**DRAKELOW PARISH COUNCIL**

**South Derbyshire District in the County of Derby**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council and Inaugural Council Meeting**

**Held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 9th July 2025**

**Present:** Cllrs M Cummings, A Kenney, J Rogers, T Bidder, M John

**Officers:** Ms P Nankervis (Clerk)

**Also Present:** Ms S Lloyd, Mr C Grice

**25.25** **Apologies**

Cllrs S Treacy, C Midson, District Cllr A Tilley

**26.25 Declaration of Members Interests**

None

**27.25 County Council**

Cllr Wheelton had shared updates on email prior to the meeting. A discussion took place around the approved application for the solar farm and also the current BESS applications. Cllr Wheelton advised Council to ensure all issues are reported online to DCC and the clerk keeps a record of the reference numbers.

**28.25 District Council**

Cllr Tilley sent his apologies and his report summarised as below.

* SDDC upcoming events
* The civic ceremony at Swadlincote Town Hall for the new Chair
* Bevin Boys Miners Memorial, to be opened at Eureka Park, Swadlincote on 25th July at 11am
* Bus Service up Walton Road and Marley Way
* Development control
* Antisocial Behaviour in Dracan Village

**29.25 Public Speaking**

Resident, Mr C Grice, alerted the council to an article on BESS storage plants, which has been received by the council and distributed to the councillors.

**30.25 Police**

Crime figures were reported as below.

May: 1 stalking, 1 criminal damage, 1 theft and 1 possession of a weapon.

June: 8 assault, 2 domestic violence, 2 theft, 1 harassment, 3 public order, 3 stalking,

1 criminal damage and 1 sexual assault

Cllr Kenney raised ‘Bringing Offenders to Justice’ portal, which is open for a short time. To be

highlighted to residents

Council instructed the clerk to contact the PCSO to enquire if data can be shared on

conviction rates for these crimes.

**31.25 Minutes**

Council approved as a correct record the minutes of the council meetings held on Wednesday 14th May 2025

**32.25 Chairpersons Announcements**

Cllr Cummings raised concern over the possible resignation of a Councillor due to the insistence of the SDDC Monitoring Officer that home addresses will not be redacted from Councillors Disclosure of Interests.

**33.25 Clerks Report**

Shared on email prior to meeting, no comments raised.

**34.25 Finance**

**a. Council approved the following payments:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque No.** | **Payee** | **Detail** | **Net Amount**  **£** | **VAT**  **£** | **Total**  **£** |
| BACS | Payroll |  |  |  |  |
| BACS | HMRC |  |  |  |  |
| BACS | Amazon | Stationery (PAID 10/6) | £72.33 | £13.68 | £86.01 |
| BACS | DALC | Membership (PAID 5/6) | £736.99 | 0.00 | £736.99 |
| BACS | HP | Laptop/Printer/Bag and Warranty’s (PAID 3/6) | £718.66 | £143.73 | £862.39 |
| BACS | MS 365 | Software (PAID 5/6) | £84.99 | 0.00 | £84.99 |
| BACS | Argos | Mobile Phone (PAID MAY FROM LLOYDS ACCOUNT) | £99.99 | 0.00 | £99.99 |
| BACS | SLCC | Membership (PAID 10/6) | £118.00 | 0.00 | £118.00 |
| BACS | Zurich Insurance | Additional premium for public liability (PAID MAY FROM LLOYDS ACCOUNT) | £56.00 | 0.00 | £56.00 |
| BACS | Immanuel Church | Room Hire 18th June 7-9pm (PAID 18/06) | £32.00 | 0.00 | £32.00 |
| BACS | EMAS | Internal Audit (ON UNITY – PENDING AUTH) | £91.30 | 0.00 | £91.30 |
| BACS | Scott Treacy | Bitdefender (AWAITING INVOICE FROM SCOTT) | £20.00 | 0.00 | £20.00 |
| BACS | Three Mobile | Parish phone bill (ON UNITY – PENDING AUTH) | £9.80 | 0.00 | £9.80 |
| BACS | DALC | Councillor Essentials Training 4/8 (ON UNITY – PENDING AUTH) | £279.70 | 0.00 | £279.70 |
| BACS | Immanuel Church | Room Hire 4th Aug 6pm – 8.30pm (ON UNITY – PENDING AUTH) | £40.00 | 0.00 | £40.00 |
|  |  | **TOTAL** | **£** |  | **£2517.17** |

