lowe: Local Government Reorganisation - Important Update
- viii. County Councillor Hill: Smisby Highways Issues
- ix. East Midlands Airport: RE: Aircraft Noise Nuisance; Proposed meeting to discuss aircraft related noise concerns raised by local Smisby residents
- x. Shed Grounds Maintenance: Hedge Cutting
- xi. Pinfold
- xii. Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust- South Derbyshire Buildings at Risk Project
- xiii. ACRE/NALC Flooding Survey

The Chair thanked the Parish Councillors for attending and declared the meeting closed. The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025 in Smisby Village Hall at 19:30.

Signed: ..... Date: .....