

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21 MAY 2015 IN AMY ROBSART HALL

PRESENT: Cllr R Thompson (Chairman)
Cllr M Askew
Cllr M Bateman
Cllr D Daly
Cllr M MacArthur
Cllr G Taylor
Cllr Ms M Thompson
The Clerk
Four Parishioners

1. Apologies for absence
Cllr Chenery.
2. Declaration of Acceptance of office as a Councillor
Declarations received from all Councillors. Chairman welcomed new Councillor Martin Bateman following the resignation of Councillor Alan Schmidt.
3. Member Code of Conduct Form
Forms received from all Councillors.
4. Member DPI Form
Forms received from all Councillors.
5. Election Expenses Form
Forms received from all Councillors.
6. Election of Chairman
Cllr R Thompson invited nominations for Chairman. Cllr Askew proposed Cllr R Thompson, Cllr Taylor seconded. There were no other nominations. Cllr R Thompson accepted.
Resolved to appoint Cllr R Thompson as Chairman.
7. Declaration of Acceptance of office as the Chairman
Declaration signed and received at the Meeting for Chairman.
8. Election of Vice Chairman
Chairman invited nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr MacArthur proposed Cllr Taylor, Cllr Ms Thompson seconded. There were no other nominations, Cllr Taylor accepted.
Resolved to appoint Cllr Taylor as Vice Chairman.
9. Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer
Chairman proposed Mr Lloyd – all agreed. Mr Lloyd accepted. **Resolved to appoint Mr Lloyd as Responsible Financial Officer.**
10. Appointment of Internal Auditor
Chairman thanked Mrs Goff for carrying out the Internal Audit for 2014/15 and proposed that Mrs Goff be reappointed – all agreed. **Resolved to appoint Mrs Goff as Internal Auditor.**

11. Appointment of Representatives and Spokespersons
 - 11.1 Chairman proposed that authorised cheque signatories (Chairman, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Daly) continue. All agreed.
 - 11.2 RES CLG (Community Liaison Group)
Confirmed as Cllr MacArthur and Cllr Taylor.
 - 11.3 RES Fund Panel
Confirmed as Cllr Taylor.
 - 11.4 Chiplow CLF (Community Liaison Forum)
Confirmed as Cllr MacArthur and Cllr Taylor.
 - 11.5 SNAP
Confirmed as Cllr Bateman.
 - 11.6 Parochial Church Council
Confirmed as Cllr Taylor.
 - 11.7 Gt Massingham Community Car Scheme
Confirmed as Cllr Taylor.
 - 11.8 Amy Robsart Village Hall
Confirmed as Cllr MacArthur.
12. Chairman's report
Chairman report previously circulated. Report agreed.
See Appendix 1 for the Report
13. RFO's Financial report for 2014/15
RFO's report previously circulated. Report agreed.
See Appendix 2 for the Report
14. To consider for approval the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 15 May 2014, previously approved on 19 June 2014. **Resolved to approve the Minutes.**
15. To consider for approval accounts for 2014/15, previously approved on 16 April 2015
Resolved to approve the accounts for financial year 2014/15.

There being no further Annual Parish Council Meeting business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.52 pm

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report for the Year Ending 31 March 2015

This year saw the completion of the Jacks Land wind farm. Construction of the Chiplow wind farm is due start this summer and a proposed solar farm at Barmer has been announced. All in all we seem to be a pretty powerful parish !

Our new LED street lighting system has performed without hitch during its first full year of operation and the anticipated savings in maintenance and electricity costs have materialised to pay for it.

The Parish Council has installed vehicle activated speed limit signs, which are moved around the entrances to the village every few weeks. A reduction in traffic speeds has been reported, but the Parish Council is still considering further measures to keep our village safe.

Community led projects have installed a defibrillator on the outside wall of the village hall and the Syderstone fete has been revived for this coming year. We owe a vote of thanks to Denise & Daniel Bridge, Martin Bateman and all the members of their team

Superfast fibre broadband is now available in the village increasing download speeds from 3.5 mps to 35 mps in the centre of the village, with a more expensive 74mps service also available. However mobile phone reception remains patchy and non existent in some places - so a trek up The Street to find a signal may still be necessary !