1. The internal audit report had been shared on email with council prior to the meeting, no comments raised
2. AGAR section 1 was approved by the council, completed and signed by the Chairman
3. AGAR section 2 was approved by the council and signed by Chairperson

**35.25 Planning**

**DMPA/2025/0655: Approval of Reserved Matters. Land at Drakelow Park**

Council **RESOLVED** not to comment on this

**36.25 Outside meetings and training**

None attended

**37.25 Correspondence**

The correspondence report was noted

**38.25** **Items for Discussion/decision**

**a** **Review the presented Complaints Policy**

Council **RESOLVED** to accept the presented policy, clerk to add to the website

**b Review the presented Freedom of Information Policy**

Council **RESOLVED** to accept the presented policy, clerk to add to the website

**c Review the presented Data Protection Policy**

Council **RESOLVED** to accept the presented policy, clerk to add to the website

**d Review the presented Press and Media Policy Policy**

Council **RESOLVED** to accept the presented policy, clerk to add to the website

**e Newsletter**

Council **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the next meeting. To appear on next agenda

**f Working groups of volunteers**

Council **RESOLVED** to request the support of volunteers from the community to carry out tasks as they arise, and to work with Council members. Notices to be shared with residents.

**g SDDC Invoice for polling cards**

Council **RESOLVED** to query with SDDC why the artwork was commissioned prior to the election closing date. Cllr Mervyn to collate a letter to SDDC for the clerk to send.

**h Confirm full years meeting dates**

Council **RESOLVED** meetings will take place every 2nd Wednesday of the month until 13th May 2026, apart from August.

**i Unity Letter for second signatory**

Council **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the next meeting. To appear on next agenda

**j Boundary Signage**

See item M.

**k Councillor responsibilities**

Council **RESOLVED** responsibilities as below: Check

M Cummings: Retail development, Nursery School, Community Centre and Carehome

M John: as above

A Kenney: Anti-social behaviour, Local clubs and community groups

J Rogers: As above

S Treacy: IT & website improvement, Roads, Speeding, Railway bridge

T Bidder & J Rogers: Entertainment, Bins, Dog poo, Bus shelters

C Midson: Engagement with SDDC, Trees

**l Budget plan**

Clerk and mentor to compile a basic budget for the remainder of the year to 310326 for the next meeting.

**m Trees and verges in between Dracon and Drakelow Park and Coneygreave Drive**

Cllr Midson to follow up with SDDC Planning, Stephan Saunders, enforcement and Cllr Tilley.

**n Residents questions received**

The Chairman shared correspondence with the Council, including investigations of costings for boundary signage, with the assistance of volunteer Chris Storey, a general request for speedbumps on Dracan Village, comments on the play area, received by email to Cllr Cummings which was responded to, and questions relating to the new school, which were forwarded to SDDC, and the responses, relayed back to the resident.

**o Councillor training**

Essential Councillor training has been confirmed to be run by DALC on 4th August at the Immanuel Church Stapenhill

**p Adoption of Council logo**

Council **RESOLVED** to keep the logo from the Parish meeting, clerk to action.

**q Post boxes**

Council **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the next meeting. To appear on next agenda

**r Battery storage plants & Solar farms**

Council **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the next meeting. To appear on next agenda

**s Park equipment on Dracon suitability for younger children**

Council **RESOLVED** it cannot make improvements to the area at present

**t Roundabouts at Dracon not suitable width**

Council **RESOLVED** to contact DCC Highways to confirm the road is complaint

**u Rising number of social housing on Dracon**

Council **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the next meeting. To appear on next agenda

**v PCC secures extra £1M for anti-social behaviour**

Council **RESOLVED** for Cllr Kenney to contact the PCC Office to request resources are directed to Drakelow

**w Local Government reorganisation**

The Chairman requested all Councillors to complete the survey

**x Items for next agenda: Review Risk Register**

**39.25 Closed Session**

Council discussed and confirmed payments for the Parish Clerk and Clerk Mentor.

**40.25 Items for Information only**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday 10th September 2025, 7pm**, at the **Immanuel Church, Stapenhill.**

Signed ………………………………………. (Chairperson)

Date ……………………………………….