

SANDIACRE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 6 May 2025 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Institute, 19a Doncaster Avenue, Sandiacre, Derbyshire NG10 5FJ

PRESENT:

	Cllr W Major	Chair
	Cllr S Bilbie	Vice-Chair
	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	
	Cllr R Stewart	

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Bloor Clerk to the Parish Council

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Two

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

On behalf of the Council, the Chair expressed condolences to Cllr Stewart on his recent loss. Cllr Stewart conveyed his thanks and appreciation to everyone for their support.

1. APOLOGIES & APPROVAL FOR ABSENCE

Councillor	Apology for absence received
Mrs S Hales	Holiday
T Hales	Holiday

RESOLVED: to accept the apologies for absence received

It was noted Cllr Gibson had not provided apologies for absence.

Cllr Ford joined the meeting and apologies for absence were offered for the Annual Parish Council meeting, which preceded the main meeting.

Cllr Gibson and Cllr Hickton no longer held the position of County Councillor following the local county elections and their Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests (DPI) would require updating. Cllr Gibson would be asked to update his DPI for the next meeting.

All Councillors were reminded to update their (DPI) to note any changes.

2. CASUAL VACANCY

It was noted the funeral of the late, Cllr Mrs Stewart would take place the next day.

1. For Councillors to set a date for advertising the casual vacancy

RESOLVED: that EBC be notified the Notice of Casual Vacancy would be published on Monday, 12/5/25

2. For Councillors to approve removal of the late, Cllr Mrs Stewart's name from the bank mandate

RESOLVED: to notify HSBC the Council had approved removal of the signatory

3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

4. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no requests for dispensations.

5. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

Refer Agenda Item - Planning 9.1

Consultation received after the Agenda was issued
ERE/0425/0038 **140 Stanton Road**

Refer Agenda Item - Planning 9.4

Decision notices listed by EBC to include the following:
ERE/0225/0038 **54 Lancaster Avenue**

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

EBC Core Strategy Review / Allocated Green Belt sites

The Chair referred to the unpopular decision by EBC to identify a greenbelt site for development of 180 new homes accessed from Larch Drive.

Refer Agenda Item 15.

7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

a) Police

PCSO Hawksworth's report had been circulated.

The report included reference to ASB, nuisance motorbikes, burglary and vehicle crime, homelessness / begging, community engagement and a proposal for the Project SWISHP initiative to install free netball nets on the Multi-Use Games Area at Doncaster Avenue RG.

b) County Councillor

Cllr Major was pleased to report he had been re-elected as a County Councillor following significant changes at DCC.

Thanks were extended to Cllr Hickton and Cllr Major for all the good work they had carried out for their communities over many years.

Cllr Bilbie and Cllr Sanghera congratulated Cllr Major on his re-election and thanked him for all his involvement and commitment to supporting local people.

c) Borough Councillors

Cllr Major, Cllr Bilbie and Cllr Sanghera reported on the following:

- EBC was currently undertaking public consultation on the Core Strategy
- Ilkeston Fair would be extended to 4 days, including Sunday
- EBC had also held 3 local by-elections alongside the county elections

8. **TO RESOLVE THAT THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 2025 ARE A CORRECT RECORD**

RESOLVED: the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 April 2025, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair

9. **PLANNING**

1. To consider planning application consultations received from EBC

ERE/0425/0038 **140 Stanton Road**

Proposals for a new detached, three storey dwelling to establish access and scale.

RESOLVED: that no objections be made

2. To consider Certificate of Lawfulness applications received from EBC

ERE/0425/0019 **The Hewarths, No Mans Lane**

Certificate of lawful development for an existing use of the barn and curtilage for storage of building materials and equestrian equipment only since July 2013

ERE/0425/0073 **55 Wood Avenue**

Certificate of Lawfulness: Proposed dropped kerb / hardstanding to allow vehicular access

ERE/0425/0075 **17 Woburn Croft**

Certificate of lawfulness for a single storey extension to the side of the building on the rear, for use as a living space. Extension will be 4.35M x 4.31M with a pitched roof reaching a maximum height of 3.8M and with a double glazed window looking out onto the rear garden. The existing rear bay window will be replaced with a three panel double glazed bi-fold door. The exterior of the building will be constructed in brick, matching the existing house walls and the roof tiles will match the existing roof tiles.