The Parish Council has secure funding to maintain its existing services for the coming year and we will be installing a footpath along Mill Lane to provide off road access to the business park and the common. This will also enable the circular walk No 2, as shown on the map on the outside wall of the village hall, to be enjoyed in relative safety. You may print off an A4 copy of the map, together with detailed directions, from the parish website. The Parish Council is minded to install some additional play equipment in the children's playground, but this would be subject to a successful grant application.

I conclude by thanking my fellow Councillors for their excellent teamwork this past year, together with a special thanks to our Parish Clerk, Brian Lloyd, and our Internal Auditor, Denise Goff. I thank Alan Schmidt for his four years service as a Parish Councillor, but due to business commitments Alan has stood down this coming year and I welcome Cllr Martin Bateman to the Parish Council as his replacement.

Cllr Reg Thompson
Chairman, Syderstone Parish Council
21 May 2015

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Financial Report for the Year Ending 31 March 2015

The attached shows the Receipts, Payments and Cash in Bank for 2014/15 and also for 2013/14 for comparison.

Receipts

The Precept for 2014/15 was £8573 and £460 for CTS Relief Grant compared to a Precept of £7880 and CTS Relief Grant £620 for the previous year. Bank interest remains extremely low on the Tracker Account. Revenue from Newsletter advertisements was £160.00 which falls short of the costs of £173.36.

Payments

As can be seen from the attached the Payments for 2014/15 are £4218 less than the Payments for 2013/14. The main reason for the reduced expenditure is that £2433 for our share to pay for the new street lights and £2405 for the basket swing was paid for in the previous year. However an amount of £1219 was spent in 2014/15 for speed limit signs. Savings continue for street light costs due to new energy efficiency type installed (£481). PAYE continued to be operated throughout the year for the Clerk's salary.

Cash in Bank

At 31 March 2015 £1884.72 was held in the Community account and £7182.29 in the Tracker account with two unrepresented cheques. A balance of £9027.01 to be carried forward, an increase of £2056.96 from the balance at the beginning of the year.

Financial Control

The Parish Clerk/RFO raises the cheques for all payments and two authorised Councillors sign the cheques. The bank statements are checked and signed each month by both the Chairman and the Clerk and every three months by the Clerk, Chairman and another Councillor. An internal audit was again carried out by Mrs Denise Goff for no charge, for which the Parish Council are extremely grateful. An external audit will be carried out by Mazars LLP and the books of account will be available for inspection by the public from 1 July 2015 until 28 July 2015.

Brian Lloyd
Syderstone Parish Clerk/RFO
21 May 2015

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AS AT 31 MARCH 2015

	2013/14	2014/15
RECEIPTS		
Balance brought forward	7665.71	6970.05
Precept	7880.00	8573.00
Repayment of VAT	595.09	981.40
Bank Interest	3.94	4.71
Newsletter Adverts	140.00	160.00
CTS Relief Grant	620.00	460.00
Playing Field Grant (Basket Swing)	2405.00	0.00
Total Income	19309.74	17149.16

PAYMENTS

Audit	0.00	100.00
Streetlighting	896.84	415.67
Hall Hire	154.00	154.00
Insurance	405.11	453.55
Subscriptions	160.11	200.82
Playing field & footpaths	470.27	595.62
Clerk's salary net	2085.05	2123.20
Clerk's salary tax	521.20	465.80
Clerk's expenses	121.30	99.06
Cllr expenses	0.00	0.00
Newsletter printing	173.36	173.36
Section 137	335.00	220.00
Section 214 Cemetery	1197.98	1197.98
VAT paid	981.40	703.86
LED Street Lighting Installation (25%)	2433.42	0.00
Playing Field (Basket Swing)	2404.65	0.00
Speed Limit Signs	0.00	1219.23
Total Expenditure	12339.69	8122.15

Surplus/Deficiency 6970.05 9027.01

CASH IN BANK

Community Account	1307.47	1884.72
Business Base Rate Tracker Account	5677.58	7182.29
Less cheques not presented	15.00	40.00
Balance carried forward	6970.05	9027.01

Chairman

Clerk

Internal Auditor