

Linton Parish Council

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**Minutes of the Linton Parish Council Meeting held on 11 February 2025, commencing at
7pm at Linton Brick Rooms**

Present: Cllr Tilley (In the Chair), Cllr Browne, Cllr Miles, Cllr Smith, and Cllr D Swinburn.

In Attendance: 1 Member of the Public and 1 District Council Representative.

24/1211 - To receive apologies for absence. Local Govt Act 1972 s85 (1)

RESOLVED: Apologies were received and accepted as follows:

- ***Cllr R Swinburn due to other work commitments.***
- ***Cllr Troyden-Smith due to Illness.***
- ***Cllr Tizzard due to other commitments.***
- ***Cllr Rai-Aytain due to illness.***

24/212 - Variation of the Order of Business

There were no variations to the Order of Business.

24/213 - Declaration of Members Interests. Local Government Act 1972 s 83 (4)

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

24/214 - Adjournment for Public Speaking. Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 s1 extended by the LG Act 1972 s100.

Public Speaking

Member of the public talked about the Post Office and asked for support, The Parish Council agreed that once the application had been completed the Parish Council would support this.

District Councillor Representative Report

District Councillor Tilley was in attendance at the meeting and gave his report as follows:

Linton Area Forum

12th February at 6.30pm Rosliston Forestry Centre

County Council Elections

Will go ahead on Thursday 1st May 2025

Local Government Reorganisation.

The Government is taking forward a programme of local government reorganisation for areas with two tiers of local Government, such as South Derbyshire, to create single councils through merging existing

Districts/Boroughs/County/Metropolitan Councils into one unitary Council organisation, serving a population of 500,000 or more.

As part of its reorganisation, the Government is also looking to create Combined Authorities for areas which do not already have them. The four local authority areas of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham, already have this structure in place: the East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA) was formed in March 2024 and is led by an elected Mayor, Claire Ward.

The Government plans to take forward the proposals over this Parliament and the next – so all within the next 10 years. We still do not have an update on Derbyshire's position, but as soon as we know and understand the implications, we will let you know.

Leisure Centre and Civic Offices project.

Plans for a new state-of-the-art Leisure Centre and Civic Office complex in South Derbyshire are now advancing, with final proposals heading to Full Council next month.

This ambitious project will replace the ageing Civic Offices and Green Bank Leisure Centre with a modern, energy-efficient facility at Cadley Park. Designed to serve as a hub for health, wellbeing, and governance, the new complex addresses current infrastructure challenges while meeting the future needs of residents, staff, and Members.

Cadley Park was chosen for its strategic location, integration with existing attractions, and potential to attract commercial investment. By consolidating services, the site will deliver significant long-term savings over 50 years compared to maintaining the current facilities.

Planning update

The National Planning Policy Framework notification, issued in December 2024, required the Council to implement its new Local Plan within a reduced timescale, and officers are currently working through this. This document appraises the need for housing, commercial and industrial land across the district. Through a process of consultation with landowners and residents, the Plan will identify preferred sites. This process enables us to identify sufficient development opportunities to meet our growing need, and also contributes to the Government's targets, particularly around new homes.

The service is currently in the top quartile nationally for determining planning applications.

Information from the Police regarding Parking

One of the more common things reported to and mentioned to SNT is parking issues, in particular around schools. Our team regularly visits all schools in the area to engage with pupils and teachers and do ask schools to send messages out periodically to parents advising them around parking safely near schools.

Did you know that Civil enforcement officers have replaced traditional traffic wardens and are responsible for enforcing:

- limited waiting bays
- double and single yellow lines
- on street pay and display bays
- residents' parking zones
- Blue Badge bays
- loading bays
- bus stops
- taxi bays
- school keep clears.
- clearways
- dropped kerb access (also police)
- double parking (also police)
- pedestrian crossings (also police)
- car parks (with orders)

To report issues that the civil enforcement officers enforce such as double yellows or school zig zags please report direct via email: contactcentre@derbyshire.gov.uk or by Calling: 01629 533190

The police are responsible for enforcing:

double white lines
obstruction – for example, pavements with no parking restrictions
dangerous parking where there are no restrictions in place, for example, on bends, brows of hills and junctions.
dropped kerb access (also CEOs)
double parking (also CEOs)
one-way traffic
box junctions
access only
white-hatched areas
pedestrian crossings (also CEOs)

For police related offences, please call 101.

Please if you are asked about parking encourage the complainant to report to the correct agency as per above list.

