

SANDIACRE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 4 March 2025 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Institute, 19a Doncaster Avenue, Sandiacre, Derbyshire NG10 5FJ

PRESENT:

	Cllr W Major	Chairman
	Cllr S Bilbie	Vice-Chairman
	Cllr T Ford	
A	Cllr A Gibson	
A	Cllr Mrs S Hales	
A	Cllr T Hales	
	Cllr G Hickton	
	Cllr Mrs G Hickton	
	Cllr S Jarratt	
	Cllr J Lowrie	
	Cllr R Pound	
	Cllr T Sanghera	
A	Cllr Mrs K Stewart	
	Cllr R Stewart	

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Bloor Clerk to the Parish Council

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: One

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

204. APOLOGIES & APPROVAL FOR ABSENCE

Councillor	Apology for absence received
Mrs S Hales	Holiday
T Hales	Holiday
Mrs K Stewart	Ill health

RESOLVED: to accept the apologies for absence received

It was noted Cllr Gibson had not forwarded apologies.

205. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

206. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensations.

207. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

There were no variations of business.

208. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No items were raised.

209. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

a) Police

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Apologies had been received confirming neither officer could attend due to their shift pattern.

b) County Councillor

Matters relating to DCC had earlier been reported at the Annual Parish Meeting.

c) Borough Councillors

Matters relating to EBC had earlier been reported at the Annual Parish Meeting.

210. TO RESOLVE THAT THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2025 ARE A CORRECT RECORD

RESOLVED: the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 February 2025, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record

211. PLANNING

1. To consider planning application consultations received from EBC

ERE/0125/0056 **147 Longmoor Lane**

Erect single storey side extension

RESOLVED: that no objections be made

ERE/0125/0057 **9 Jackson Avenue**

Single storey side extension

RESOLVED: that no objections be made

ERE/0125/0006 **54 Lancaster Avenue**

Construct first floor extension to the rear of the property

RESOLVED: that no objections be made

ERE/0125/0016 **Friesland School, Nursery Avenue**

Demolition of five existing buildings, installation of temporary teaching accommodation, and construction of a single, two and three storey teaching block and sports hall, with associated landscape, parking and infrastructure.

RESOLVED: that no objections be made

Cllr Major declared an interest and took no part in the vote as his wife was an employee of the school.

ERE/0225/0020 **9 Stanton Road**

Erection of new fencing/wall to front boundary. Erect new canopy to entrance door, insert new windows to rear elevation and insert amended replacement windows to front elevation

RESOLVED: that no objections be made

2. To note tree application submissions to EBC

ERE/0225/0002 **8 Town Street**

Birch - Fell to ground level

RESOLVED: that no objections be made

3. To note Certificate of Lawful Development application

ERE/0224/0019

4 Balmoral Close

Certificate of Lawful Development (Proposed)

Drop kerb and Extension of existing driveway (3.6m) to allow access

EBC: Approved 4/2/25

4. To note planning decisions taken by EBC

None to date.

RESOLVED: to note the above

212. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Major confirmed he had attended a Dale Abbey consultation meeting (as County Councillor) on the proposed introduction of a large scale solar panel farm in the area. It was considered local green belt and agricultural land should be protected.

Councillors considered it important to respond to any future planning application, as a neighbouring parish.

213. REPORT OF THE CLERK

1. Crimes reported: Latest figures: December 23 = 53 / December 24 = 52

The above figures were noted.

2. Cemetery boundary line: Progress to date

It was confirmed temporary wooden markers installed by Tower Surveys would soon be replaced with more permanent metal ones. Costs were being obtained.

Councillors intended to be present when the new markers were installed.

RESOLVED: to delegate final arrangements for establishing the boundary line to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk

The Clerk advised that when the boundary line was permanently marked, both parties should sign agreement of the changes for submission to Land Registry.

It was considered important both parties could clearly identify their land for the future and especially if the adjacent property was to be sold.