3. To note tree applications

ERE/0325/0057 **The Chestnuts, Paige Gardens**

Reduce crown and lower branches by framework pollard of maximum 3 metres around crown, reducing the canopy by up to 3 metres around the circumference of the tree.

4. To note planning decisions taken by EBC

ERE0225/0006 **54 Lancaster Avenue**

Construct first floor extension to the rear of the property

ERE/0225/0052 **83 Derby Road**

Resubmission of 0921/0042 - The demolition of the existing garage & form new garage building with first floor ancillary accommodation & the installation of new electronic gates to replace existing hinged gates to the side elevation.

EBC Approved: 2/4/25

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

EBC Approved: 3/4/25

ERE/0425/0006 **1 Sycamore Crescent**

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Children's Home for a maximum of three children and one resident carer. Validated: 8/4/25

EBC Approved: 25/4/25

ERE/0325/0009 **Co-op Market Place, Derby Road**

Digital display screen positioned inside the store advertising deals, produce etc.

EBC Approved: 25/4/25

5. Appeal (Not yet decided)
APP/N1025/W/25 3360220 **Land East of 56 Bostocks Lane**
Objections re-submitted by Parish Council to Planning Inspectorate 9/4/25

RESOLVED: to note the above

10. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Emergency action

The Chair confirmed he had been asked by the police over the Easter period to give permission for a small unexploded device to be detonated on Doncaster Avenue RG. However, the bomb squad had felt the device should be detonated elsewhere and it was agreed by EBC that West Park would be more suitable for a controlled explosion.

Elvaston Castle

It was confirmed correspondence had been received that day from the Friends of Elvaston Castle requesting the Parish Council petition DCC to guarantee the castle and grounds remain open and accessible to the public for the foreseeable future.

The Clerk was asked to notify the Friends of Elvaston Castle and DCC that Councillors supported the proposal for continued opening.

11. REPORT OF THE CLERK

1. Crimes reported: February 24 = 67 / February 25 = 51

The above was noted.

The Clerk was asked to enquire if an officer could attend the next meeting to discuss reported crimes, which showed a higher incident rate in certain areas.

2. Cemetery boundary markers: Installation date

Cllrs Major, Bilbie and Sanghera would arrange a date to have the markers fitted.

It was noted the neighbouring resident had agreed access to his land.

RESOLVED: that Councillors should claim for materials used to install the markers

3. Mr Wallace to resume litter picking 5/5/25

The above was noted and Mr Wallace was thanked for returning to work.

4. ROSPA: Annual play area inspection to be undertaken during May

The inspection was arranged for May, with no date yet specified.

5. Springfield Park: Perimeter footpath: Progress to date

It was confirmed that work had commenced and was progressing.

It was noted that slabs by the entrance gate to the park had been broken from the weight of vehicles gaining access.

The Clerk would report the matter to Lightmain for replacement slabs to be installed on completion without charge.

6. Village sign opposite the White Lion PH: Options for consideration / Design / Cost
It was noted the supplier of metal village signs had confirmed there was a waiting list of approximately 18 months.

The company would be able to design and supply a scrolled metal sign, bespoke to Sandiacre, which could include swans and narrow boats.

RESOLVED: the Clerk place an order for a sign at this time and design options could be considered and approved in advance, prior to purchase

12. INSURANCE RENEWAL

1. To consider entering into a new contract with Zurich Insurance following end of previous 3-year contract on 31/5/25

It was confirmed Zurich Insurance considered the Council had an excellent claims history and it was again invited to enter into a 3-year agreement. Sums insured could be changed, as and when required, and items were annually index linked.

A comparison of costs was provided by the Clerk, showing a 1 or 3-year agreement.

1-Year	1 to 3-Year	Saving per year	Total saving
£2,983.80	£2,674.51	£309.29	£927.87

RESOLVED: to enter into a further 3-year agreement with Zurich Insurance

Policy periods		
2025 1/6/25 to 31/5/26	2026 1/6/26 to 31/5/27	2027 1/6/27 to 31/5/28 (Renewal)

2. Asset Register to 31/3/25: Fixed assets & Information on the cost/value of an asset at the time of purchase

The Asset Register was considered by the Council. The Clerk advised that any purchases from the previous year were included in the contents. She intended to fully review the Register, including arranging for buildings to be re-valued.