PCSO Supervisor Kerry Wallington-Waite 4469
South Derbyshire SNT

County Council Representatives Report

Cllr Swann gave his apologies, the Clerk forwarded his report to Councillors prior to the meeting as follows:

Linton Parish Issues

As Parish Councillors are aware, I liaise with the Clerk, Chair and Vice-Chair, as well as residents, and actively address any issues as soon as they are brought to my attention.

Government Plans on Local Government Reorganisation

At the end of last year, the Government produced a white paper outlining its aims to force local government reorganisation in England by creating mayoral authorities where they currently do not exist and bringing about unitary councils covering population areas of at least 500,000 residents where there is now a county/districts and boroughs set up. Of course, several areas would be subject to both of these significant changes in governance, but Derbyshire is already part of the East Midlands Combined County Authority which is a devolved arrangement with a mayor.

Following the publishing of the white paper, the Government gave councils 16 working days to submit their proposals for its Devolution Priority Programme (DPP) to reorganise remaining two-tier council areas into unitary authorities. Countless hours were spent by Derbyshire County Council officers and elected members who worked incredibly hard over the Christmas period to meet this deadline.

On 5th February, the Government announced that less than half of the councils that it asked to submit proposals had been chosen to proceed at this stage - Derbyshire was not included in the DPP - while providing very little information in terms of the decision-making process. The Government has been keen to stress that devolution is about empowering local areas but the evidence, so far, does not support this assertion with the process being about central government setting out the rules of the game and randomly selecting which areas proceed first. As the information below indicates, the timetable for the remaining authorities does not seem to be very far at all behind those chosen for the DPP.

The Minister has now written to the leaders of all the local authorities within the ceremonial county of Derbyshire asking them to develop a proposal for local government reorganisation within what he

describes as the “most ambitious timeline.” He requests that an interim plan for a single tier of local governance is submitted to the Government on or before 21st March 2025 and expects any full proposal to be submitted by 28th November 2025.

If the Government proceeds with the proposal, and the necessary legislation is agreed by Parliament, they say they will work to ensure elections to a new ‘shadow’ unitary council (or councils) will be held as soon as possible, as is the usual arrangement in the process of local government reorganisation.

For clarity, this process will see all the local authorities within Derbyshire* abolished and replaced by at least one unitary council. * With the possible exception of Derby City.

Retirement of Derbyshire’s Chief Fire Officer Gavin Tomlinson KFSM

Having joined Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service in 1993 as a recruit firefighter, Gavin retired on 5th February after over 31 years of distinguished service. He served in many areas including operational station command, fire safety, learning and development, and prevention. In 2015 Gavin was promoted to Deputy Chief Fire Officer, followed in 2019 by his appointment to the role of Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive for Derbyshire.

In June 2023 Gavin received the King’s Fire Service Medal (KFSM) for his distinguished service, most notably for his work as the National Fire Chiefs Council’s lead for Protection and Business Safety.

Derbyshire’s Deputy Chief Fire Officer Rob Taylor took over as the new Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive on Thursday 6th February following his appointment and approval by the Fire and Rescue Authority in December 2024.

Bird Keepers Must Follow Strict Biosecurity Measures DCC’s trading standards officers are informing people who keep poultry or other birds that they must follow enhanced biosecurity measures to protect their flocks from bird flu. This comes as the government’s UK Chief Veterinary Officer ordered a new Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) to cover the whole of England, in response to the increased number of cases of avian influenza in poultry in new areas of the country.

There are currently no reported cases in Derbyshire. The AIPZ instructs keepers to follow enhanced biosecurity but without mandatory housing. It came into force at midday on Saturday 25 January 2025 across England.

This applies to all bird keepers, whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock and is essential in protecting birds from avian flu.

Proposed New Bridge at Walton on Trent

DCC has on numerous occasions requested a work programme from the developer, but this has not been forthcoming, although they have assured the Council that a detailed plan of works and key dates will be shared once sequencing is finalised.

What is clear is that the developer’s previously stated ‘solid’ completion date of December 2025 is unrealistic and they are now indicating March 2026 as the target they are aiming for.

As a word of caution, this is quite a major civil engineering project and there remain a number of procedural and legal factors for the developer to overcome.

Police Representatives Report.

Nothing to Report.

24/215 - To confirm the minutes of the Linton Parish Council Meeting held on 14 January 2025

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 January 2025, having been circulated were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Miles agreed unanimously.

24/216- Parish Council Committee/Working Group Reports Updates

a) Highways, Pavements, & Street Furniture Working Group Report - Cllr Rai-Aytain and Cllr Troyden-Fraser

1. New Speed Indicator Sign, Linton Heath 2024/2025 Project - Cllr Swann has confirmed his support for an extension to the project. – Clerk to complete application for a new post.

