

MINUTES OF SPROATLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH APRIL 2026
PRESENT

Madam Chairman: A Dalton

Vice Chairman: N Smales

Councillors: M Cockbill, J Constable, G Fairbairn, D Fee, D Gunnis, J Jackson & P Styche

Apologies:

0 members of the public in attendance

(2335) Crime Figures & Anti-Social Behaviour

March – nothing

(2458) Rathlin Energy Liaison Committee

Clerk had passed on to Cllrs the response from Graham Stuart MP. Graham also advised that if any further questions arise to send them to him to raise directly with Rathlin.

Cllr Fee advised he will start looking into the funding which has recently opened for applications.

(2542) St Swithins Church

The fund currently stands at £67,970.53

The Riverside Band raised £351 which included a £150 donation. The event was successful and everyone agreed the band was very good but it was a shame there were not more people attending from the village. However, there were a couple of other events on the same date.

Cllr Constable suggested it would be good to have a leaflet/flyer maybe twice a year, similar to the old SproatleyLife. With all the local groups doing a page each, detailing all the activities they have coming up and to make more people aware. All Cllrs agreed it would be a good idea, but it is just the work and time of collecting, producing and delivering the booklet would be the issue. Cllr Constable will bring up at the next Sproatley Collective meeting to go their input and suggestions.

Upcoming events -

April – Plant sale

(2647) Community Maintenance Team

The next job for the team will be preparing the ground and planting the bedding plants.

The Clerk had received a response from Samatha Whyte, to which ERYC confirmed that Wyre path is on the cutting programme for two cuts a year and that the parish council has the power to undertake further maintenance if they wish to do so.

Cllr Constable said that it would be better for us to write directly to Burton Constable for any help with the maintenance of Wyre path. Clerk to contact.

(2649) Defibrillator relocation

Ongoing

(2660) The Green

Cllr Smales still awaiting response from the architect Dom.

(2661) Tree opposite Constable Arms

Awaiting a response from Cllr Whyte.

The Clerk & Cllr's Smales & Fee also brought this up at the recent ERYC Meet and Greet meeting.

Signed Date

(2672) Parish Council Website

Some good advice received at the Meet & Greet meeting, there is not a set deadline as yet but does need to be actioned. Cllr Fee to get a quote from his contact.

(2673) Bench for Harry Buck

As the designs for The Green are going to be a long process, Cllrs agreed to start looking into ordering a bench and plaque in memory of Harry. Cllr Fee will do several different designs for the plaque and Clerk will look into different types of benches to bring to the next meeting for Cllrs to vote and decide on.

(2674) Bank Account

Cllr Gunnis had received some useful information from Nat West about transferring the account to a Bankline for Communities account, allowing online banking facilities. All agreed this was a good idea and to look into this further. Cllr Gunnis proposed that Cllr Smales should have access to the online banking, Cllr Jackson seconded – all in favour.

(2675) Bedding plants

The plants have been ordered and dates were agreed to prepare the ground 25th April and to plant up on 9th May.

(2676) Churchyard

The Council had been approached by the church as the churchyard is becoming full and thought the Parish Council could provide guidance on what to do. As we do not own any land Clerk emailed ERYC for advice. The Clerk had received a response from the ERYC Cemeteries Team with details about applying for a closure order from The Ministry of Justice and to seek advice on this from the Diocese. Clerk to pass on details to the church.

(2677) ERNLLCA subscription renewal

Cllrs discussed the decision to renew the subscription. Clerk and a couple of Cllrs had used and got some good advice from them. Cllr Gunnis proposed, Cllr Smales seconded - all in favour to renew.

Correspondence

Clerk received an email from ERYC to advise Sproatley is on the scheduled list for surface dressing on Preston Road and Main Road which are anticipated to be completed by 31st August.

Accounts for payment

Mrs E Mitchell	Clerks Wages March 2026	£ 416.66
Marmax Products	Bench	£ 516.00
ERNLLCA	Subscription	£ 630.00
E-On	Electricity The Green	£ 22.60

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

Planning Applications

1. SPROATLEY S CONSERVATION AREA - Fell 1 no. Ash tree (T1279) due to high likelihood of dieback infection in immediate future; Fell 1 no. Sycamore tree (T1277) in order to abate a foreseeable nuisance; Crown reduce 2 no. Sycamore trees (T1278 & T1280) by reducing westerly limbs by 3 metres, remove epicormic growth and crown clean; Crown reduce 1 no. Horse Chestnut tree (T5) as illustrated due to stems showing evidence of cambial death and exposed wood visibly decayed with fruiting bodies of Oyster mushroom; Fell 1 no. Ash tree (T1321) due to dieback; Remove 1 no. Sycamore tree (T1239) due to limb failures and hollowing of stem with multiple regions of cambial damage - Sproatley PCC – 26/00588/TCA – **NO OBJECTIONS**

Signed

Date

2. Erection of a timber framed car porch to front hardstanding – AshLea, Church Lane, Sproatley, HU11 4PR – Mr Tom Martin – 26/00734/PLF – **NO OBJECTIONS if no further comments received on trees**

Council Box

Nothing

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed Date