**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF OAKAMOOR PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD AT OAKAMOOR VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 4TH AUGUST 2025 AT 7.00PM**

**Present**: **Chairman:** Phil Charles

**Parish Councillors**: Peter Chell, Scott Watkins,

Heidi Worthington-Harris, Glenys Beard.

**In Attendance:**  SMDC Cllr**.** James Aberley.

SCC Cllr. Beardmore.

Lengthsman.

One member of public.

In the absence of the Chair (Cllr. Loynes), Cllr. Charles chaired the meeting.

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced SCC Cllr. Beardmore to the attendees.

**25.109 Apologies.**

Cllr. Tony Loynes, Cllr. Sam Cunningham, SMDC Cllr. Elsie Fallows.

**25.110 Declaration of Interest and Dispensations.**

None.

**25.111 Minutes of meeting held on 7th July 2025.**

***Resolved*** *that the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2025, having been circulated be confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.*

**25.112 Public Participation.**

None.

**25.113 Churnet View Car Park.**

Email sent to Martin Owen (SMDC). SMDC District Cllr. Aberley gave a brief update and informed OPC that SMDC are working through a backlog and it will take a few months to complete. *Ongoing*.

**25.114 Planning Matters.**

(a) Planning Applications.

None

(b) To note decisions on previous applications.

None.

(c) Any Other Planning Matters

**SMD/2025/0237** – Side Farm, Cotton Bank, Cotton.

The chair revisited the application, as contrary to previously believed, the property does lie within the Oakamoor Parish boundary and concluded the following: Concern regarding safe vehicular access to/from proposed site. Cllr. Charles to prepare response.

**25.115 Ongoing Parish Affairs.**

a. Parking at the School

Cllr. Chell stated that he remains committed to resolving this issue.

Cllr. Beardmore informed OPC that SCC Highways have advised that neither a yellow box nor double yellow lines cannot be implemented as they are not appropriate. Cllr. Beardmore is collaborating with the highways team to identify potential solutions and will provide OPC with an update as soon as new information becomes available. *Ongoing*.

b. Traffic Speed on ‘Star Bank’

Alton Towers has not yet scheduled a liaison meeting with OPC. SCC Cllr. Beardmore has been in contact with Alton Towers following a request from Alton PC and will inform OPC as soon as a meeting is arranged. *Carried*.

c. Hawksmoor to Church Bank – Overgrown foliage. As outlined in the ‘November' minutes.

Continue to monitor.

d. Finger Post refurbishment

Cllr. Chell continues to pursue funding for the Finger Post. Other options discussed eg money raising event etc. Council agreed that we should continue to pursue this project.

e. Overnight Parking – Campervan Signage

Cllr. Worthington-Harris received confirmation from Tim Clearly that the camper signs have been ordered. She also spoke with a Ranger Service team member on site with assistants who were trimming trees etc., about other issues on SCC own land in the Parish:

Damaged Mill Lane wall repairs – SCC will arrange rebuilding.

Picnic Area – Issue of resident falling and breaking their ankle on the picnic area due to uneven ground, some holes have been filled.

Cllr. Worthington-Harris also requested an additional bin for the disposal of dog waste.

Tim Clearly has advised that they are willing to work with volunteers.

Damage to bridge handrail. Reported awaiting response.

The Chair thanked Cllr. Worthington-Harris for her efforts.

f. Pothole –Woodbank on Church Bank. Reported 05.11.24. (4412983). Clerk to chase up with

David Rushton (SCC Highways). Additional potholes reported. *Ongoing*.

g. War Memorial Repairs – Cllr. Charles reported that he is awaiting a response to his pre

application submission and War Memorial condition report from The War Memorials Trust.

h. Other Highway Issues

Road marking, which it is assumed is preparation for road repairs has appeared on Churnet

View Road.

**25.116 Defibrillator(s).**

1. Moneystone.

Ongoing.

2. Stoneydale.

Ongoing.

**25.117 Lengthsman.**

Cllr. Charles read the Lengthsman worksheet.

Fallen/damaged sign. Lengthsman will repair.

Cllr. Chell advised that the heritage boards are fading and queried the whereabouts of the original artwork to keep down cost of replacement. Cllr. Beard offered to speak with the Oakamoor Village Group to see if they can provide the original artwork. (**Cllr. Beard to Action**).

**25.118 Reports of Committees and Outside Bodies.**

None.

**25.119 Accounts for Payment (August 2025) Agreed and Ratified (To be paid via Bank Transfer)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Carmen Giuliano-Worthington | Clerks Salary | £170.25 |
| John Redfearn | Lengthsman | £104.00 |
| HMRC | Clerks PAYE | £127.60 |
| Lloyds | Bank Charges (DD) | £4.25 |

Current bank statement circulated via email prior to the meeting.

**25.120 Field Trust – Oakamoor Playing Field, Off Farley Road.**

The Clerk has been in contact with the ‘Field Trust’ about a field that was given to the National Playing Association in 1933/34. The field is currently unused and in a state of disrepair. OPC decided that since the field is not their responsibility, they would not accept liability for it. Although the ‘Field Trust’ has insured the field, they asked OPC to pay the invoice. OPC concluded that they would return the invoice to ‘Field Trust’ to make it clear they do not wish to take on any responsibility. Cllr. Watkins has agreed to write a letter to the ‘Field Trust’ to this effect. (**Cllr. Watkins/Clerk to Action**).

**25.121 Updated Practitioners Guide and a .gov.uk domain.**

As outlined in the ‘May’ minutes. (*To be kept on the agenda*).

Clerk to liaise with SMDC Cllr. Aberley.

**25.122 Sluice Gates**

At the next meeting, councillors will meet at 6:30 p.m. to walk around the village. They plan to inspect the sluice gates, whose safety was raised by Cllr. Beard, and discuss options for fixing this and other issues they find. *Carried*.

**25.123 Correspondence.**

Circulated prior to meeting.

**25.124 Items for next agenda.**

Heritage Signs.

The Chairman thanked everybody for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

**The date of the next parish meeting will be held on** **Monday 1st September 2025 at 7.00pm at Oakamoor Village Hall.**

**Councillors will meet at 6.30pm to walk around the village.**