

**THE MINUTES OF THE SCAWBY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2024 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**In the Chair:** Cllr J Frost

**Also Present:** Cllr G Siddall, Cllr R Holmes, Cllr M Keyworth, Cllr J Chamberlain, Cllr N Askew, T Barker, R Coleman, Cllr R Johnson, Cllr A Hall, Cllr M Russell, Cllr S Kemp.

In Attendance: Mrs K Pickering - Clerk, 7 members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES :** Cllr's Powell and Barlow

**2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman provided a comprehensive report of the activities of the parish council over the previous year which was read to the meeting by Cllr J Frost.

The report is detailed below.

**Chair Report April 2023-March 2024**

In my first year as Chair I would like to express my thanks to the Parish Councillors, Clerk, Ward Councillors and members of the public who have contributed to another successful, busy year in the life of Scawby Parish Council.

I would also like to remember Councillor Sunny Dhinsa who was only a Scawby Parish Councillor for a short time before he sadly passed away whilst in office.

We were delighted to welcome a new councillor, Nick Barlow.

**Update of the past year:**

**1. Public forum**

Throughout the year we have welcomed visitors from The Nelthorpe Trust, explaining their function to the Scawby community; the Chair of Appleby council regarding the Neighbourhood Plan; a representative from Brigg Renewables and residents of Scawby parish regarding various local issues and groups/individuals commenting both positively and negatively on planning applications and bringing to our attention concerns and issues within the parish

**2. Planning Applications**

We have continued to receive many planning applications, the vast majority of which were positively received. The planning application for a development at Sturton was refused by both SPC and North Lincs and the application for the Oak Avenue development has been initially refused by NLC though may go to appeal. As a council our main consideration has been to consider the building line. This has formed the basis of many of our decisions.

**3. Reports and Meetings**

Thanks must go to the Councillors who attend a variety of meetings representing Scawby Parish Council for their representation and detail of their reports to the council regarding issues affecting the parish.

**4. Finance**

We have given financial support to Scawby village hall to allow their floor and kitchen renovation work to be completed; SAHS to continue their good work with the annual show and the precept is once again unchanged. We have received a very generous grant from the Techrete charity which allowed us to install the planned children's cycle trail immediately. This was instantly well received by residents and we hope to improve upon it. We also received grants from Merlin Renewables and NLC for "planting and developing our flower beds" which is gratefully received and put to good use by our newly-created Planting Committee. Income from the hire of the football pitches has contributed to the substantial costs of maintaining the pavilion and the football pitches.

We are proud of the way our finances have been managed and that is reflected in a positive audit report and is a credit to our Clerk Karen Pickering. Thanks should also be given to Councillor Frost for his monthly monitoring and presentation of finances to the council. We continue to use our funds for the upkeep of the parish as well as improving local facilities through planned future projects.

## **5. Police Matters**

The council continues to be concerned with fly tipping, opportunity theft/burglary and speeding throughout the parish. We had some unwelcome damage to the tractor at the play park and a few instances of theft from work vehicles around the parish. We now have 2 Ward police officers who are very proactive and we hope to continue the positive relationship with them.

## **6. Highway Matters**

We continue to discuss the movement of HGVs through the parish and are working with the ward councillors regarding the viability of weight limits but this is ongoing.

Potholes, road markings, straw debris, speeding vehicles, weed spraying and clearing pathways all continue to be issues within the parish so we continue to encourage all residents to report these on the NLC portal.

The ongoing problems in Scawby Brook, particularly Silversides Lane and River Meadow, are still unresolved so we continue to inform and liaise with NLC and hope for a speedy outcome.

Our 2 radar speed signs seem to have been effective in slowing down all types of vehicles in the parish so we continue to debate the progress of this, including the number and location of poles to mount the signs on.

## **6. General Village Matters**

We continue to lobby for a lay-by at the cemetery and an improvement in the path from the village to it.

We have continued to support the following events – best kept garden/basket competition, horticultural show, Christmas tree lighting and carols and Remembrance Day.

We had a soggy but successful Coronation Event at the playing field with the beacon once again being lit, this time by Mrs Margaret Drury.

The Garden Gnomes planting committee and associated volunteers have continued to work independently and with Andy Sissons to improve the landscape of the parish. The addition of the fabulous sculptures, made by Mr Phil Drury, were a welcome addition and have created stunning focal points.

Community litter picking sessions have been organised in conjunction with the Co-Op and are well supported by parishioners. There are also many times throughout the year when parishioners carry out their own litter picking which all helps to maintain Scawby parish as a lovely place to live.

The Grove appears to have been sold so we wait with interest to see the progress.

The village map has been refurbished and the notice board at Olivers has been replaced.

Public transport remains an issue with very few busses in the parish. The Just Go bus service is a regular topic of discussion at the meetings as it doesn't always provide a comprehensive service but may be changed by NLC.

## **7. Playing Field Matters**

Scawby residents, and those from further afield, are proud of our playing field and it has regular use. It is in a beautiful setting with many well maintained pieces of play equipment. We regularly monitor the park and are open to suggestions for any updates or changes. The MUGA is still well used and provides a safe play area for many ball games and is freely accessible and the addition of the cycle track has been a huge boost for the younger residents. We hope that road safety will greatly improve with the help of this facility. A defibrillator is clearly visible if needed.

The trees which were planted at the north end of the football pitches have mostly survived and we continue to monitor and maintain the area.

Thanks to the councillors who maintain the pavilion to keep it well stocked and clean for use. Even with their support the pavilion takes considerable maintenance. Councillors Frost and Coleman continue to give much of their time and plumbing and electrical skills to keep it functioning. We occasionally have to buy in professional help to remedy some issues but thanks to our Parish Council we manage to keep our costs down.

## **Future Projects**

1. To continue to pursue the issues and problems at Scawby Brook with a view to resolving matters sooner than later.
2. Pursue a lay-by for the cemetery and improve the path leading to it.
3. To monitor and investigate the issues with HGV traffic.
4. Evaluate the success of our speed awareness signs and consider the provision of new posts.
5. Build on the installation of the cycle track with monitoring groundworks, adding miniature road signs and any other appropriate works.

6. Continue to liaise with NLC regarding the improvement of Brigg Road – white lines, edging etc.
7. Continue to support our devolved group of planters/gardeners financially and practically.
8. Encourage councillors and members of the public to develop ideas and projects to better our parish.
9. Adapt the PC's role in the Horticultural Show to make the competition more relevant and inclusive.
10. Complete the Emergency Plan.
11. Improve the playing park with inclusive equipment.
12. Utilise the S106 money.
13. Progress the D-Day celebration plans to provide an event for as many parishioners as possible.
14. To update the PC committees to involve more councillors with more PC activity.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM – No matters raised.**