RESOLVED: to receive the Asset Register, as presented

3. To consider adequacy of insurance cover

RESOLVED: the Insurance Policy provided by Zurich Insurance gave adequate cover for the Council

13. YEAR END ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

1. Annual Internal Audit Report

To receive and note the Annual Internal Audit Report undertaken by Mrs S Stack (East Midlands Audit Services Ltd) on 30/4/25 (AGAR Page 3)

RESOLVED: to receive and note the Internal Audit Report, together with the EMAS internal audit report and checklist, which showed findings to be satisfactory

2. To receive the Year End Financial Accounts

The Clerk circulated the following documents and provided summary explanation:

- a) Consolidated year-end bank reconciliation
- b) Receipt and Payment Accounts
- c) Budget monitoring to Year End
- d) Explanation of significant variances over 15%

The carry forward for 2024/2025 amounted to £27,472.

It was noted the Council had reduced spending towards Year End to safeguard 3-month operational costs.

A list of significant variances was itemised, including reference to EBC withdrawing the £22,046 Concurrent Functions grant, consultancy fees required to finalise ongoing projects, headstone testing and the increase in NIC's for staff costs.

RESOLVED: to receive and approve the financial reports presented

3. Notice of the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights

To note the date of announcement: Wednesday, 28/5/25. Period covered: Tuesday, 3/6/25 to Monday, 14/7/25

RESOLVED: to note the date of announcement and period covered

4. The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1)

To approve at the meeting and for the Chair and Clerk to sign. (AGAR Page 4).

RESOLVED: that the Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk

5. The Accounting Statement (Section 2)

For the Chair & RFO to sign and present to Council at the meeting. (AGAR Page 5).

RESOLVED: that the Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Chair and RFO

Thanks were extended to Councillors for monitoring the Accounts over the year.

6. Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR)

To approve submission of the completed AGAR, together with supporting documentation, including bank reconciliation, to the external auditor.

RESOLVED: that the AGAR and supporting evidence of Accounts be submitted for external audit

14. **POLICY REVIEW**

Model Standing Orders - To adopt the latest version with updated amendments:

- 1. To comply with new procurement legislation and consistency with Model Financial Regulations: 18.a.v, 18.c, 18.d & 18.f
- 2. To better reflect Code of Conduct Requirements 14.a, 14.b, & 14.c = *Removed*
- 3. To incorporate gender-neutral terms

It was noted the model document included several changes and removal of sections.

RESOLVED: the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, review the NALC model policy and bring back a draft to the June meeting for approval

15. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

EBC Core Strategy Review / Allocated Green Belt sites

Six-week public consultation from 7/4/25 to 19/5/25 regarding the revised Core Strategy, including housing allocations in the borough's Green Belt.

<https://www.erewash.gov.uk/planning/planning-information/erewash-core-strategy-review/core-strategy-review-amendment-consultation>

Councillors considered that the proposal to allocate green belt land for housing in Sandiacre through the Core Strategy would have a detrimental impact on the surrounding area and objections should be made by both residents and the Council.

1. **RESOLVED:** the Council object to the proposal for allocation of greenbelt land for housing in Sandiacre, to include the following grounds:

- It appeared the Sandiacre Neighbourhood Plan (SNP) had been disregarded, although approved by Referendum and adopted by EBC Planning Authority
- The SNP had previously identified brownfield sites in Sandiacre and it was a priority to protect green open spaces and greenbelt land in the parish
- A development of 180 new homes on green belt land would have a detrimental impact on the adjacent estate, its residents and surrounding countryside
- There would be an increase in traffic and construction vehicle movement
- The Parish Council had previously called for a M1 J25A to alleviate traffic coming through Sandiacre, but a new housing development would increase it
- A significant rise in housing numbers would bring added pressures to the area, such as an increase in school places and the use of doctor surgeries
- Loss of the surrounding countryside would have a substantial detrimental impact on wildlife and biodiversity, yet EBC supported a biodiversity and rewilding policy
- Conservation areas in the parish should be protected from future development

2. **RESOLVED:** the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, produce a response on behalf of the Parish Council and submit by 19/5/25

16. HEARTWOOD COMMUNITY FOREST PLANTING SCHEME

Springfield Park – Tree planting draft plan

Working Party: Cllr Major, Cllr Bibie, Cllr Sanghera, Cllr Mrs Hickton and Mrs Butler (member of the public).