Cllr Smith had downloaded the speed data information; Cllr Smith will analyse the information and report back to the Council at the March 2025 Parish Council Meeting.

b) Finance Committee Report – All Councillors and the Clerk

1. Year End prep work

- a) Update on the photographs to support the Asset Register - Cllr Troyden-Fraser and the Clerk

There was nothing to report.

- b) Update on the Parish Council charge Card – Agreed to go with Equals Money – Application process in the process of being completed by the Clerk.

There was nothing to report.

c) Coton Park Recreation Ground Working Group Report - Cllr Tilley and Cllr Tizzard

1. Consider obtaining quotes Badger Hollows for:
 - a) Update rubber safety surface quotes – Cllr Troyden-Fraser and Cllr Tilley

The Clerk had signed the paperwork on behalf of the Council.

- b) Update Climbing Wall Project – Cllr Troyden-Fraser

RESOLVED Defer till March 2025 Parish council Meeting.

2. Ratification of the footpath work at Badger Hollows Recreation Ground.

The path work had been completed but some bits needed to be revisited. It was agreed that Cllr Tilley would make contact with Bloomin Gardens to complete this work.

RESOLVED: The path work was proposed by Cllr Tilley and seconded by Cllr Smith.

3. Update £2,000.00 reduced to £1,796.00 after the tree chipping work was completed of £204.00 - funding towards the project at Badger Hollows Nature reserve.

Burton Conservation Volunteers had been completing more work and would be needing the chipper again.

RESOLVED it was proposed by Cllr Browne and seconded by Cllr Smith that the chipper would be paid for by the Parish Council from the allocated budget.

d) Facilities Working Group Report - Cllr Fraser and Cllr Troyden-Fraser

- 1) Consider Tree reports for all Parish Council land – Emailed Martin Buckley the tree officer at SDDC for a quote.

RESOLVED: Linton Parish Council approved the quote for the tree reports. The Clerk to go ahead with this work. Proposed by Cllr D Swinburn and seconded by Cllr Miles.

- 2) Update on overgrown tree Hillside Road/Coton Park – Reported to the County Council ref number Case 656408119

This work had been completed.

- 3) Consider maintenance of the Onyx sign Rickman's Corner – Money added to the budget for 2025/2026.

Cllr Tilley confirmed that he was still looking into this matter and would report back once he had more information.

- 4) Meeting with Representatives of the Village Hall Committee and the outcomes of the meeting including any considerations. – Cllr Troyden-Fraser and Cllr Tilley

RESOLVED: That Cllr Troyden-Fraser would sit on the Village Hall Committee as a Parish Council Representative.

- 5) Update Registration of Linton Recreation Ground with Timms Solicitors – This has now been confirmed, just awaiting further info from the Solicitor.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to continue with the registration, as we think that the actual conveyance document has been found from 1931.

- 6) Update Memorial Bench in memory of Cllr Kath Lauro. – Application with DCC received, contact made with the family and awaiting further instructions from the family.

The Parish Council agreed that if the Council have the finances in place they will fund a bench at the said location.

RESOLVED: Deferred to the March 2025 Parish Council Meeting.

- 7) Consider a request for funding towards a memorial bench for a teacher that worked at Linton School.

RESOLVED The Chair agreed to fund £250.00 from his Chairs Allowance. This was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr D Swinburn.

- 8) Allotment updated:
 - a. Update on the Allotment Agreement – Nothing yet to report.

There was nothing to report.

- 9) Cutting Back of the hedge on the corner of the Crest – To be completed week commencing 03.02.2025

This work had been completed.

e) **Footpath and Forestry Working Group Report - Cllr Browne and Cllr McCord**

Cllr Browne gave her report as follows:

- There was nothing to report on footpaths.
- There was an issue on Duchess Close with rubbish in the hedge bottom, think a residential bin had fallen over and the rubbish had blown about. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact SDDC Environmental Heath to resolve the issue.
- It was agreed that once registration of the Linton Recreation Ground is obtained the Parish Council should look at what work is required to the hedges.

24/217 - Outside Bodies - Other Meetings attended - Area Forum – Cllr Tizzard and Cllr Rai-Aytain

Area forum took place as planned and Cllr Tilley chaired this Meeting, Cllr Tizzard was also in attendance.

