

# SILK WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF SILK WILLOUGHBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 29 MAY 2025 AT 6.00PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

**Present.** Cllr L Roberts(Chair) Denise Gascoyne Parish Clerk  
County Cllr R Whittaker, District Cllr R Jackson, and 4 members of the public.

### **1.Chair's Welcome.**

The Chair Cllr L Roberts welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting.

### **2.Apologies for Absence. None**

**3.Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 30 May 2024.** The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 30 May 2024 had been circulated. It was proposed, seconded and **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 30 May 2024 be accepted as a true record and these were signed by the Chair.

### **4.Presentation of Annual Reports.**

- The Chair of the Parish Council Cllr L Roberts presented her report, and a copy is attached to these minutes.
- County Cllr Hagues had lost his seat at the recent elections, therefore there was no report.
- District Cllr Jackson presented his report, and a copy is attached to these minutes.
- The Village hall gave a verbal report. She explained that the management committee was made up of 6 trustees which have been in post for about 5 months. They have prioritised the cleaning, redecoration, boiler service and electrical checks. They have had advice from ACER which they will be acting on soon. Some regular groups have returned to the village hall, and new groups are being established. The AGM will take place on 16 June at 6.30pm  
She thanked the Parish Council for their ongoing support.

### **5.Finance Report by Responsible Finance Officer 2024/2025.**

- The Clerk gave a brief overview of her report, and a copy is attached to these minutes.

### **6.Any other matters which residents wish to raise.**

- **Church Clock** – it was established this was not actually a Church Clock but a village clock which had been donated to the village in 1903 but put on the highest point in the village.

- **Broadband Provider** – Fibre optic is being introduced to the village, but a resident was concerned about the state of the roads when they had dug them up, they were not being put back to the same standard. The Parish Council had received no reports about this, but it was suggested photographs if possible should be taken before and after the work so this can be reported.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 6.30pm

Chair .....

Silk Willoughby Parish Council

Date .....

# Annual Parish Meeting 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025

6.30pm

I would like to present the 2024-2025 Chairmans Annual Parish Report on behalf of Silk Willoughby Parish Council.

## **The Parish Council has actively supported the community and the area we live in this year by:**

- Renovating the existing bench near the pond, purchasing a second bench, new signs and a buoy, all of which were installed in June.
- Approving a solar farm grant for the Church Clock (Given to the village by Mrs Amelia Money, of the Manor Farm in October 1903) so it now has an automated winding system, meaning that volunteers no longer have to climb the church tower.
- With the support of local residents, we have planted a number of bulbs at each of the white gates and near the benches in the pond area, ensuring the village looks colourful and a looked after.
- We have provided sandbags and emergency contact details for all residents who were in need during storms and flooding.
- We have invested the Solar Farm money as wisely as we can, ensuring a high return on the investments so the capital can be spent within the village – Church clock, hedge on School Lane and pond.
- Attending meetings and working with the old VHC and now the new VHC to help find a way to keep the Village Hall and the Post Office open for the community.
- We have worked closely with the VHC, shared ideas and generally supported where we can. We have given the VHC vouchers from Pennells so they can purchase new planters and flowers for the VH area
- We will continue to support the VH and PO as much as possible.

I'm sure more ideas and problems will arise, however, please be assured the PC will do its best to look after the interests of the village.

**I would like to thank:**

1. All members of the Parish Council for their continued hard work, support and commitment.

The PC is a **team effort**, we all have different ideas, knowledge, strengths, weaknesses and skills and that is what makes Silk Willoughby PC what it is today – a diverse team of individuals who care about our village.

We all attend meetings, give valuable thoughts, ideas, comments, we don't agree on everything but without doubt, **the PCs** supportive efforts have helped to keep our village a place we all want to live in.