It was considered Working Party members could meet with Mr Smith (DCC – Heartwood Community Forest) on site to agree a draft design for planting and proposals could be brought to a Council meeting for final consideration.

17. CEMETERY MATTERS

1. Burials since the last meeting

None to date.

2. Interment of Ashes since the last meeting

24/4/25 A219

25/4/25 UN-C area by footpath

25/4/25 A225

3. Reserved Graves / Plots since the last meeting
None to date.

18. PARKS & OPEN SPACES

To consider any incidents or maintenance issues since the last meeting

1. Several BMX track fence panels removed due to age and condition

RESOLVED: to note their removal

2. To consider writing off remaining wooden fence panels surrounding the track

RESOLVED: to write-off existing fence panels and consider replacement when the park was scheduled for grant improvement work in the near future

19. DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (DALC) NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters circulated electronically to Councillors upon receipt: Latest - April

20. FINANCE

1. To note the monthly financial report

- a. To receive and approve the monthly financial payments schedule

RESOLVED: to approve payments shown below

- b. To approve the month-end bank reconciliation

RESOLVED: to receive and note the bank reconciliation for April 2025

- c. To give delegated authority to the Clerk to transfer funds from the Deposit Account to the Current Account to ensure sufficient funds remain available for payments

It was noted recently adopted Financial Regulations permitted the Clerk to transfer £10,000 between accounts, as and when required. Refer Fin. Regs. 6.9.iv

Transfer between accounts: 1/4/25 = £5,000 prior to receipt of 2025/26 Precept & 30/4/25 = £7,000

2. To authorise payments schedule

DD 1/4	Water Plus (9648)	Premises supply	17.11
DD 7/4	British Gas (0778)	Premises electricity supply	111.39
CHG 21/4	HSBC	Account fee: £8 + activity charge	10.50
BP 1/4	Fox GM	Springfield Park: Tree work	900.00
BP 1/4	DALC	Annual lower subscription	1,390.62
BP 7/4	N Wilford	Litter picker cover: 2 days	101.25
BP 7/4	N Wilford	Patmore Moorings: Resizing/Infilling/Planting beds	600.00
BP 11/4	Waterplus	Burial grounds water supply: 1/4/25 - 1/4/26	215.57
BP 21/4	EBC	Waste collection: Spry Park & DARG April 25 - March 26	3,088.80
BP 30/4	EBC	Burial grounds: Bin collection x 2 from 1/4/25 to 30/6/25	286.00
BP 30/4	Viking	Office supplies: Paper/stamps/toner	346.18
BP 30/4	Dewbar	Cemetery boundary markers (20)	320.00

BP 30/4	Mrs Bloor	Monthly salary	1,827.08
BP 30/4	HMRC	Tax & NIC	559.67
BP 30/4	Mr Wallace	Litter picking (3 days)	128.25
BP 30/4	Spens Garden Serv's	Burial grounds : Low level vegetation work/clearance	770.00
BP 30/4	Mr Wilford	Litter picker cover	965.25
BP 30/4	Mr Wilford	Amenity areas contract 1 / 6	575.00
BP 30/4	Mr Wilford	Low level work	612.50
Total:			<u>12,825.17</u>

RESOLVED: to authorise the above payment schedule

3. To note income received

April

4	EBC: Precept 2025/26	100,360.00
8	A225: Plot / Interment / P/P interment	379.00
9	Alpha Memorials: A158 Plaque	95.00
14	Area 2, Row E, G5 (Pre-paid grave)	665.00
15	Plot/Interment: UN-C by footpath	294.00
22	Hawleys: Additional inscription	72.00
23	Co-op ST: Plot / Interment / P/P interment	392.00
23	Co-op Chilwell: Row E, G4 (O of A) Grave/Bur/P/P burial	2,036.00
23	Co-op ST: A224 Plot/Interment/P/P interment	379.00
23	Lymns: A214 Plot/Interment	284.00
23	Co-op ST: UN-C by footpath (Baby)	142.00
25	Baileys: A213 Plaque (Overpaid £2)	100.00
Total:		<u>105,198.00</u>

RESOLVED: to note income received

21. CORRESPONDENCE

None to date.

22. 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.*

23. DATE & TIME OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, 3 JUNE 2025 at 7.00pm

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

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed by the Chair: _____

Date: _____

Initialed by the Chair: _____