24/218 - To consider the following payments, any payments required after publication of the agenda will be advised at the meeting.

a. Payments List

Online Payments Date	Payee	Description	Amount	Power
11/02/2025	Bloomin Gardens	Maintenance	1,125.36	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
11/02/2025	Bloomin Gardens	Maintenance	817.50	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
11/02/2025	Salaries, Tax NIC and Pension contributions		1,145.66	LGA 1972 s112 – 119
11/02/2025	Rainbow Waste	Waste Collection	23.89	Provision of bins Litter Act, 1983, ss.5, 6
11/02/2025	Rhino Play SW LTD	Climbing Wall and Installation	6,556.80	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10
11/02/2025	Aucuba	Maintenance	468.07	Open Space Act 1906 s9,10

RESOLVED: the above payments were approved by the Council.

24/219 - Planning matters for consideration

- Applications for consideration - Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched. 1, para.8 - Right to be notified of planning applications if right has been requested. Any application received after publication of the agenda will be advised at the meeting.
- Linton Parish Council Members who are also Members of SDDC's Planning and/or Licensing Committee provide comments as a preliminary view only at this stage, and they may change their view when they hear all the evidence at a meeting of South Derbyshire District Council's Planning and/or Licensing Committee.

Planning Ref	Details	Location	Consultation End Date
DMPA/2025/0001	The erection of a two-storey side extension and single	75 The Crest, Linton, Swadlincote, DE12 6QE	14.02.2025 <i>RESOLVED: No comments</i>

	storey rear extension		
DMPA/2024/1661:	Renewal of Class Q Barn Conversion to Dwellinghouses	Sealwood Barn, Seal Wood Lane, Linton, Swadlincote, DE12 6PA	11.02.2025 RESOLVED: No comments
DMPA/2024/0479	Outline application (matters of access, layout, scale, appearance, and landscaping reserved for later consideration) for the erection of x3 pairs of semi-detached affordable dwellings with associated works	Field House, Coton Park, Linton, Swadlincote, DE12 6RE	30.01.2025 RESOLVED: No comments
DMPA/2024/1567	Change of use of land to domestic garden, the erection of a garage and block paving	Waterfalls Court, Waterfallow Lane, Linton Heath, Swadlincote, DE12 6PF	19.02.2025 RESOLVED: No comments

24/220 - Risk Assessments current updates

a) Update Watson and Watson inspection which took place on 16.07.2024.

Area/Observations	Priority	Action	Pic N°	Time Scale
Badgers Hollow:				
Green site container in the car park	High	Needs a do not climb sticker on it as currently there is not one.	1	1 Month Work Completed
Exit to roadside has a pronounced lip that is a slip trip	Med	Consider grading the lip to level	3	3 Months Work Completed
Entrance to Foxley Wood:				
Nettles are growing up the dog waste bin that could lead to nettle stings/allergic reactions	Med	Council to consider the maintenance team keeping these weeds/nettles in check	5	3 Months Work Completed
Village Orchard:				
The fence demarking the border between council & owners property seems to be leaning somewhat	NA	Since my last report Council have put in place a monitoring system but feel the fence is not dangerous as the ivy is holding it up.		Cllrs to continue to monitor this issue
Allotments:				
Road/path at the bottom of the access road presents a slip trip hazard.		Although noted before I will leave this item in for completeness.		Being Monitored by Cllrs

Linton New Recreation Ground:				
Wooden based play equipment	Med	There remains a significant split to one of the logs that may lead to failure of this item. It should be repaired / replaced. Noted on 2023s report also.	6	3 months Work Completed
Nettles are growing up the waste bins that could lead to nettle stings/allergic reactions	Med	Council to consider the maintenance team keeping these weeds/nettles in check	7	3 Months Work Completed

b) Weekly Risk Assessments – Bloomin Gardens any outstanding issues.

Pictures to be updated on the play inspection.

c) Yearly Risk Assessments – SDDC with the Play Inspection Company which took place on 08.04.2024.

Sports Mobile booked 31.07.2025.

24/221 - To note Items for information. – Information received by the Clerk via email and forwarded to Cllr between meetings.

RESOLVED: Linton Parish Council noted the following information:

- a) The People Express - January 2025
- b) Derbyshire County Council Developer Contributions Protocol consultation
- c) Community News from Derbyshire County Council – 20 January 2025
- d) Polling District and Polling Place Review
- e) Reminder: Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service Budget Consultation 2025/26 - Have Your Say
- f) Community News from Derbyshire County Council – 3 February 2025
- g) Caloo - Arranging Free Site Visits and designs for Play and Sports Projects
- h) Parish & Town Council Liaison Forum 5 March 2025

24/222 - Date of the Linton Parish Council Meeting to be confirmed as 11 March 2025, at the Brick Rooms Linton, commencing at 7pm

RESOLVED: The next meeting was approved as 18 March 2025 at the Brick Rooms Linton, commencing at 7pm.