**I would like to thank:**

2. Cllr Hagues and Cllr Jackson for their continued support, input and regular attendance at our PC meetings.
3. Denise our Parish Clerk - Denise has gone above and beyond her role this past year. Denise is professional, knowledgeable and she deals with everything that arises with a smile and great humour. We can't thank you enough for your support and friendship during 2024.
4. The VHC Trustees – Your hard work and commitment is shining through and bringing the village back to life again.

All in all I think 2024/2025 has been a positive year and we have all achieved things we didn't know possible and that includes keeping the VH open, so well done everyone.

This brings an end to my report.

The Annual Parish Council meeting will start at 7.00pm.

Thank you all for attending tonight, please let me know if you would like to raise any points or have any questions.

## District Councillors Report – Silk Willoughby 2025

### **New car park for Sleaford**

A new car park to be created on Sleaford's derelict ambulance station site will offer additional free and low-cost parking under a principle agreed by district councillors.

North Kesteven District Council has bought the old ambulance station on Kesteven Street to create additional public parking close to the town centre.

And through an early decision to offer the first hour for free, and charge £1.50 for up to three hours and £3.50 for longer, it will support workers, shoppers and visitors to the Hub and nearby leisure centre, in particular.

Read the full story [on our website](#)

### **New scheme available to support farming businesses in Lincolnshire \***

To support farm businesses in navigating challenges such as increasing financial pressures, changing regulations and workforce challenges, Business Lincolnshire has launched the Lincolnshire Farm Support Programme, delivered by Savills.

The programme supports farmers with resilience and offers guidance with exploring diversification. The support is only available to farm businesses where the main source of income comes from farming. [Find out more](#)

### **Lunch invitation for WWII veterans**

An invitation is being extended to any Lincolnshire veterans of World War Two to join in a lunch celebrating the contributions of our Armed Forces: past, present and future.

The 80th anniversaries of Victory in Europe and Japan, bringing World War Two to an end, will be the theme for North Kesteven District Council's annual veterans' lunch on Monday 23 June, which is a significant part of its Armed Forces Day activity and specifically celebrates the individual and collective service of veterans spanning many decades through the presentation of Veteran's Badges.

Veterans of any length of service with UK Armed Forces – Army, Royal Navy, Royal Air Force or Merchant Navy – can apply to receive a badge marking their contributions over any period, from decades to just one day. Deadline to apply to receive a badge on 23 June is Friday 16 May.

To nominate a WW2 veteran for the lunch, and discuss arrangements, please contact the Council's Partnerships Team on 01529 414155 or email: [armedforces@n-kesteven.gov.uk](mailto:armedforces@n-kesteven.gov.uk) before Friday 6 June 2025. WW2 veteran guests may be joined by a companion.

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More details [on the website](#).

### **Neighbourhood Policing Survey**

Lincolnshire Police want to work together to make our county the safest place to live, work and visit.

As part of Lincolnshire Police neighbourhoods' teams work, they look at the issues affecting their communities and set some agreed priorities for the work they undertake often in conjunction with partners on a quarterly basis.

To enable and support this work, they have a survey where Councillors, Parish Councils and the community can all contribute towards informing the priorities and set out any concerns in their communities. The police can consider these with the feedback from the surveys.

The police are keen to encourage an increase in responses, as the more responses received, they have a better understanding of what is important to you and your communities. [Participate in the survey here](#).

Find the neighbourhood policing plan for your area in the dedicated section, [here](#).

### **The Zone coming soon**

This nationally recognised, award-winning pop-up youth space is coming to Sleaford's Market Place giving young people aged 11–18 free access to creativity, connection, and culture right in the heart of their community.

The Zone is a custom-built environment designed specifically for young people. Open June 5 and June 6 from 3pm-7pm and June 7 and 8 from 11am-5pm, it will be free to access and offers a welcoming mix of creative workshops, games, and relaxed hangout zones.