3. Clerk's appraisal: Date to be arranged

A mutually convenient date and time would be arranged for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to meet with the Clerk to undertake her annual appraisal.

4. DALC subscription from 1/4/25: £1,390.62 / Enhanced £1,736.62

Discussion followed on the services and training provided by the Association.

Cllr Jarret declared an interest as a DALC Board Director.

The Clerk confirmed she would soon start DALC auditor training and was using their website to access policies and information.

RESOLVED: to remain with DALC for the coming year at the lower subscription rate of £1,390.62

5. FCC: Refund of £2,952.82 for third party contribution
A refund of the 3rd party contribution amounting to £2,952.82 would soon be paid.

RESOLVED: once funds were returned, they would be transferred to the savings account to be set aside for purchase of a new metal village sign

6. Budget priority: Replace wooden village sign / Create design / Stability of post
The cost of a metal sign, options for design and checking stability of the existing wooden mounting post would be obtained upon receipt of the refund.
7. FCC grant funding / Commencement of work mid-April / Payment of grant
It was noted the funding process was near completion and work on the park was expected to commence in April.

Lightmain had confirmed they would invoice the Parish Council in one transaction of £64,028.57 + VAT. FCC had agreed to pay the Net cost directly and the Council would pay the VAT element, which could be recovered.

RESOLVED: to note and agree the above

8. Grounds Maintenance: Work commencing mid-March
Fox Grounds Maintenance, who were in the final year of a 2 year contract, would commence work on the parks and burial grounds during mid-March.
9. Heartwood Community Forest scheme: Site visit 4/3/25
Cllr Bilbie and the Clerk had met with Matt Smith (DCC Woodland Creation Adviser) at Springfield Park that morning to look at options for creating new areas of tree planting around the park. Shaded areas and picnic areas could be created and tree planting could help reduce areas of flooding and increase biodiversity.

The scheme would require public consultation with neighbouring properties and grant funding was available for all aspects of the work. Suitable trees could be selected and local community volunteers could be involved in planting.

RESOLVED: the Council would support the scheme and look at design options

10. Notice board: Padmore Moorings & Austins Drive and Cemetery sign on order
The above was noted.
11. Office closed: Week commencing 17/3/24
The above was noted.
12. Springfield Park: Tree reduction work (Fox)
Three residents living adjacent to the park had requested a reduction in height of trees and shrubs growing next to their properties. Work had started that day.

214. WASTE COLLECTION FROM PARISH COUNCIL PARKS

1. EBC: Revised collection arrangements
EBC had recently reviewed the twice weekly service they provided for waste collection from Doncaster Avenue RG and Springfield Park and the previous long-term agreement and costs no longer applied.

2. EBC: Increase in fees from 1/4/25

Mr Cartledge (EBC Neighbourhood Services Manager) had reviewed collection arrangements and costs would rise from £1,164 to £2,574, an increase of 121%.

The significant financial increase had been challenged by the Clerk and Chairman.

Councillors considered other service providers had been used in the past and problems had arisen. EBC had given a regular and effective service for many years.

RESOLVED: the Parish Council complain to EBC over the significant rise in costs and challenge how the breakdown had been determined by Mr Cartledge

It was noted all bins on Doncaster Avenue RG had recently been filled to capacity with cat litter, which had created a hazard for safe handling and removal. It was noted park bins did need to be replaced and smaller bins could resolve the problem.

3. PC Litter Picker: Cover arrangements

The reason for Mr Wallace's absence was explained and the Clerk was asked to convey Councillors' best wishes to him for a speedy recovery.

It was reported litter picker cover had been arranged while he convalesced.

Mr Wallace intended to return to work and the Clerk would liaise with him over a return date and appropriate working arrangements.

Mr Wallace was also under contract for maintaining and planting the Amenity Areas in the village centre from April, but had confirmed he could not commit this year.

RESOLVED: the Clerk contact Fox Grounds Maintenance to ask about costs and if the job could be included in their schedule of grounds maintenance work

215. NEWSLETTER: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION RESPONSES

A total of 3,650 newsletters had been distributed into the community, which included consultation on maintaining services and making improvements to Doncaster Avenue RG with new seating and bins.

The contents of the 7 consultation responses returned had been circulated and there were no objections to improving Doncaster Avenue RG and seeking outside funding.

216. POLICY REVIEW

The following documents were circulated electronically in advance of the meeting:

1. Code of Conduct
2. Complaints Policy
3. Equal Opportunities Policy
4. Finance Policy
5. GDPR Policy
6. Grievance & Disciplinary Policy
7. Standing Orders

RESOLVED: to update the above policies

217. PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

None to date.

218. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)

Report on progress

Cllr Major and Cllr Bilbie had been present at the Referendum count on 13/2/25.

Outcome

Residents had voted in favour of the Sandiacre Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

Voters answered the question:

'Do you want Erewash Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Sandiacre to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area'?

Votes Recorded

Number cast in favour of a 'Yes': 879

Number cast in favour of a 'No': 104

There were two rejected ballot papers.

The turnout was 14.4%

The Borough Council was now expected to formally adopt the Neighbourhood Plan.

219. CEMETERY MATTERS

1. Burials since the last meeting

None to date.

2. Interment of Ashes since the last meeting

None to date.

3. Reserved Graves / Plots since the last meeting

None to date.

220. PARKS & OPEN SPACES

To consider any incidents or maintenance issues since the last meeting.

Moped ridden dangerously on Doncaster Avenue Recreation Ground

Cat litter fly-tipped in all bins on Doncaster Avenue RG.

221. DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (DALC) NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters circulated electronically to Councillors upon receipt.

222. FINANCE

1. To note the monthly financial report

The financial report, including bank reconciliation to month end were circulated at the meeting.

a) **RESOLVED:** to receive and note the monthly financial report presented

- b) **RESOLVED:** to give delegated authority to the Clerk to transfer £7,000 per month from the Deposit Account to the Current Account to top-up funds, as and when required

2. To authorise payments

Water Plus (9648)	Premises supply	17.11
BT (2269)	Broadband 1/1/25 - 31/3/25	242.36
British Gas (0778)	Premises electricity supply	136.22
HSBC	Banking services: A/C fee: £8	8.00
Erewhash Local Leaflets	Newsletter distribution	338.00
O Heap	Premises: Fire alarm service	168.48
O Heap	Premises: Emergency lighting service	125.80
J Bloor	Website: Cloud renewal SugarSync 11/2/25 - 10/2/26	23.19
Tower Surveys	Cemetery: Marking exact boundary line	1,560.00
Carpmail Heating	Premises: Toilet repairs	57.60
Mrs Bloor	Monthly salary: February	1,826.88
HMRC	TAX/NIC's: February	492.26
Spen's GS	Litter picker cover: 9 days	287.50
Spen's GS	Low level work: Springfield Park - Vegetation clearance	352.00
Andrew's GS	Litter picking: February	668.75
Andrew's GS	DARG: Low level work parks	380.00
Total:		<u>6,684.15</u>

RESOLVED: to note and approve the above payments

3. To note income received

28	HSBC Savings (Deposit) A/C - Interest	41.03
28	Savings A/C: EBC electoral admin. costs - Interest	2.85
28	HSBC Savings A/C: Grants - Interest	0.01
Total:		<u>43.89</u>

RESOLVED: to note income received

223. CORRESPONDENCE

None to date.

224. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

*If the Council decides to exclude the public it will be necessary to pass a resolution in the following terms: **RESOLVED:** That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.*

225. DATE & TIME OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 2025 at 7.00pm

The Memorial Institute, 19a Doncaster Avenue, Sandiacre NG10 5FJ

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed by the Chairman: _____ **Date:** _____