

MINUTES OF SPROATLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 1ST APRIL 2025
PRESENT

Madam Chairman: A Dalton

Vice Chairman: N Smales

Councillors: M Cockbill, D Gunnis, D Fee, S Greenbank, J Jackson, J Straker & P Styche
 Apologies G Fairbairn

1 member of the public & PCSO Darren Bainton in attendance

(2335) Crime Figures & Anti-Social Behaviour

March – 16/3/25 Theft of cycle – Main Road

(2458) Rathlin Energy Liaison Committee

No further updates received

(2542) St Swithins Church

The fund currently stands at £86,351.16

The church wished to pass on their thanks to the Community Team for trimming the holly tree in the churchyard.

Upcoming events -

26th April – Plant Sale

12th July – Barber Shop Choir

Also hoping to get a speaker for a garden talk in early July

(2602) Traffic calming

Darren Bainton confirmed that as many speed checks were still being undertaken and that the student officer is carrying out their project for further checks around the primary school.

(2640) Sproatley Playing Field

Cllr Straker advised that the lease is to be extended and looking at putting it into three names the Playing Field, Football Club and the Tennis Club so that all three can apply for grants.

Madam Chairman had spoken to Kirsty Mills and they only have 5 members on the committee at the moment. Cllrs asked Clerk to invite Kirsty to the next meeting so they could find out up to date information and offer any help required.

(2647) Community Maintenance Team

The group is working well and at the last meeting the team worked on the churchyard and the next job is to clear the dyke opposite the school.

Cllr Fee had received confirmation the grant for £950 had been approved for the purchase of gardening equipment and these have all been ordered. Cllrs thanked Cllr Fee for all his work to obtain this grant,

(2648) Public Footpath Signs

Ongoing

(2649) Defibrillator relocation

Cllr Greenbank advised the steel post was ready and the electrician had provided a quote of £260+vat. The existing defibrillator box is rusty and Cllr Smales had therefore looked into the cost to purchase a new box. The cost of a new box is £550 Cllr Smales proposed buying this Cllr Fee seconded all in favour.

Signed Date

(2654) Bus Services

Cllr Cockbill had spoken to EYMS again and they advised that due to a shortage of staff it was not possible to sort this in the near future.

It was agreed that the maintenance team would arrange to cover the bus stop sign.

(2657) End of World War 2

Posters had been put up and tickets are available from the hairdressers. A singer has been booked and further discussions need to go ahead before the event to arrange food and drinks.

There is already plenty of bunting so this will be put up in the Memorial Hall.

Mary Sykes said she and Mick will decorate the war memorial with the bunting they have.

Cllr Jackson suggested that the new memorial on The Green should also be decorated.

(2659) Accounts Review

Clerk is still looking into getting an insurance quote from another company but unable to do this online as we need a tailored package to cover the playing field. Hopefully, by the next meeting will have the renewal quote and a new quote from Zurich.

(2660) The Green

Cllr Smales had been thinking about The Green and suggested placing a bench and a path on it to make it more of a community space.

It would be good to get an architect to do a design for free or even involve the primary school with ideas.

There are lots of grants that could be applied for to help with the cost.

Cllrs discussed that the residents may not be happy but it is a village green that is not used. They agreed to think about it and discuss further at the next meeting.

Correspondence

Cllr Greenbank had been to the property in Westlands Road and believes the main problem is that the footpath cambers, so all the water runs down into the bungalow.

Clerk had heard back from Samantha Whyte with the same response that ERYC do not own this land and suggested the homeowners contact the land registry to ascertain who owns the land.

Cllr Straker to ask the agent to meet with the resident.

Clerk and Cllr Smales had received an email from a resident advising that a family member had received an injury from a suspended copper wire on a fence alongside a footpath in the village.

Clerk updated that she had contacted ERYC who confirmed it was not their land but had sent someone to check. Clerk went back to the resident to advise the land did not belong to the PC or ERYC and they would need to check the Land Registry to ascertain who was the landowner and that we were unable to assist further.

Accounts for payment

Mrs E Mitchell	Clerks Wages March 2025	£ 376.67
E-On	Electricity The Green	£ 20.93
Mrs E Mitchell	Antivirus for laptop	£ 24.99
WHA Vowles & Son Ltd	Tools for community team	£ 956.81

Cllr Jackson proposed, Cllr Dalton seconded – all in favour.

Signed Date

Planning Applications

Sproatley Conservation Area - Crown lift 1 ash tree by 4.5 – 6 metres to remove the lowest two branches to pull the tree back and allow more light in Summer – Sproatley Endowed C of E School 25/00715/TCA
NO OBJECTIONS

Sproatley Conservation Area – Crown lift 4 sycamore trees by 4.5 – 6 metres to remove the lowest two branches from each tree to pull them back and allow more light in Summer – Sproatley Endowed C of E School – 25/00769/TCA – **NO OBJECTIONS**

Council Box

Nothing

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed Date