Created by youth specialists Zest Theatre in collaboration with innovative structure designers AirClad and Inflate; The Zone combines the best bits of a youth club including table tennis and gaming with access to high-quality creative workshops and activities. Expect street art, silent discos, music, drama, and more all designed to be fun, accessible, and open to all. The setup includes a colourful custom-built trailer, inflatable hangout spaces and outdoor decking – all purpose-designed to create a safe, welcoming and visually exciting environment.

Originally developed in response to research with young people in Zest's hometown of Lincoln, The Zone was created to answer a pressing need: the lack of third spaces for young people.

**Under-18s need to register first for access** via a form at [www.getinthezone.uk](http://www.getinthezone.uk) which must be filled in by a parent or carer.

### **Sleaford's Teenage Market**

The Market is returning for 2025, with the first running alongside The Zone on **Saturday June 7** at Sleaford's Market Place from 11am-5pm.

Young people wishing to take part can create a profile as a trader or performer at [www.theteenagemarket.co.uk](http://www.theteenagemarket.co.uk)

### **Roadworks started**

Road reconstruction works to improve Boston Road in Sleaford will start at the end of this month.

The county council will carry out a four-week project to rebuild a failing stretch of the road, including replacing all of the old surfacing. There'll also be improvements to the shared-use cycleway and a safer crossing point for cyclists installed.

The work starts on Tuesday May 27 for up to four weeks on Boston Road, from Carre Street to Sleaford Town Football Club. There'll be a night-time road closure from 7pm to 6am (weekday evenings only) and work will be phased to maintain access for residents and businesses.

Diversion route 1 (for those travelling west to east) is via Boston Road / B1517 / B1517 East Gate / B1517 East Road / A17 / Mount Lane / Boston Road, and vice versa

Diversion route 2 (for those travelling east to west) is via Boston Road / A17 / Bonemill Lane / B1517 East Road / B1517 East Gate / Carre Street / Boston Road, and vice versa. There's more

at: [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/roadworks](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/roadworks)

## **REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER**

### **Income:**

Silk Willoughby Parish Council kept their Precept at the same level of £5200 for the last financial year. This had been the same since 2020. It will, however, be increased slightly next year due to extra grass cutting etc.

No CIL receipts had been received this year.

Interest on investments amounted to £9000.

VAT had been reclaimed of £845.34 had been received.

### **Expenditure:**

Grass cutting is always the main expenditure of a Parish Council, and the next financial year see quite a few areas added on by Lincolnshire County Council resulting in the increase of Precept next year to £6000.

Although we received £1100 in grant towards grass cutting and grounds maintenance the payments amount to around £3000

We did donate £4850 towards the Church Clock.

Attached is a copy of the Cashbook.

# Financial Summary - Cashbook

Summary of receipts and payments between 01/04/24 and 31/03/25 inclusive. This may include transactions with ledger dates outside this period.

Balances at the start of the year

## Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£11,018.96
H.S.B.C -0086	£70,000.00
H.S.B.C. - 1073	£70,000.00
HSBC - 2180	£50,577.16
Total	<u>£201,596.12</u>

RECEIPTS	Net	Vat	Gross
General Administration	£13,044.84	£0.00	£13,044.84
Grounds Maintenance	£1,146.49	£0.00	£1,146.49
Solar Farm	£9,477.24	£0.00	£9,477.24
Total Receipts	<u>£23,668.57</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£23,668.57</u>
PAYMENTS	Net	Vat	Gross
General Administration	£20,181.95	£742.05	£20,924.00
Miscellaneous	£270.95	£54.19	£325.14
Grounds Maintenance	£3,416.49	£49.10	£3,465.59
Total Payments	<u>£23,869.39</u>	<u>£845.34</u>	<u>£24,714.73</u>

Closing Balances

## Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£549.96
H.S.B.C -0086	£74,486.24
H.S.B.C. - 1073	£74,390.53
HSBC - 2180	£51,123.23
Total	<u>£200,549.96</u>

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Chair

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Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer